

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Draft Regulatory Guide; Issuance, Availability

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued for public comment a proposed revision of a guide in its Regulatory Guide Series. This series has been developed to describe and make available to the public such information as methods acceptable to the NRC staff for implementing specific parts of the NRC's regulations, techniques used by the staff in evaluating specific problems or postulated accidents, and data needed by the staff in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

The draft guide, temporarily identified by its task number, DG-1087 (which should be mentioned in all correspondence concerning this draft guide), is titled "Evaluating the Habitability of a Nuclear Power Plant Control Room During a Postulated Hazardous Chemical Release." DG-1087 is a proposed Revision 1 of Regulatory Guide 1.78, and it is being revised to propose guidance on control room habitability during a postulated hazardous chemical release, including chlorine. When Revision 1 of Regulatory Guide 1.78 is issued, it will incorporate and withdraw Regulatory Guide 1.95, "Protection of Nuclear Power Plant Control Room Operators Against an Accidental Chlorine Release," since many of the regulatory positions in these two guides are the same or similar.

This draft guide has not received complete staff approval and does not represent an official NRC staff position.

Comments may be accompanied by relevant information or supporting data. Written comments may be submitted to the Rules and Directives Branch, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Copies of comments received may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. Comments will be most helpful if received by April 10, 2001.

You may also provide comments via the NRC's interactive rulemaking web site through the NRC home page (<http://www.nrc.gov>). This site provides the ability to upload comments as files (any format), if your web browser supports that function. For information about the interactive rulemaking web site, contact Ms. Carol Gallagher, (301) 415-5905; e-mail CAG@NRC.GOV. For information about the draft guide and the related documents, contact Mr. S. Basu at (301) 415-6774; e-mail SXB2@NRC.GOV.

Although a time limit is given for comments on this draft guide, comments and suggestions in connection with items for inclusion in guides currently being developed or improvements in all published guides are encouraged at any time.

Regulatory guides are available for inspection at the NRC's Public Document Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The PDR's mailing address is USNRC PDR, Washington, DC 20555; telephone (301) 415-4737 or (800) 397-4209; fax (301) 415-3548. Requests for single copies of draft or final guides (which may be reproduced) or for placement on an automatic distribution list for single copies of future draft guides in specific divisions should be made in writing to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Reproduction and Distribution Services Section; or by fax to (301) 415-2289, or by e-mail to <DISTRIBUTION@NRC.GOV>.

Telephone requests cannot be accommodated. Regulatory guides are not copyrighted, and Commission approval is not required to reproduce them.

(5 U.S.C. 552(a))

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 2nd day of February 2001.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Farouk Eltaoula,

Acting Director, Division of Systems Analysis and Regulatory Effectiveness, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.

[FR Doc. 01-4627 Filed 2-23-01; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Regulatory Guides; Withdrawal

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is withdrawing Regulatory Guide 8.14, "Personnel Neutron Dosimeters." Revision 1 of Regulatory Guide 8.14, published in August 1977, endorsed ANSI N319-1976, "American National Standard for Personnel Neutron Dosimeters (Neutron Energies Less Than 20 MeV)," which has been replaced by ANSI N13.52-1999, "Personnel Neutron Dosimeters." Regulatory Guide 8.14 does not need to be revised because regulations are in place that require licensees to have an adequate dosimetry program.

Licensees are required by 10 CFR 20.1501 to use dosimetry processors accredited through the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP). NVLAP requires processors to use new standards for

personnel dosimetry, ANSI N13.52-1999 and ANSI N13.11-1993, "Personnel Dosimetry Performance-Criteria for Testing," to maintain an appropriate quality for dosimetry processing.

Licensees should note that the guidance in Regulatory Positions 1.b and 1.c of Regulatory Guide 8.14 regarding the use of calculated neutron dose equivalents is also contained in Regulatory Guide 8.4, "Direct-Reading and Indirect-Reading Pocket Dosimeters." The use of calculated neutron dose equivalents is still applicable because Regulatory Guide 8.4 has not been withdrawn.

Regulatory guides may be withdrawn when they are superseded by the NRC's regulations, when equivalent recommendations have been incorporated in applicable approved codes and standards, or when changes in methods and techniques or in the need for specific guidance have made them obsolete.

Comments and suggestions in connection with regulatory guides being developed and effective guides are encouraged at any time. 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. (5 U.S.C. 552(a))

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of February 2001.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Margaret V. Federline,

Deputy Director, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.

[FR Doc. 01-4629 Filed 2-23-01; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Form U-6B-2; SEC File No. 270-169; OMB Control No. 3235-0163]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension

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") is soliciting comments on the collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for extension and approval.

The Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 [15 U.S.C. Section 79A et seq.] requires the filing of an application

and/or declaration on Form U-1 for prior Commission approval both for the issue and sale of a security and its acquisition by a company in a registered holding company system.¹ Section 6(b) provides that the Commission shall exempt from the requirement of filing a declaration on Form U-1, by rules and regulations or orders and subject to such terms and conditions, as it deems appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors or consumers, certain security issuances and sales.

Section 6(b) also contains a reporting requirement. It directs the issuer of securities exempted under section 6(b) to file with the Commission within ten days of the issue or sale of a certificate notification and directs the Commission to prescribe the form of and information required in this certificate. Rule 20(d) prescribes Form U-6B-2 as the form of certificate of notification to be filed pursuant to section 6(b). Form U-6B-2 is also prescribed by Rule 52(c)(17 CFR 250.52(c)) and rule 47(b)(17 CFR 250.47(b)) as the form of certificate of notification to be filed by a public utility subsidiary company of a registered holding company to notify the Commission of exempt issuances and sales of securities under Rule 52 Exemption of Issue and Sale of Certain Securities approved by state commissions and Rule 47 Exemption of Public Utility Subsidiaries as to Certain Securities Issued to the Rural Electrification Administration. The Commission receives about 89 Form U-6B-2s per year from 89 respondents who each file once, which imposes an annual burden of about 89 hours.

The estimates of the average burden hours are made solely for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act and are not derived from a comprehensive or even representative survey or study of the costs of Commission rules and forms.

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 are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of

information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Please direct your written comments to Michael E. Bartell, Associate Executive Director, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 5th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549.

Dated: February 14, 2001.

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-4649 Filed 2-23-01; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Proposed Form N-6; SEC File No. 270-446; OMB Control No. 3235-0503]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension

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") is soliciting comments on the collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit to the Office of Management and Budget a request for an extension of this previously approved collection of information.

The title for the collection of information is "Form N-6 Under the Investment Company Act of 1940 and the Securities Act of 1933, Registration Statement of Variable Life Insurance Separate Accounts Registered as Unit Investment Trusts."

On March 13, 1998, the Securities and Exchange Commission proposed a new Form N-6 for insurance company separate accounts that are registered as unit investment trusts that offer variable life insurance policies. The form would be used by these separate accounts to register under the Investment Company Act of 1940 and to offer their securities under the Securities Act of 1933. For these registrants, the proposed form would replace Form N-8B-2, currently used by all unit investment trusts to register under the Investment Company Act, and Form S-6, currently used by all unit investment trusts to offer their securities under the Securities Act. Forms S-6 and N-8B-2 were not

designed for variable life insurance registrants and do not reflect fundamental improvements that the Commission has made to other investment company registration forms, including Forms N-1A and N-4, which facilitate clearer and more concise disclosure. If adopted, proposed Form N-6 would:

- Eliminate requirements in the current registration forms that are not relevant to variable life insurance and include items that are specifically addressed to variable life insurance;
- Streamline variable life prospectus disclosure by adopting a two-part format consisting of a simplified prospectus, designed to contain essential information, and a Statement of Additional Information, containing more extensive information that investors could obtain upon request; and

- Provide variable life separate accounts a single, integrated form for Investment Company Act and Securities Act registration, thereby eliminating unnecessary paperwork and duplicative reporting.

The Commission estimates that there are approximately 200 separate accounts registered as unit investment trusts and offering variable life insurance policies that would file registration statements on proposed Form N-6. The Commission estimates that there will be as many as 50 initial registration statements on proposed Form N-6 filed annually. The Commission estimates, therefore, that approximately 250 registration statements (200 post-effective amendments plus 50 initial registration statements) will be filed on Form N-6 annually.

The Commission estimates that the hour burden for preparing and filing a post-effective amendment on proposed Form N-6 will be 100 hours. Thus, the total annual hour burden for preparing and filing post-effective amendments would be 20,000 hours (200 post-effective amendments annually times 100 hours per amendment). The Commission estimates that the hour burden for preparing and filing an initial registration statement on proposed Form N-6 will be 800 hours. Thus, the annual hour burden for preparing and filing initial registration statements would be 40,000 hours (50 initial registration statements annually times 800 hours per registration statement). The total annual hour burden for proposed Form N-6, therefore, is estimated to be 60,000 hours (20,000 hours for post-effective amendments plus 40,000 hours for initial registration statements).

¹ See section 6(a)(requiring prior Commission approval under the standards of section 7 for the issue and sale of securities) and section 9(a)(1)(requiring prior Commission approval under the standards of section 10 for the acquisition of securities).