

It has been determined that under a worst-case scenario, the tower blowdown temperature would be approximately 120 °F and has set this value as the administrative limit. Assuming a nominal summer river supply temperature of 70 °F–90 °F and a cooling tower blowdown temperature of 96 °F, the proposed power uprate will not impact the 120 °F administrative limit.

Braidwood Station Effluent Analysis and Evaluation

The CW system at Braidwood Station is a closed loop cooling system similar to that at the Byron Station, except that waste heat is rejected from the turbine cycle to a cooling lake. Three CW pumps per unit pump cooling water from the lake to the main condenser. Discharge from the condenser is returned to the lake, where it is separated from the intake supply by a dike. The heat duty increase associated with the power uprate is mainly associated with the CW System and will be approximately 5 percent higher than at the present power level. This will result in a 1 °F increase to the CW temperature rise, which is now approximately 21.8 °F at 100 percent power. The increase will nominally increase the lake temperature as the lake temperature is primarily influenced by climatic conditions.

Byron and Braidwood operate in compliance with a NPDES Permit, which requires all effluents to be closely monitored to assure compliance with the permit levels. There is no significant change in the types or a significant increase in the amounts of non-radiological effluents that may be released offsite due to the power uprate of each of the units at Byron Station, Units 1 and 2, and Braidwood Station, Units 1 and 2.

Noise Evaluation

The noise effects due to operation of Byron Station and Braidwood Station at uprated power conditions were reviewed. No increase in noise from the turbine or reactor building will result due to uprated power operations. In addition, the turbine and the reactor building supply and exhaust fans will continue to operate at current speeds, and the associated noise levels will also be unaffected by uprated power operations. In summary, the overall noise levels at Byron Station and Braidwood Station will not increase due to the power uprate.

The non-radiological environmental impacts related to the proposed power uprate at Byron Station and Braidwood Station have been reviewed and there

are no adverse impacts or significant changes required to the current NPDES Permits or other plant administrative limits. No changes to land use would result and the proposed action does not involve any historic sites. Therefore, no new or different types of non-radiological environmental impacts are expected.

Summary

The proposed action will not significantly increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released off site, and there is no significant increase in occupational or public radiation exposure. Therefore, there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action. With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does not involve any historic sites. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action. Accordingly, the NRC concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action (i.e., the “no-action” alternative). Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts, but would reduce the operational flexibility that would be afforded by the proposed change. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Byron Station, Units 1 and 2, and in the Final Environmental Statement for Braidwood Station, Units 1 and 2.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on December 18, 2000, the staff consulted with the Illinois State official, Frank Niziolek of the Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

On the basis of the environmental assessment, the NRC concludes that the

proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the NRC has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated July 5, 2000, as supplemented on November 27, 2000. Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room, located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland. Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the ADAMS Public Library component on the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov> (the Electronic Reading Room).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 22nd day of December 2000.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Anthony J. Mendiola,

*Chief Section 2, Project Directorate III,
Division of Licensing Project Management,
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

NRC Coordination Meeting With Standards Development Organizations

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: The NRC will host a coordination meeting with key standards development organizations (SDOs) and other stakeholders. These meetings have been held approximately semi-annually as part of the NRC's commitment to utilize consensus standards to increase the involvement of licensees and others in the NRC's regulatory development process. This is consistent with the provisions of Public Law (Pub. L.) 104–113, the National Technology and Transfer Act of 1995, and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A–119, “Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Consensus Standards and Conformity Assessment.” The primary purpose of these meetings is to foster better communication between SDOs' and NRC regarding standards development and their use. This notice provides the date and agenda for the next meeting.

DATES: January 17, 2001—The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. and will last approximately four hours. Attendees should enter the One White Flint North

lobby by 12:45 p.m. to complete the required badging process.

Location: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Headquarters, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Room O-4-B4, Rockville, Maryland 20852-2738.

Contact: Wallace E. Norris, USNRC, Telephone: (301) 415-6796; Fax: (301) 415-5074; Internet: wen@nrc.gov.

