

of the mine, and to have a certified person examine the evaluation points for methane and oxygen concentrations and the volume of air and record the results in a book maintained on the surface of the mine. The petitioner asserts that application of the standard would result in a diminution of safety to the miners. In addition, the petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

#### 6. Mountain Coal Company

[Docket No. M-97-148-C]

Mountain Coal Company, P.O. Box 591, Somerset, Colorado 81434 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1002-1(a) (location of other electric equipment; requirements for permissibility) to its West Elk Mine (I.D. No. 05-03672) located in Gunnison County, Colorado. The petitioner requests that the Proposed Decision and Order granting its previous petition, docket number M-95-183-C be amended to revise stipulation No. 4 in order to clarify the intent and purpose. The petitioner requests that stipulation No. 4 be revised to remove the reference to permissible equipment and to clarify that only the non-permissible equipment being used for purposes of the petition be inspected weekly since the petition is to allow the use of non-permissible equipment for testing and diagnostics purposes within 150 feet of pillar workings. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

#### 7. Canfield Energy, Inc.

[Docket No. M-97-149-C]

Canfield Energy, Inc., P.O. Box 1021, Barbourville, Kentucky 40906 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.342 (methane monitors) to its Canfield No. 4 Mine (I.D. No. 15-17716) located in Knox County, Kentucky. The petitioner proposes to use hand-held continuous-duty methane and oxygen indicators in lieu of machine-mounted methane monitors on permissible three-wheel tractors with drag bottom buckets. The petitioner asserts that this petition is based on the safety of the miners.

#### 8. Chestnut Coal Company

[Docket No. M-97-150-C]

Chestnut Coal Company, R.D. #3, Box 142, Sunbury, Pennsylvania 17801 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1200(d) & (i) (mine map) to its No. 10 Slope (I.D. No.

36-07059) located in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania. The petitioner proposes to use cross-sections instead of contour lines through the intake slope, at locations of rock tunnel connections between veins, and at 1,000-foot intervals of advance from the intake slope, and to limit the required mapping of the mine workings above and below to those present within 100 feet of the veins being mined except when veins are interconnected to other veins beyond the 100-foot limit through rock tunnels. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as would the mandatory standard.

#### 9. Peabody Coal Company

[Docket No. M-97-151-C]

Peabody Coal Company, 800 Laidley Tower, P.O. Box 1233, Charleston, West Virginia 25324 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.503 (permissible electric face equipment; maintenance) to its Camp No. 1 Mine (I.D. No. 15-02709) located in Union County, Kentucky. The petitioner proposes to use a spring-loaded, metal locking device for securing the battery-connecting plugs to machine-mounted battery receptacles on permissible, mobile, battery-powered scoop cars and tractors instead of using padlocks. 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 are encouraged to submit comments via e-mail to "comments@msha.gov", or on a computer disk along with an original hard copy to the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Mine Safety and Health Administration, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 627, Arlington, Virginia 22203. All comments must be postmarked or received in that office on or before March 9, 1998. Copies of these petitions are available for inspection at that address.

Dated: January 26, 1998.

**Patricia W. Silvey,**

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

[FR Doc. 98-2768 Filed 2-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-43-P

#### NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

##### Telecommunications Service Priority System Oversight Committee Meeting

**AGENCY:** National Communications System (NCS).

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

A meeting of the Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System Oversight Committee will convene Wednesday, March 4, 1998 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The meeting will be held in Room 2011, Hamilton Building, Booz-Allen and Hamilton, McLean, Virginia. The agenda for the meeting will be:

- Opening/Administrative Remarks.
- Status of the TSP Program.
- Working Group Reports.
- CPAS Program Update.

Anyone interested in attending or presenting additional information to the Committee, please contact CDR Angela Abrahamson, Manager, Office of Priority Telecommunications, (703) 607-4930, or Betty Hoskin (703) 607-4932 by February 18, 1998.

**Dennis Bodson,**

*Chief, Technology and Standards Division, National Communications System.*

[FR Doc. 98-2895 Filed 2-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-03-M

#### NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

##### Cooperative Agreement for Universal Design Exemplars

**AGENCY:** National Endowment for the Arts, NFAH.

**ACTION:** Notification of Availability.

**SUMMARY:** The National Endowment for the Arts is requesting proposals leading to the award of a Cooperative Agreement to identify, describe, and visually document excellent examples of Universal Design from the disciplines of architecture, interior design, landscape architecture, product design, and graphic communications. The primary audience for these materials will be students/faculty in schools of design in all the disciplines listed above, and design professionals practicing in these fields. Visuals and text will be produced on CD Rom, and should be articulate and illustrate a set of principles of Universal Design through the use of design examples. Those interested in receiving the Solicitation package should reference Program Solicitation PS 98-02 in their written request. Requests must be accompanied by two self-addressed

labels. Verbal requests for the Solicitation will not be honored.

**DATES:** Program Solicitation PS 98-02 is scheduled for release approximately February 23, 1998 with proposals due March 23, 1998.

**ADDRESS:** Requests for the Solicitation should be addressed to National Endowment for the Arts, Grants & Contracts Office, Room 618, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20506.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** William Hummel, Grants & Contracts Office, National Endowment for the Arts, Room 618, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20506 (202/682-5482).

