

including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology?

A copy of the draft supporting statement may be viewed free of charge at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW. (lower level), Washington, DC. OMB clearance requests are available at the NRC worldwide web site (<http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/PUBLIC/OMB/index.html>). The document will be available on the NRC home page site for 60 days after the signature date of this notice.

Comments and questions about the information collection requirements may be directed to the NRC Clearance Officer, Brenda Jo Shelton, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, T-6 E6, Washington, DC 20555-0001, by telephone at 301-415-7233, or by Internet electronic mail at [BJS1@NRC.GOV](mailto:BJS1@NRC.GOV).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 7th day of April 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Brenda Jo Shelton,**

*NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 99-9169 Filed 4-12-99; 8:45 am]

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

**ACTION:** Notice of the OMB review of information collection and solicitation of public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The NRC has recently submitted to OMB for review the following proposal for the collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). The NRC hereby informs potential respondents that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and that a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

1. Type of submission, new, revision, or extension: Extension.

2. The title of the information collection: 10 CFR Part 20, Standards for Protection Against Radiation.

3. How often the collection is required: Annually for most reports; at license termination for reports dealing with decommissioning.

4. Who will be required or asked to report: NRC licensees, including those requesting license termination.

5. The number of annual respondents: The total annual number of NRC licensees responding to this requirement by either reporting or recordkeeping is 5939.

6. The number of hours needed annually to complete the requirement or request: 165,498 (approximately 28 hours per licensee).

7. An indication of whether Section 3507(d), Pub. L. 104-13 applies: Not applicable.

8. Abstract: 10 CFR Part 20 establishes standards for protection against ionizing radiation resulting from activities conducted under licenses issued by the NRC. These standards require the establishment of radiation protection programs, maintenance of radiation records, recording of radiation received by workers, reporting of incidents which could cause exposure to radiation, submittal of an annual report to NRC of the results of individual monitoring, and submittal of license termination information. These mandatory requirements are needed to protect occupationally exposed individuals from undue risks of excessive exposure to ionizing radiation and to protect the health and safety of the public.

A copy of the final supporting statement may be viewed free of charge at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW (lower level), Washington, DC. OMB clearance requests are available at the NRC worldwide web site (<http://www.nrc.gov>) under the FedWorld collection link on the home page tool bar. The document will be available on the NRC home page site for 60 days after the signature date of this notice.

Comments and questions should be directed to the OMB reviewer by May 13, 1999: Erik Godwin, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (3150-0014), NEOB-10202, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

Comments can also be submitted by telephone at (202) 395-3084.

The NRC Clearance Officer is Brenda Jo. Shelton, 301-415-7233.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 7th day of April 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Brenda Jo. Shelton,**

*NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-317 and 50-318]

### In the Matter of Baltimore Gas & Electric Company (Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2); Exemption

#### I.

The Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BGE or the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-53 and DPR-69, which authorize operation of the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2 (the facilities), respectively. The licenses provide, among other things, that the facilities are subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the Commission) now or hereafter in effect.

The facilities are pressurized-water reactors located at the licensee's site in Calvert County, Maryland.

The licensee, in letters dated October 6, 1997, and July 22, 1998, requested an exemption from the technical requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R, Section III.J, Emergency lighting, as follows: (1) To be allowed to use security lighting required by 10 CFR 73.55, powered by the security emergency diesel generator, for exterior lighting in lieu of 8-hour battery powered emergency lighting units, (2) to be able to use portable lights powered by an 8-hour power supply, for actions in high radiation areas, in lieu of 8-hour battery powered emergency lighting units, and (3) to be able to use helmet lanterns inside of switchgear cabinets, again in lieu of 8-hour battery powered emergency lighting units.

#### II.

Section III.J of Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50 applies to nuclear power plants that were operating prior to January 1, 1979. Unit 1 of Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant was licensed to operate July 31, 1974, and Unit 2 was licensed to operate on November 30, 1976.

Section III.J of Appendix R specifies that emergency lighting units with at least an 8-hour battery supply shall be provided in all areas needed for operation of safe shutdown equipment and in access and egress routes thereto. The licensee has not provided 8-hour battery supplied emergency lighting units in plant exterior areas, inside of electrical cabinets, or in high radiation areas that require such units under Section III.J.

The licensee proposed to credit the security lighting system, required by 10

CFR 73.55, which is backed by a security emergency diesel generator, for exterior lighting in lieu of 8-hour battery powered emergency lighting units. The licensee stated that the security lighting system is powered by an independent, uninterruptible power supply.

