

June 25, 2019.

Ronald M. Spritzer,

Chairman, Administrative Judge.

[FR Doc. 2019-13899 Filed 6-27-19; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2019-0118]

Refining and Characterizing Heat Release Rates From Electrical Enclosures During Fire

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Draft NUREG; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing for public comment a draft NUREG entitled, "Refining and Characterizing Heat Release Rates from Electrical Enclosures during Fire—Volume 2: Fire Modeling Guidance for Electrical Cabinets, Electric Motors, Indoor Dry Transformers, and the Main Control Board" (NUREG-2178 Volume 2/EPRI 3002016052). This report is a joint product of the NRC and the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) collaborating under a memorandum of understanding for fire research. This report describes improved methods that can increase the realism in the modeling of selected ignition sources. The areas further investigated include the treatment of flame radiation and obstructed radiation, fire propagation between adjacent electrical cabinets, heat release rates (HRRs) for electric motors and dry transformers, fire location factor, non-suppression probability floor values, and the modeling of the main control board.

DATES: Submit comments by August 27, 2019. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the Commission is able to ensure consideration only for comments received before this date.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov/> and search for Docket ID NRC-2019-0118. Address questions about docket IDs in *Regulations.gov* to Jennifer Borges; telephone: 301-287-9127; email: Jennifer.Borges@nrc.gov. For technical questions, contact the individuals listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.

- *Mail comments to:* Office of Administration, Mail Stop: TWFN-7-A60M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory

Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, ATTN: Program Management, Announcements and Editing Staff. For additional direction on obtaining information and submitting comments, see "Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments" in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David W. Stroup, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, telephone: 301-415-1649, email: David.Stroup@nrc.gov; or Nicholas.Melly, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, telephone: 301-415-2392, email: Nicholas.Melly@nrc.gov. Both are staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments

A. Obtaining Information

Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2019-0118 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information for this action. You may obtain publicly-available information related to this action by any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov/> and search for Docket ID NRC-2019-0118.
- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly-available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select "Begin Web-based ADAMS Search." For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by email to pdr.resource@nrc.gov. The draft NUREG entitled "Refining and Characterizing Heat Release Rates from Electrical Enclosures during Fire—Volume 2: Fire Modeling Guidance for Electrical Cabinets, Electric Motors, Indoor Dry Transformers, and the Main Control Board" is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML19162A406.

- *NRC's PDR:* You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC's PDR, Room O1-F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

B. Submitting Comments

Please include Docket ID NRC-2019-0118 in your comment submission.

The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. The NRC will post all comment

submissions at <https://www.regulations.gov/> as well as enter the comment submissions into ADAMS. The NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove identifying or contact information.

If you are requesting or aggregating comments from other persons for submission to the NRC, then you should inform those persons not to include identifying or contact information that they do not want to be publicly disclosed in their comment submission. Your request should state that the NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove such information before making the comment submissions available to the public or entering the comment into ADAMS.

II. Discussion

In 2005, the EPRI and the NRC's Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research issued a joint technical report NUREG/CR-6850 (EPRI 1011989), *EPRI/NRC-RES Fire PRA Methodology for Nuclear Power Facilities*. This publication documented state-of-the-art methods, tools, and data for conducting a fire probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) for a commercial nuclear power plant application. Following this publication, many utilities developed Fire PRAs using the guidance in NUREG/CR-6850 (EPRI 1011989) to support risk informed applications, including the transition to National Fire Protection Association Standard 805 among others. The results obtained from the Fire PRA models have suggested specific elements in the fire scenario analysis where improved methods and/or guidance can reduce conservatism and increase realism in the risk estimates. Consequently, over the past fifteen years, fire PRA research covering the areas of fire ignition frequencies (e.g., NUREG-2169 (EPRI 3002002936)), fire modeling (e.g., NUREG-2178 (EPRI 3002005578)), human reliability analysis (NUREG-1921 (EPRI 1023001)), and spurious operations (e.g., NUREG/CR-7150) have been published and made available to the industry.

The first volume of NUREG-2178 (EPRI 3002005578) was published in April of 2016. This document included methods focused on refining the modeling of fires in electrical cabinets, including updated HRR probability distributions and an obstructed fire plume model. During drafting of NUREG-2178 volume 1 (EPRI 3002005578), the joint NRC/EPRI working group authoring the document identified additional methods to further refine the modeling of selected ignition sources within the fire PRA for inclusion in a second volume. As in the

case of Volume 1 of NUREG–2178, this second volume would provide improved methods for achieving realism by reducing some of the conservatism present in the NUREG/CR–6850 (EPRI 1011989) methods. As such, the guidance and methods described in these documents would not replace or invalidate existing methods or guidance, but rather, provide more realistic (usually less conservative) alternative approaches.

