

## 21. Rock of Ages Quarries, Inc.

[Docket No. M-95-16-M]

Rock of Ages Quarries, Inc., P.O. Box 482, Barre, Vermont 05641-0482 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 56.19003 (driving mechanism connections) to its Rock of Ages Light Side (I.D. No. 43-00024), Clyde JJ/Hoist, Serial Number 11430 located in Washington County, Vermont. The petitioner requests relief from the mandatory standard as it applies to chain drives between the driving mechanism and the gear train of the hoists, allowing the use of chain drives for such application. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

## 22. Swenson Granite Company, Inc.

[Docket No. M-95-17-M]

Swenson Granite Company, Inc., 369 North State Street, Concord, New Hampshire 03301 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 56.19003 (driving mechanism connections) to its Gray Quarry (I.D. No. 27-00083), Hilltop Derrick, Timberland Hoist, Serial Number 65-10943, Model 480-2-IR-100E located in Merrimack County, New Hampshire. The petitioner requests relief from the mandatory standard as it applies to chain drives between the driving mechanism and the gear train of the hoists, allowing the use of chain drives for such application. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

## 23. Swenson Granite Company, Inc.

[Docket No. M-95-18-M]

Swenson Granite Company, Inc., 369 North State Street, Concord, New Hampshire 03301 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 56.19003 (driving mechanism connections) to its Gray Quarry (I.D. No. 27-00083), Lower Quarry, Clyde Hoist, Serial Number 21850, Frame 6/2 Drum located in Merrimack County, New Hampshire. The petitioner requests relief from the mandatory standard as it applies to chain drives between the driving mechanism and the gear train of the hoists, allowing the use of chain drives for such application. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

## 24. Rock of Ages Quarries, Inc.

[Docket No. M-94-37-M]

This notice amends this petition document published in the Federal Register on August 25, 1994 (59 FR 43869), to modify the application of 30 CFR 56.19003. This document is only for the Rock of Ages Light Side (I.D. No. 43-00024), for U-2 American Hoist, Serial Number 5645, Model 180/3 located in Washington County, Vermont. The petitioner requests relief from the mandatory standard as it applies to chain drives between the driving mechanism and the gear train of the hoists, allowing the use of chain drives for such application. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

## Request for Comments

Persons interested in these petitions may furnish written comments. These comments must be filed with the Office of Standards, Regulations and Variances, Mine Safety and Health Administration, Room 627, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22203. All comments must be postmarked or received in that office on or before April 3, 1996. Copies of these petitions are available for inspection at that address.

Date: February 23, 1996.

Patricia W. Silvey,

*Director, Office of Standards, Regulations and Variances.*

[FR Doc. 96-4866 Filed 3-1-96; 8:45 am]

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**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

[Docket No. 50-397]

**Washington Public Power Supply System (WPPSS); Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License and Opportunity for a Hearing**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-21, issued to the Washington Public Power Supply System (the Supply System, or the licensee), for operation of the WPPSS Nuclear Project No. 2, located in Benton County, Washington.

The proposed amendment would modify the technical specifications (TS) to reflect replacement of the existing reactor recirculation (RRC) flow control system with an adjustable speed drive (ASD) system. The current system relies

on operation of the RRC pumps at two discrete speeds, using flow control valves to vary the flow in the RRC system. Following the design change, the flow control valves and the existing pump controllers would be deactivated in place. The existing analog-hydraulic flow control system will be replaced with dual channel, variable frequency ASDs and a digital recirculation flow control system that would vary RRC flow by varying RRC pump speed. The proposed TS changes would reflect the new RRC flow control system.

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations.

By March 29, 1996, the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect to issuance of the amendment to the subject facility operating license and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file a written request for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene. Requests for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR Part 2. Interested persons should consult a current copy of 10 CFR 2.714 which is available at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Richland Public Library, 955 Northgate Street, Richland, Washington 99352. If a request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, will rule on the request and/or petition; and the Secretary or the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order.

As required by 10 CFR 2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding. The petition should specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) the nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made a party to the proceeding; (2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible

effect of any order which may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition should also identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition without requesting leave of the Board up to 15 days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, but such an amended petition must satisfy the specificity requirements described above.