**William I. Hummel,**

*Coordinator, Cooperative Agreements and Contracts.*

[FR Doc. 98-2772 Filed 2-4-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7537-01-M

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-352]

### Philadelphia Electric Company (Limerick Generating Station, Unit 1); Exemption

#### I

The Philadelphia Electric Company (the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. NPF-39, which authorizes operation of the Limerick Generating Station (LGS), Unit 1. The license provides, among other things, that the licensee is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the Commission now or hereafter in effect.

The facility consists of two boiling-water reactors at the licensee's site located in Montgomery and Chester Counties, Pennsylvania.

#### II

Section 70.24 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, "Criticality Accident Requirements," requires that each licensee authorized to possess special nuclear material (SNM) shall maintain a criticality accident monitoring system in each area where such material is handled, used, or stored. Subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2) of 10 CFR 70.24 specify detection and sensitivity requirements that these monitors must meet. Subsection (a)(1) also specifies that all areas subject to criticality accident monitoring must be covered by two detectors.

Subsection (a)(3) of 10 CFR 70.24 requires licensees to maintain emergency procedures for each area in

which this licensed SNM is handled, used, or stored and provides that: (1) The procedures ensure that all personnel withdraw to an area of safety upon the sounding of a criticality accident monitor alarm, (2) the procedures must include drills to familiarize personnel with the evacuation plan, and (3) the procedures designate responsible individuals for determining the cause of the alarm and placement of radiation survey instruments in accessible locations for use in such an emergency. Subsection (b)(1) of 10 CFR 70.24 requires licensees to have a means to identify quickly personnel who have received a dose of 10 rads or more. Subsection (b)(2) of 10 CFR 70.24 requires licensees to maintain personnel decontamination facilities, to maintain arrangements for a physician and other medical personnel qualified to handle radiation emergencies, and to maintain arrangements for the transportation of contaminated individuals to treatment facilities outside the site boundary. Paragraph (c) of 10 CFR 70.24 exempts Part 50 licensees from the requirements of paragraph (b) of 10 CFR 70.24 for SNM used or to be used in the reactor. Paragraph (d) of 10 CFR 70.24 states that any licensee who believes that there is good cause why he should be granted an exemption from all or part of 10 CFR 70.24 may apply to the Commission for such an exemption and shall specify the reasons for the relief requested.

#### III

The SNM that could be assembled into a critical mass at LGS, Unit 1, is in the form of nuclear fuel; the quantity of SNM other than fuel that is stored on site in any given location is small enough to preclude achieving a critical mass. The Commission's technical staff has evaluated the possibility of an inadvertent criticality of the nuclear fuel at LGS, Unit 1, and has determined that it is extremely unlikely for such an accident to occur if the licensee meets the following seven criteria:

1. Only three new fuel assemblies are allowed out of a shipping cask or storage rack at one time.

2. The k-effective does not exceed 0.95, at a 95% probability, 95% confidence level in the event that the fresh fuel storage racks are filled with fuel of the maximum permissible U-235 enrichment and flooded with pure water.

3. If optimum moderation occurs at low moderator density, then the k-effective does not exceed 0.98, at a 95% probability, 95% confidence level in the event that the fresh fuel storage racks are filled with fuel of the maximum

permissible U-235 enrichment and flooded with a moderator at the density corresponding to optimum moderation.

4. The k-effective does not exceed 0.95, at a 95% probability, 95% confidence level in the event that the spent fuel storage racks are filled with fuel of the maximum permissible U-235 enrichment and flooded with pure water.

5. The quantity of forms of special nuclear material, other than nuclear fuel, that are stored on site in any given area is less than the quantity necessary for a critical mass.

6. Radiation monitors, as required by General Design Criterion 63, are provided in fuel storage and handling areas to detect excessive radiation levels and to initiate appropriate safety actions.

7. The maximum nominal U-235 enrichment is limited to 5.0 weight percent.

By letter dated December 23, 1997, the licensee requested an exemption from 10 CFR 70.24. In this request the licensee addressed the seven criteria given above. The Commission's technical staff has reviewed the licensee's submittals and has determined that LGS, Unit 1 meets the applicable criteria. Criteria 2 and 3 are not applicable to LGS, Unit 1 since it has no fresh fuel storage racks, for prevention of inadvertent criticality; therefore, the staff has determined that it is extremely unlikely for an inadvertent criticality to occur in SNM handling or storage areas at LGS, Unit 1.

The purpose of the criticality monitors required by 10 CFR 70.24 is to ensure that if a criticality were to occur during the handling of SNM, personnel would be alerted to that fact and would take appropriate action. The staff has determined that it is extremely unlikely that such an accident could occur; furthermore, the licensee has radiation monitors, as required by General Design Criterion 63, in fuel storage and handling areas. These monitors will alert personnel to excessive radiation levels and allow them to initiate appropriate safety actions. The low probability of an inadvertent criticality, together with the licensee's adherence to General Design Criterion 63, constitutes good cause for granting an exemption to the requirements of 10 CFR 70.24(a).

#### IV

The Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 70.14, this exemption is authorized by law, will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security, and is otherwise