Attendance: This meeting is open to the general public. All individuals planning to attend, including SDO representatives, are requested to preregister with Mr. Norris by telephone or e-mail and provide their name, affiliation, phone number, and e-mail address.

Program: The purpose of the meeting is to foster better communication between SDOs and NRC regarding standards development and use. By holding periodic coordination meetings, the SDOs will be able to describe their on-going and planned activities, and the NRC will be able to discuss activities and issues related to specific standards that are being developed or revised to meet its regulatory needs. The meeting will be coordinated by the NRC Standards Executive.

Among the topics to be discussed are:
NRC standards needs
Status of on-going SDO efforts
ANS presentation regarding the possible development of three standards:
Risk-based fire
Component reliability
Non-reactor facility PRA
Verifying accuracy of SDO and NRC rosters

Dated in Rockville, Maryland this 29th day of December, 2000.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
Michael E. Mayfield,
NRC Standards Executive.

[FR Doc. 01-358 Filed 1-4-01; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549

Extension: Rule 12g3-2, OMB Control No. 3235-0119, SEC File No. 270-104; Rule 7a-15 thru 7a-37, OMB Control No. 3235-0132, SEC File No. 270-115; Rule 13e-1, OMB Control No. 3235-0305, SEC File No. 270-255

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

(44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget requests for extension of the previously approved collections of information discussed below.

Rule 12g3-2 (OMB 3235-0119; SEC File No. 270-104) provides an exemption from Section 12(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Act) for foreign private issuers. Rule 12g3-2 is designated to provide investors in foreign securities with information about such securities and the foreign issuer. It affects approximately 1, 800 foreign issuer respondents at an estimated one burden hour per response for a total annual burden of 1,800 hours. All information required by Rule 12g3-2 is available to the public. All information provided under Rule 12g3-2 is mandatory.

Rules 7a-15 through 7a-37 (OMB 3235-0132; SEC File No. 270-115) sets forth the general requirements relating to applications, statements and reports that must be filed under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 by issuers and trustees qualifying indentures for offerings of debt securities. Rules 7a-15 through 7a-37 are disclosure guidelines and do not directly result in any collection of information. The respondents are persons and entities subject to Trust Indenture Act requirements. No information collection burdens are imposed directly by these rules so they are assigned only one burden hour for administrative convenience.

Rule 13e-1 (OMB 3235-0305; SEC File No. 270-255) makes it unlawful for an issuer who has received notice that it is subject of a tender offer made under 14(d)(1) of the Act and that has commenced under Rule 14d-2 to purchase any of its equity securities during the tender offer unless it first files a statement with the Commission containing information required by the Rule. This rule is in keeping with the Commission's statutory responsibility to prescribe rules and regulations that are necessary for the protection of investors. Public companies are the respondents. An estimated 20 respondents file Rule 13e-1 submissions annually at an estimated 13 hours per response for a total annual burden of 260 hours. All information provided is made available to the public.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

Written comments regarding the above information should be directed to

the following persons: (i) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503; and (ii) Michael E. Bartell, Associate Executive Director, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: December 27, 2000.

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-313 Filed 1-4-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 35-27332]

Filings Under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as amended ("Act")

December 29, 2000.

Notice is hereby given that the following filing has been made with the Commission pursuant to provisions of the Act and rules promulgated under the Act. All interested persons are referred to the application for a complete statement of the proposed transaction summarized below. The application and any amendments are available for public inspection through the Commission's Branch of Public Reference.

Interested persons wishing to comment or request a hearing on the application should submit their views in writing by January 23, 2001, to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, DC 20549-0609, and serve a copy on the relevant applicants at the address specified below. Proof of service (by affidavit or, in the case of an attorney at law, by certificate) should be filed with the request. Any request for hearing should identify specifically the issues of facts or law that are disputed. A person who so requests will be notified of any hearing, if ordered, and will receive a copy of any notice or order issued in the matter. After January 23, 2001, the application as filed or as amended may be granted.

AES Corporation, Dennis W. Bakke and Roger W. Sant (70-9779)

The AES Corporation ("AES"), an electric public-utility holding company exempt from registration under section