

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

ACTION: Notice of pending NRC action to submit an information collection request to OMB and solicitation of public comment.

SUMMARY: The NRC is preparing a submittal to OMB for review of continued approval of information collections under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Information Pertaining to the Requirement to be Submitted

1. *The title of the information collection:* DOE/NRC Form 742, "Material Balance Report;" NUREG/BR-0007, "Instructions for Completing Material Balance Report and Physical Inventory Listing;" and DOE/NRC Form 742C, "Physical Inventory Listing."

2. *Current OMB approval number:* DOE/NRC Form 742 and NUREG/BR-0007: 3150-0004; DOE/NRC Form 742C: 3150-0058.

3. *How often the collection is required:* DOE/NRC Forms 742 and 742C are submitted semiannually following a physical inventory of nuclear materials.

4. *Who is required or asked to report:* Persons licensed to possess specified quantities of special nuclear or source material.

5. *The number of annual respondents:* DOE/NRC Form 742: 200 licensees; DOE/NRC Form 742C: 180 licensees.

6. *The number of hours needed annually to complete the requirement or request:* DOE/NRC Form 742: 300 hours; DOE/NRC Form 742C: 2,160 hours.

7. *Abstract:* Each licensee authorized to possess special nuclear material totalling more than 350 grams of contained uranium-235, uranium-233, or plutonium, or any combination thereof, and any licensee authorized to possess 1,000 kilograms of source material is required to submit DOE/NRC Form 742. Reactor licensees required to submit DOE/NRC Form 742, and facilities subject to 10 CFR Part 75, are required to submit DOE/NRC Form 742C. The information is used by NRC to fulfill its responsibilities as a participant in US/IAEA Safeguards Agreement and bilateral agreements with Australia and Canada, and to satisfy its domestic safeguards responsibilities.

Submit, by May 19, 2000, comments that address the following questions:

1. Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the NRC to properly perform its functions? Does the information have practical utility?

2. Is the burden estimate accurate?

3. Is there a way to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected?

4. How can the burden of the information collection be minimized, 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 E 6, Washington, DC 20555-0001, by telephone at (301) 415-7233, or by Internet electronic mail at BJs1@NRC.GOV.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 14th day of March, 2000.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Brenda Jo. Shelton,

NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-6806 Filed 3-17-00; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Draft Supplementary Changes to Revision 8 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors;" Notice of Availability

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has issued for public comment and voluntary use, on a trial basis, a draft supplementary change to Revision 8 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The Commission uses NUREG-1021 to provide policy and guidance for the development, administration, and grading of written examinations and operating tests used to determine the qualifications of individuals who apply for operator and

senior operator licenses at nuclear power plants pursuant to the Commission's regulations. NUREG-1021 provides similar guidance for verifying the continued qualifications of licensed operators when the staff determines that NRC requalification examinations are necessary.

The draft supplement includes two notable changes that the NRC staff believes will maintain safety and public confidence while reducing unnecessary burden on those facility licensees that elect to prepare their own examinations for NRC review and approval and improving efficiency and effectiveness. The first change clarifies the sampling guidelines used in preparing the written examination to ensure a truly random process for selecting the question topics and, based upon this process, eliminates the limits on the number of questions that can be repeated from prior examinations and quizzes. The second change clarifies the guidance regarding the documentation of examination quality issues in the NRC's examination reports in a manner that will establish a threshold for discussion of examination preparation deficiencies when an examination meets the NRC's target range for acceptability. Several other changes are being made to correct typographical and administrative errors in Revision 8 and address questions raised since Revision 8 was issued. The changes are identified with highlights and strikeouts for ease of review.

The draft supplement is available for review via the NRC Public Electronic Reading Room (<http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html>), on the NRC's Operator Licensing web site (<http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/REACTOR/OL/OLguidance.html>), and at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street NW, Washington, DC. If you do not have electronic access to NRC documents, you may request a single copy of the draft supplement by writing to the Office of the Chief Information Officer, Reproduction and Distribution Services Section, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001 (Facsimile: 301-512-2289). Telephone requests cannot be accommodated. NUREG documents are not copyrighted, and Commission approval is not required to reproduce them.

The draft supplement is being immediately implemented on a voluntary, trial basis. The NRC will evaluate any comments and recommendations that are received and any lessons that are learned during the trial period, incorporate any additional changes, as appropriate, and, thereafter,

publish final Supplement 1 for general use.