This second volume of NUREG–2178 (EPRI 3002016052) includes the following methods that can be used for refining the modeling of selected ignition sources:

- *Flame radiation and obstructed radiation:* The document describes and reviews existing methods for calculating flame radiation. From that discussion, a modified approach for computing flame radiation is developed and a detailed method for determining the thermal radiation impact from fires inside electrical cabinets is presented. This approach extends the research documented in NUREG–2178 Volume 1 (EPRI 3002005578) associated with modeling plume temperatures generated by fires inside electrical cabinets (*i.e.*, the obstructed plume temperature model) by developing guidance on predicting thermal radiation that may be obstructed by vented or unvented cabinet walls.

- *Fire propagation between adjacent electrical cabinets:* A detailed approach for modeling fire propagation between vertical sections in a bank of electrical cabinets is described in the report. This method expands upon the guidance provided in Appendix S of NUREG/CR–6850 (EPRI 1011989) which referred to this scenario as “enclosure-to-enclosure fire spread.”

- *HRRs for electric motors and dry transformers:* Appendix G of NUREG/CR–6850 (EPRI 1011989) recommended bounding/conservative values for HRRs associated with electric motors and dry transformers based on the values used for electrical cabinet fires. However, electric motors and dry transformers are different in terms of ignition sources, modes of ignition, and combustible configuration in comparison to electrical cabinets. Consequently, revised HRRs for electric motors (including those motors associated with pumps) and dry transformers based on the size (horsepower or voltage respectively) of the equipment were developed.

- *Fire location factor:* Existing guidance suggests that fires adjacent to walls or in corners of a room may generate elevated plume temperatures when compared to fires away from these

surfaces (sometimes referred to as the wall/corner plume correction factors). Based on recent fire experiments, this document discusses new guidance for estimating plume temperatures from fires along walls or in corners. The guidance is applicable to both fixed and transient ignition sources.

- *Non-suppression floor value:* Appendix P of NUREG/CR–6850 (EPRI 1011989) recommends that the non-suppression probability versus time curves be used subject to a floor (minimum) value of 0.001 for all cases. This assumption means that, in effect, 1 fire in 1000 is never suppressed which clearly contradicts the available data. This document discusses the basis and development of a lower non-suppression probability floor value.

- *Main control board fire scenarios:* Appendix L of NUREG/CR–6850 (EPRI 1011989) described a simplified model for determining the severity factor and non-suppression probability for fire scenarios associated with the main control board based on a predefined zone of influence (*i.e.*, a defined set of damage target components). Although easy to apply, this model limits the ability to integrate the main control board scenarios with other elements associated with the PRA quantification of fire scenarios inside the main control room. This document describes a comprehensive event-tree based approach for characterizing the fire scenario progression following ignition of a component in the main control board.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 25th day of June 2019.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Mark H. Salley,

Branch Chief, Fire and External Hazards Analysis Branch, Division of Risk Analysis, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.

[FR Doc. 2019–13893 Filed 6–27–19; 8:45 am]

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POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. CP2019–176]

New Postal Product

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission is noticing a recent Postal Service filing for the Commission’s consideration concerning a negotiated service agreement. This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

DATES: *Comments are due:* July 2, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission’s Filing Online system at <http://www.prc.gov>. Those who cannot submit comments electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David A. Trissell, General Counsel, at 202–789–6820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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- II. Docketed Proceeding(s)

I. Introduction

The Commission gives notice that the Postal Service filed request(s) for the Commission to consider matters related to negotiated service agreement(s). The request(s) may propose the addition or removal of a negotiated service agreement from the market dominant or the competitive product list, or the modification of an existing product currently appearing on the market dominant or the competitive product list.

Section II identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, the title of each Postal Service request, the request’s acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. For each request, the Commission appoints an officer of the Commission to represent the interests of the general public in the proceeding, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505 (Public Representative). Section II also establishes comment deadline(s) pertaining to each request.

The public portions of the Postal Service’s request(s) can be accessed via the Commission’s website (<http://www.prc.gov>). Non-public portions of the Postal Service’s request(s), if any, can be accessed through compliance with the requirements of 39 CFR 3007.301.¹

The Commission invites comments on whether the Postal Service’s request(s) in the captioned docket(s) are consistent with the policies of title 39. For request(s) that the Postal Service states concern market dominant product(s), applicable statutory and regulatory requirements include 39 U.S.C. 3622, 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR part 3010, and 39 CFR part 3020, subpart B. For request(s) that the Postal Service states concern competitive product(s), applicable

¹ See Docket No. RM2018–3, Order Adopting Final Rules Relating to Non-Public Information, June 27, 2018, Attachment A at 19–22 (Order No. 4679).