

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**Notice of Permit Application Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978**

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.
ACTION: Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the National Science Foundation (NSF) has received a waste management permit application for operation of a remote field support and emergency provisions helicopter flight seeing for the Motor Vessel, Octopus for the 2006–2007 austral summer season. The application is submitted to NSF pursuant to regulations issued under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application within July 9, 2008. Permit applications may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 755, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Polly A. Penhale, Environmental Officer at the above address or (703) 292–8030.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NSF's Antarctic Waste Regulation, 45 CFR part 671, requires all U.S. citizens and entities to obtain a permit for the use or release of a designated pollutant in Antarctica, and for the release of waste in Antarctica. NSF has received a permit application under this Regulation for Quark Expeditions Inc.'s vessels, *Akademik Sergey Vavilov*, *Akademik Ioffe*, and *Clipper Adventurer* for operation of remote field support and emergency provisions for passenger landings in Antarctica. On each landing of passengers emergency gear is taken ashore in case the weather deteriorates and passengers are required to stay ashore for an extended period. Emergency provisions include: white gas cooking fuel, car type battery for long-range VHF radio communications, food, sleeping bags, and tents. All waste products (paper, food, and human wastes) will be removed from Antarctica and properly disposed in an appropriate port of disembarkation. In the event of an accidental fuel spill, all contaminated snow and or soil will be removed. In accordance with Antarctic waste regulations.

Application for the permit is made by: Erica Wikander, Environmental Officer,

Quark Expeditions, Inc., 47 Water Street, Norwalk, CT 06854.

Location: Antarctic Peninsula.

Dates: October 1, 2008 to March 31, 2013.

Nadene G. Kennedy,

Permit Officer.

[FR Doc. E8–12786 Filed 6–6–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 52–016]

Constellation Generation Group, LLC, and Unistar Nuclear Operating Services, LLC; Acceptance for Docketing of an Application for Combined License for Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant Unit 3

By four letters dated March 14, 2008, as supplemented by a letter dated May 15, 2008, Constellation Generation Group, LLC, and UniStar Nuclear Operating Services, LLC (CGG and UniStar) submitted Part 2 of their application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for a combined license (COL) for one U.S. EPR pressurized water reactor in accordance with the requirements contained in 10 CFR Part 52 “Licenses, Certifications and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants.” This reactor is identified as Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 3 and is to be located in Lusby in Calvert County, Maryland.

CGG and UniStar previously submitted Part 1 of this application by letters dated July 13 and December 14, 2007, as supplemented by letters dated July 16, August 2, September 11, and October 30, 2007, and January 14 and March 3, 2008, in accordance with the requirements contained in 10 CFR Parts 2 and 52. The partial application included the environmental report (ER) as well as additional information that must accompany the first part of any COL application as required by 10 CFR 2.101(a)(5). Part 1 was accepted for review and docketed by the NRC on January 25, 2008 (ML080160547), and with the docketing of Part 2, the application is complete.

Notices of receipt and availability of this application were previously published in the **Federal Register** (72 FR 45832) on August 15, 2007, and (73 FR 24321) on May 2, 2008.

The NRC staff has determined that CGG and UniStar have submitted information in accordance with 10 CFR Part 2, “Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings and Issuance of Orders,” and 10 CFR Part 52 that is

acceptable for docketing. The Docket Number established for Unit 3 is 5200016.

The NRC staff will perform a detailed technical review of the application. Docketing of the application does not preclude the NRC from requesting additional information from the applicant as the review proceeds, nor does it predict whether the Commission will grant or deny the application. The Commission will conduct a hearing in accordance with Subpart L, “Informal Hearing Procedures for NRC Adjudications,” of 10 CFR Part 2 and will receive a report on the COL application from the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards in accordance with 10 CFR 52.87, “Referral to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS).” If the Commission finds that the COL application meets the applicable standards of the Atomic Energy Act and the Commission's regulations, and that required notifications to other agencies and bodies have been made, the Commission will issue a COL, in the form and containing conditions and limitations that the Commission finds appropriate and necessary.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 51, the Commission will also prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action. Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.26, and as part of the environmental scoping process, the staff held a public scoping meeting on March 19, 2008.

Finally, the Commission will announce in a future **Federal Register** notice the opportunity to petition for leave to intervene in the proceeding on this application.

For reference purposes, information regarding the U.S. EPR design referenced by this COL application can be found on the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/design-cert/epr.html>.

Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, Public File Area O1 F21, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, and will be accessible electronically through the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Public Electronic Reading Room link at the NRC Web site <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The application is also available at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/col.html>. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing documents located in ADAMS should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone

at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 3rd day of June 2008.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

John Rycyna,

*Project Manager, EPR Projects Branch,
Division of New Reactor Licensing, Office of
New Reactors.*

[FR Doc. E8-12844 Filed 6-6-08; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-293]

Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc; Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of an exemption from Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50, Section 50.75(f)(3), for Facility Operating License No. DPR-35, issued to Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy or the licensee), for operation of Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station (Pilgrim), located in Plymouth County, MA. Therefore, as required by 10 CFR 51.21, the NRC is issuing this environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

The proposed action would allow Entergy to submit the Pilgrim site-specific preliminary decommissioning cost estimate by August 1, 2008, which is less than 4 years from the date of the expiration of the operating license. This is an exemption to the schedule requirement of 10 CFR 50.75(f)(3) which requires that a preliminary decommissioning cost estimate be submitted to the NRC at or about 5 years prior to the projected end of operations. The current expiration date of Pilgrim operating license is June 8, 2012.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application dated February 28, 2008.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed exemption to the schedule requirement of 10 CFR 50.75(f)(3) is needed to allow Entergy to submit the Pilgrim site-specific preliminary cost estimate, including an up-to-date assessment of major factors that have the potential to impact the cost of decommissioning by August 1, 2008, which is less than 4 years from the date of the expiration of the

operating license. The exemption request applies to the timing of the submission of the preliminary cost estimate and did not request an exemption from any of the information requirements of the regulation.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The NRC has completed its safety evaluation (SE) of the proposed action and concludes that the preliminary decommissioning cost estimate for Pilgrim is not likely to be higher than the current minimum formula amount to such a degree that a problematic underfunding situation will exist that would require a full 5-year period to rectify. The details of the staff's SE will be provided in the exemption that will be issued as part of the letter to the licensee approving the exemption.

The proposed action will not significantly increase the probability or consequences of accidents. No changes are being made in the types of effluents that may be released off site. There is no significant increase in the amount of any effluent released off site. 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 non-radiological impacts, the proposed action does not have a potential to affect any historic sites. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Accordingly, the NRC concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Environmental Impacts of the Alternatives to the Proposed Action

As an alternative to the proposed action, the NRC 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. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources

The action does not involve the use of any different resources than those previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for Pilgrim, dated January 1972.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on May 16, 2008, the NRC staff consulted with the Massachusetts State official of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency 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 February 28, 2008, Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) accession number ML081000176. Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, Public File Area O1 F21, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland. Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room on the Internet at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, or send an e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 30th day of May 2008.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

James Kim,

*Project Manager, Plant Licensing Branch I-1,
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing,
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. E8-12893 Filed 6-6-08; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Excepted Service

AGENCY: U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This gives notice of OPM decisions granting authority to make appointments under Schedules A, B, and C in the excepted service as required by 5 CFR 6.6 and 213.103.