DATES: The comment period ends June 19, 2000. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the staff is able to assure consideration only for comments received on or before this date.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be submitted to the Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. You may also provide comments via the NRC's Operator Licensing web site (<http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/REACTOR/OL/OLguidance.html>). Copies of comments received may be examined on the NRC Public Electronic Reading Room (<http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html>) and at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street NW, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. S. Guenther by telephone at (301) 415-1056, or by e-mail sxg@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 14th day of March 2000.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Harold O. Christensen

Acting Chief, Operator Licensing, Human Performance and Plant Support Branch, Division of Inspection Program Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 00-6807 Filed 3-17-00; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD

Board Meeting; May 1, 2000—Pahrump, Nevada; Discussion of the Current Design for a Potential Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada; Update on Geochemistry and other Scientific Studies Undertaken at the Yucca Mountain Site.

Pursuant to its authority under section 5051 of Public Law 100-203, Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1987, the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (Board) will meet in Pahrump, Nevada, on Monday, May 1, 2000, to review the status of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) efforts to develop a design for a potential repository for disposing of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. The DOE also will present updates on geochemistry and on other scientific studies, including chlorine-36 investigations. In addition, the Board will hear from representatives of Nye County, Nevada, on recent scientific activities. The DOE

is evaluating the Yucca Mountain site, about 100 miles northwest of Las Vegas, to determine its suitability as the location of a repository for the permanent disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste.

The meeting will be held at the Bob Ruud Community Center, 150 North Highway 160, Pahrump, Nevada 89048. The pay-phone number for the community center is (775) 727-9991. The meeting will begin at 8:30 am.

An overview of recent developments in the repository program will begin the meeting. The general overview will be followed by more-extensive presentations on the subsurface and engineered barrier system designs currently being considered by the DOE for a potential Yucca Mountain repository. Later in the day, the DOE will update the Board on the status of geochemical studies being conducted in connection with the characterization of the Yucca Mountain site.

Representatives of Nye County, Nevada, also have been invited to comment and update the Board on their recent scientific activities, including the drilling program being conducted at the site under the auspices of the county.

The meeting will be open to the public. Time for public comment will be set aside before the lunch break and at the end of the session. Those wanting to speak are encouraged to sign the "Public Comment Register" at the check-in table. Depending on the number of requests, a time limit may be set on oral statements; written comments may be submitted for inclusion in the record of the meeting. Interested parties also may submit written questions to the Board. As time permits, written questions will be answered during the sessions. Interested members of the public also are invited to join the Board for coffee from 7:30 to 8:15 am before the meeting begins.

A detailed agenda will be available approximately one week before the meeting. Copies of the agenda can be requested by telephone or obtained from the Board's Web site at www.nwtrb.gov. Transcripts of the meeting will be available on the Board's Web site, via e-mail, on computer disk, and on a library-loan basis in paper format from Davonya Barnes of the Board staff, beginning on May 29, 2000.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Saddle West Hotel/Casino, 1220 South Highway 160, Pahrump, Nevada 89048. The telephone numbers for Saddle West are (800) 433-3987 and (775) 727-1111. When making a reservation, please state that you are attending the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board meeting.

For further information on the meeting, contact Karyn Severson, External Affairs, NWTRB, at 2300 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1300, Arlington, Virginia 22201-3367; (tel) 703-235-4473; (fax) 703-235-4495; (e-mail) info@nwtrb.gov.

The Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board was created by Congress in the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1987. The Board's purpose is to evaluate the technical and scientific validity of activities undertaken by the Secretary of Energy related to managing the disposal of the nation's spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste. In the same legislation, Congress directed the DOE to characterize a site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, to determine its suitability as the location of a potential repository for the permanent disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste.

March 14, 2000.

William D. Barnard,

Executive Director, Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board.

[FR Doc. 00-6817 Filed 3-17-00; 8:45 am]

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POSTAL SERVICE

Sunshine Act Meeting

TIMES AND DATES: 8:30 a.m., Monday, April 3, 2000; 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, April 4, 2000; 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, April 4, 2000.

PLACE: Washington, D.C., at U.S. Postal Service Headquarters, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., in the Benjamin Franklin Room.

STATUS: April 3 (Closed); April 4—8:30 a.m. (Open); 10:00 a.m. (Closed).

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Monday, April 3—8:30 a.m. (Closed)

1. Strategic Planning.
2. ePayments.
3. Financial Performance.
4. Revision of Designation of Functions for the Office of Inspector General.

Tuesday, April 4—8:30 a.m. (Open)

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting, March 6-7, 2000.
2. Remarks of the Postmaster General/Chief Executive Officer.
3. Quarterly Report on Service Performance.
4. Quarterly Report on Financial Results.
5. REDRESS (Resolve Employment Disputes Reach Equitable Solutions Swiftly) Program Update.
6. Capital Investments.
 - a. Los Angeles, California, Bulk Mail Center Expansion.
 - b. Point of Service (POS) One—Stage 2B Deployment.
7. Tentative Agenda for the May 1-2, 2000,