

smallest UI program workloads and 480 cases per year in the other states. State BAM staff audit each selected claim, examining all aspects of a claimant's eligibility to receive UI benefits during the sampled week. In an investigation, staff verify wages used to establish monetary entitlements, the claimant's reason for being unemployed, efforts to find work during the week, and any other factors which would have affected the claimant's entitlement to a UI benefit payment during the sampled week or the amount of the benefit paid. The findings are then numerically coded and entered into an automated database that is maintained on a computer located in each state.

Denied Claims Accuracy. On a weekly basis, states select systematic random samples from three separate sampling frames constructed from the universes of UI claims for which eligibility was denied for monetary, separation and nonseparation reasons. All states sample a minimum of 150 cases of each denial type in each calendar year. State BAM staff review agency records and contact claimants, employer(s), and all other relevant parties to verify information in agency records or obtain additional information pertinent to the determination that denies UI benefit eligibility. Unlike the investigation of paid claims, in which all prior determinations affecting claimant eligibility for the compensated week selected for the sample are evaluated, the investigation of denied claims is limited to the issue upon which the denial determination is based. The findings are then numerically coded and entered into an automated database that is maintained on a computer located in each state. Like the investigation of paid claims, states have the flexibility to conduct the investigation of denied claims by in-person interview, telephone, mail, e-mail or fax, as they deem appropriate.

The Department relies heavily on BAM data for information on states' UI operations (e.g., the percent of claims taken by telephone and other remote methods) and performance. These data are reported annually in a data summary report and as part of the UI PERFORMS Annual Report. Further, BAM data are used as part of a overpayment detection measure under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA).

II. Desired Focus of Comments

The Employment and Training Administration is soliciting comments concerning the proposed extension of the collection of the UI BAM program data (OMB control number 1205-0245) now authorized through March 31,

2004. The Department is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate 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;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

A copy of the information collection handbook (ETA Handbook 395) can be obtained by contacting the employee listed above in the contact section of this notice.

III. Current Actions

Type of Review: Extension.

Agency: Employment and Training Administration.

Title: Unemployment Insurance Benefit Accuracy Measurement Program.

OMB Number: 1205-0245.

Recordkeeping: States are required to follow their state laws regarding public record retention in retaining BAM paid and denied claims records.

Affected Public: Individuals; businesses; other for-profit/not-for-profit institutions; farms; Federal, State, local or tribal governments.

Frequency: Annually.

Total Respondents and Responses: 188,984 per year (52 SWAs/3,634 per state; includes claimants, employers, third parties, and SWA BAM program staff).

Estimated Time Per Case: Paid claims: claimant—0.5 hours; employers—0.85 hours; work search contacts—0.55 hours; third parties—0.05 hours; and SWA BAM staff—8.27 hours. Denied claims: claimant—0.5 hours; employers and third parties—0.5 hours; and SWA BAM staff—6.66 hours (average).

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 423,243 annually (8,139 hours per state).

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$0.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintaining): \$12,544,372.73 annually (approximately \$241,237.94 per state).

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: December 9, 2003.

Cheryl Atkinson,

Administrator, Office of Workforce Security.

[FR Doc. 03-30856 Filed 12-12-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Labor Certification Process for Temporary Agricultural Employment of Nonimmigrant Workers in the United States (H-2A Workers); On-line Application Processing System; Formal Briefings

AGENCY: Employment and Training Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As the result of the General Accounting Office (GAO) recommendation to the Secretary of Labor on ways to improve the H-2A program, the Department of Labor (DOL) has designed an H-2A case management system to improve data tracking and reporting capabilities. The system will also provide a user-friendly platform for the Regional Office staff and the regulated community to enter application data. The Division of Foreign Labor Certification, Employment and Training Administration (ETA), Department of Labor, announces two formal briefings to demonstrate to agricultural employers and other interested parties the new On-Line Application Processing System. The briefings will allow ETA to demonstrate to the regulated community, i.e., employers, attorneys, agents and associations, the benefits of the on-line application completion module.

DATES: The briefing dates are:

Thursday, January 15, 2004, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Boxborough, MA
Thursday, January 22, 2004, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Nashville, TN.

Notices of intention to appear at the briefings must be postmarked no later than December 29, 2003.