Not later than 15 days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, a petitioner shall file a supplement to the petition to intervene which must include a list of the contentions which are sought to be litigated in the matter. Each contention must consist of a specific statement of the issue of law or fact to be raised or controverted. In addition, the petitioner shall provide a brief explanation of the bases of the contention and a concise statement of the alleged facts or expert opinion which support the contention and on which the petitioner intends to rely in proving the contention at the hearing. The petitioner must also provide references to those specific sources and documents of which the petitioner is aware and on which the petitioner intends to rely to establish those facts or expert opinion. Petitioner must provide sufficient information to show that a genuine dispute exists with the applicant on a material issue of law or fact. Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the amendment under consideration. The contention must be one which, if proven, would entitle the petitioner to relief. A petitioner who fails to file such a supplement which satisfies these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.

Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing, including the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

A request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Docketing and Services Branch, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, by the above date. Where petitions are filed during the last 10 days of the notice

period, it is requested that the petitioner promptly so inform the Commission by a toll-free telephone call to Western Union at 1-(800) 248-5100 (in Missouri 1-(800) 342-6700). The Western Union operator should be given Datagram Identification Number N1023 and the following message addressed to William H. Bateman, Director, Project Directorate IV-2, MS O-13-E-18, Washington, D.C. 20555: petitioner's name and telephone number; date petition was mailed; plant name; and publication date and page number of this Federal Register notice. A copy of the petition should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and to M.H. Philips, Jr., Esq., Winston & Strawn, 1400 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20005-3502, attorney for the licensee.

Nontimely filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions and/or requests for hearing will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer or the presiding Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that the petition and/or request should be granted based upon a balancing of the factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1) (i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

If a request for a hearing is received, the Commission's staff may issue the amendment after it completes its technical review and prior to the completion of any required hearing if it publishes a further notice for public comment of its proposed finding of no significant hazards consideration in accordance with 10 CFR 50.91 and 50.92.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated October 26, 1995, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Richland Public Library, 955 Northgate Street, Richland, Washington 99352.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 27th day of February 1996.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.  
James W. Clifford,

Senior Project Manager, Project Directorate IV-2, Division of Reactor Projects—III/IV, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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[Docket Nos. 50-424 and 50-425]

**Georgia Power Company, et al.; Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2 Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-68 and NPF-81, issued to Georgia Power Company, et al. (the licensee) for operation of the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (Vogtle), Units 1 and 2, located at the licensee's site in Burke County, Georgia.

**Environmental Assessment**

*Identification of Proposed Action*

This Environmental Assessment has been prepared to address potential environmental issues related to the licensee's application dated May 1, 1995, as supplemented by letters dated August 3 and 9, September 22, November 20, and December 21, 1995, and January 26 and 30, 1996. The proposed action will replace the existing Vogtle Technical Specifications (TS) in their entirety with a new set of TS based on Revision 1 to NUREG-1431, "Standard Technical Specifications Westinghouse Plants," and the existing VEGP TS.

*The Need for the Proposed Action*

It has been recognized that nuclear safety in all plants would benefit from improvement and standardization of TS. The "NRC Interim Policy Statement on Technical Specification Improvements for Nuclear Power Reactors," (52 FR 3788, February 6, 1987), and later the Final Policy Statement (58 FR 39132, July 22, 1993), formalized this need. To facilitate the development of individual improved TS, each reactor vendor owners group (OG) and the NRC staff developed standard TS (STS). For Westinghouse plants, the STS are published as NUREG-1431, and this document was the basis for the new Vogtle TS. The NRC Committee to Review Generic Requirements (CRGR) reviewed the STS and made note of the safety merits of the STS and indicated its support of conversion to the STS by operating plants.

*Description of the Proposed Change*

The proposed revision to the TS is based on NUREG-1431 and on guidance provided in the Final Policy Statement. Its objective is to completely rewrite, reformat, and streamline the existing TS. Emphasis is placed on human factors principles to improve clarity and understanding. The Bases section has