According to the licensee, the generator backing the security lighting system is located in a separate structure from other plant area buildings and would not be affected by a fire requiring safe shutdown. The licensee stated that the generator is maintained with a fuel supply greater than 8 hours. The licensee also stated that the security lighting system, which meets the illumination requirements of 10 CFR 73.55, provides more than adequate illumination for exterior access and egress routes inside of the security protected area.

The licensee also proposed to be able to use portable lights in high radiation areas in lieu of fixed emergency lighting units with at least an 8-hour battery power supply. The exemption to permit this was requested to reduce radiation exposure to levels as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA) by eliminating emergency lighting testing and maintenance in high radiation areas. According to the licensee, the licensee's battery-powered portable lights have a wide base and are designed to be placed on the floor adjacent to the proposed work activity. The position of the lamp head can be adjusted to provide illumination necessary to perform the required work at the activity site. The lights are stored in a controlled cabinet near the activity sites, are dedicated for Appendix R safe shutdown activities, and are periodically tested. The lights have an 8-hour capacity. The licensee stated that fixed emergency lighting units are provided on the access and egress routes to the cabinet which contains the portable lights and to the entrance to the high radiation areas. According to the licensee, activities requiring the use of the portable lights are cold shutdown activities and are not time critical. In addition, the reduction of personnel radiation exposure from maintenance is in accordance with other NRC requirements. The portable lights, according to the licensee, would enable the performance in locked high radiation areas of limited non-time critical safe shutdown activities.

Finally, the licensee proposed to be able to use helmet mounted lights inside switchgear cabinets in lieu of fixed emergency lighting units specified by Section III.J of Appendix R. The licensee stated that due to space limitations and seismic qualification requirements, installation of fixed emergency lighting

units is not feasible. Emergency lighting units installed outside of the cabinets may not provide adequate lighting for the activity inside of the cabinet due to shadows cast by the operator. Activities performed inside of the cabinets requiring the use of helmet lights are limited to pulling fuses to isolate the cabinet from fire effects, according to the licensee. The helmet lights are stored inside of the Appendix R safe shutdown locker for each unit. This locker also contains the safe shutdown procedures and the locker is the first stop for the operators upon control room evacuation. The helmet mounted lights consist of a light head attached to a wide rubber band that is placed around a hardhat. A belt with two attached battery packs (each weighing about one pound) and a connector to attach the lamps to the battery completes the assembly. The helmet lights for pulling fuses inside of electrical switchgear, according to the licensee, will provide an adequate method of providing the necessary illumination to accomplish the limited activities.

### III.

The underlying purpose of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R, Section III.J, is to provide adequate illumination to assure the capability of performing all necessary safe shutdown functions, as well as to assure personnel movement to and from the equipment and components that must be manually operated by plant personnel to effect safe shutdown during emergencies. In addition, the illumination must have a capability to allow sufficient time for normal lighting to be restored. The staff has determined that the security lighting, portable lights, and helmet lights, as described by the licensee and discussed above, satisfy the underlying purpose of 10 CFR Part 50 Appendix R, Section III.J.

### IV.

In consideration of the foregoing, the Commission has determined that pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, the exemption requested is authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to public health and safety, and is consistent with the common defense and security. The Commission further has determined that special circumstances, as provided in 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii), are present in that application of the regulation in the particular circumstances is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule.

Therefore, the licensee's request for an exemption from the requirements of Section III.J of Appendix R to 10 CFR

Part 50, to the extent applicable to the areas and locations described by the licensee in its application, is granted, provided the licensee's proposed alternative lighting arrangements are implemented.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that granting the above exemption will have no significant impact on the quality of the human environment (64 FR 14275).

The subject exemption is effective from the date of issuance.

Dated this 7th day of April 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**John A. Zwolinski,**

*Director, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-220]

### Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation; Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1 Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-63, issued to Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (the licensee), for operation of the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1 (NMP1), located in the town of Scriba, Oswego County, New York.

### Environmental Assessment

#### *Identification of the Proposed Action*

The proposed action would increase the number of fuel assemblies that can be stored in the NMP1 spent fuel pool (SFP) from 2776 (i.e., 1066 in the northern half of the pool and 1710 in the southern half of the pool) to 4086. The modification will be achieved by two separate campaigns. For the 1999 refueling outage (RFO15), the licensee will first replace the non-poison racks in the northern half of the pool with high density racks providing 1840 storage cells. Later, as further capacity increase is warranted, the licensee will replace the racks in the southern half of the pool with high density racks providing 2246 storage cells. The design of the new high density spent fuel storage racks incorporates Boral as a neutron absorber in the cell walls to allow for more dense storage of spent fuel.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated May 15, 1998, as