ADDRESSES: The briefing locations are:
Holiday Inn Boxborough, 242 Adams Place, Boxborough, MA 01719
Double Tree Hotel, 315 Fourth Avenue, N., Nashville, TN 37219

Send notices of intention to appear to: Charlene Giles, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Room C-4318, Washington, DC 20210. Notices also may be faxed to Charlene Giles at 202-693-2769 (this is not a toll-free number), or submitted by e-mail at dflc.onp@dol.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charlene Giles; telephone 202-693-2950. (This is not a toll-free number.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The formal public briefings will be chaired by a senior official of the Employment and Training Administration. Persons appearing at the briefings will be allowed a hands on experience with the system and to pose questions to Department staff.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 8th day of December, 2003.

Emily Stover DeRocco,

Assistant Secretary, for Employment and Training.

[FR Doc. 03-30857 Filed 12-12-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-30-P

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

Notice of Meeting

TIME AND DATE: 10 a.m., Thursday, December 18, 2003.

PLACE: Board Room, 7th Floor, Room 7047, 1775 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-3428.

STATUS: Open.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Requests from three (3) Federal Credit Union to Convert to Community Charters.
2. Request from a Federal Credit Union to Expand its Community Charter.
3. Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking: Interagency Proposal to Consider Alternative Forms of Privacy Notices.
4. Final Rule: Part 745 of NCUA's Rules and Regulations, Share Insurance.
5. Final Rule: Section 701.22 of NCUA's Rules and Regulations, Loan Participation.
6. National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund (NCUSIF) Operating Level for 2004.

RECESS: 11:15 a.m.

TIME AND DATE: 11:30 a.m., Thursday, December 18, 2003

PLACE: Board Room 7th Floor, Room 7047, 1775 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-3428.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: 1. Field of Membership Appeal. Closed pursuant to exemption (4).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Becky Baker, Secretary of the Board, Telephone: (703) 518-6304

Becky Baker,

Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 03-31037 Filed 12-11-03; 3:29 pm]

BILLING CODE 7535-01-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-416]

Entergy Operations, Inc., System Energy Resources, Inc., South Mississippi Electric Power Association, and Entergy Mississippi, Inc.; Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-29 issued to Entergy Operations, Inc., System Energy Resources, Inc., South Mississippi Electric Power Association, and Entergy Mississippi, Inc. (Entergy) for operation of the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (GGNS), located in Claiborne County, Mississippi.

By letter dated December 5, 2003, Entergy submitted a revised application for amendment to GGNS Technical Specification (TS) 3.3.6.1, "Primary Containment and Drywell Isolation Instrumentation," to add a provision to the applicability function that will eliminate the requirement that the Residual Heat Removal (RHR) System Isolation, Reactor Vessel Water Level-Low, Level 3, be operable under certain conditions during refueling outages. Specifically, the proposed change requested in the original application dated May 12, 2003, would remove the requirement for this isolation function, specified in Table 3.3.6.1-1, when the upper containment reactor cavity is at the High Water Level (HWL) condition specified in TS 3.5.2, "Emergency Core Cooling Systems (ECCS) Shutdown." The revised application adds a new surveillance requirement (SR) (SR 3.3.6.1.9) to verify the water level in the upper containment pool is ≥ 22 feet 8 inches above the reactor pressure vessel flange every four hours, and adds a footnote to Table 3.3.6.1-1, Item 5.b, for MODE 5 that states that the function is

not required when the upper containment reactor cavity and transfer canal gates are removed and SR 3.3.6.1.9 is met. The proposed SR and footnote are only applicable in MODE 5. The May 12, 2003, application was previously noticed in the **Federal Register** on June 10, 2003 (68 FR 34665).

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations.

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), section 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. As required by 10 CFR 50.91(a), the licensee has provided its analysis of the issue of no significant hazards consideration, which is presented below:

1. Does the proposed change involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated?

Response: No.

The proposed change revises the applicability requirement for the Residual Heat Removal (RHR) System Isolation function of the Primary Containment and Drywell Isolation Instrumentation during MODE 5 and adds a surveillance requirement that is invoked when specific conditions exist. The proposed surveillance requirement only enhances the ability of operating personnel to detect inventory loss associated with a draindown event. The change removes the requirement that the instrumentation be operable during certain conditions (high water level) during refueling outages. The isolation function is intended to mitigate reactor vessel draindown events by isolating the residual heat removal flow path at low reactor water level. Although draindown events during refueling operations are not specifically evaluated in the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR), these events were evaluated in support of licensing actions for the Alternate Decay Heat Removal System. An additional evaluation supporting this change established that the RHR system automatic isolation was not needed to mitigate a draindown event given the possible drain paths and the time available for operators to terminate the draindown event. The probability that a draindown event will be initiated is unrelated to operability requirement for this