

exemption request and the license amendment. The exemptions met all applicable regulatory criteria set forth in 10 CFR 50.12, 10 CFR 52.7, and section VIII.A.4 of appendix D to 10 CFR part 52. The license amendments met all applicable regulatory criteria and were found to be acceptable as well. The combined safety evaluation is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML18158A313.

Identical exemption documents (except for referenced unit numbers and license numbers) were issued to the licensee for VEGP Units 3 and 4 (COLs NPF-91 and NPF-92). The exemption documents for VEGP Units 3 and 4 can be found in ADAMS under Accession Nos. ML18158A307 and ML18158A308, respectively. The exemption is reproduced (with the exception of abbreviated titles and additional citations) in Section II of this document. The amendment documents for COLs NPF-91 and NPF-92 are available in ADAMS under Accession Nos. ML18158A309 and ML18158A311, respectively. A summary of the amendment documents is provided in Section III of this document.

## II. Exemption

Reproduced below is the exemption document issued to VEGP Units 3 and Unit 4. It makes reference to the combined safety evaluation that provides the reasoning for the findings made by the NRC (and listed under Item 1) in order to grant the exemption:

1. In a letter dated November 3, 2017, as supplemented March 28, 2018, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) requested from the Commission an exemption to allow departures from Tier 1 information in the certified DCD incorporated by reference in 10 CFR part 52, appendix D, "Design Certification Rule for the AP1000 Design," as part of license amendment request (LAR) 17-039, "Unqualified Service Level I Coatings Program."

For the reasons set forth in Section 3.2 of the NRC staff's Safety Evaluation, which can be found under ADAMS Accession No. ML18158A313, the Commission finds that:

- A. The exemption is authorized by law;
- B. the exemption presents no undue risk to public health and safety;
- C. the exemption is consistent with the common defense and security;
- D. special circumstances are present in that the application of the rule in this circumstance is not necessary to serve the underlying purpose of the rule;
- E. the special circumstances outweigh any decrease in safety that may result

from the reduction in standardization caused by the exemption; and

F. the exemption will not result in a significant decrease in the level of safety otherwise provided by the design.

2. Accordingly, the licensee is granted an exemption from the certified DCD Tier 1 information, with corresponding changes to Appendix C of the Facility Combined License, as described in the licensee's request dated November 3, 2017, as supplemented by letter dated March 28, 2018. This exemption is related to, and necessary for the granting of License Amendment No. 131 (Unit 3) and 130 (Unit 4), which is being issued concurrently with this exemption.

3. As explained in Section 5.0 of the NRC staff's Safety Evaluation (ADAMS Accession Number ML18158A313), this exemption meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment needs to be prepared in connection with the issuance of the exemption.

4. This exemption is effective as of the date of its issuance.

## III. License Amendment Request

By letter dated November 3, 2017, as supplemented by letter dated March 28, 2018 (ADAMS Accession No. ML17307A201 and ML18087A147), the licensee requested that the NRC amend the COLs for VEGP, Units 3 and 4, COLs NPF-91 and NPF-92. The proposed amendment is described in Section I of this **Federal Register** notice.

The Commission has determined for these amendments that the application complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR chapter I, which are set forth in the license amendment.

A notice of consideration of issuance of amendment to facility operating license or COL, as applicable, proposed no significant hazards consideration determination, and opportunity for a hearing in connection with these actions, was published in the **Federal Register** on December 19, 2017 (82 FR 60223). No comments were received during the 30-day comment period.

The Commission has determined that these amendments satisfy the criteria for categorical exclusion in accordance with 10 CFR 51.22. Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental

assessment need be prepared for these amendments.

## IV. Conclusion

Using the reasons set forth in the combined safety evaluation, the staff granted the exemptions and issued the amendments that the licensee requested by letter November 3, 2017, as supplemented by letter dated March 28, 2018 (ADAMS Accession No. ML17307A201 and ML18087A147, respectively).

The exemptions and amendments were issued on July 10, 2018, as part of a combined package to the licensee (ADAMS Accession No. ML18158A305).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 2nd day of August 2018.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Jennifer L. Dixon-Herrity,**

*Chief, Licensing Branch 4, Division of Licensing, Siting and Environmental Analysis, Office of New Reactors.*

[FR Doc. 2018-16831 Filed 8-6-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590-01-P**

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2018-0162]

### Radiation Safety Surveys at Medical Institutions

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Regulatory guide; withdrawal.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is withdrawing Regulatory Guide (RG) 8.23, "Radiation Safety Surveys at Medical Institutions." RG 8.23 is being withdrawn because the NRC amended its regulations to remove certain prescriptive requirements regarding the types and frequencies of surveys. Therefore, the prescriptive guidance in RG 8.23 is no longer needed.

**DATES:** The withdrawal of RG 8.23 is applicable August 7, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2018-0162 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may access publicly-available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2018-0162. Address questions about NRC dockets to Jennifer Borges; telephone: 301-287-9127; email: [Jennifer.Borges@nrc.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Borges@nrc.gov). For technical questions, contact the individuals listed in the **FOR FURTHER**

**INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.

- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS)*: You may access publicly available documents online in the NRC Library at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select "ADAMS Public Documents" and then 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](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov). The basis for withdrawal is located at ADAMS Accession No. ML18122A278. RG 8.23 is available at ADAMS Accession No. ML003739603.

- *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.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Vered, Shaffer, telephone: 630-829-9862, email: [Vered.Shaffer@nrc.gov](mailto:Vered.Shaffer@nrc.gov), or Harriet Karagiannis, telephone: 301-415-2493, email: [Harriet.Karagiannis@nrc.gov](mailto:Harriet.Karagiannis@nrc.gov). Both are staff of the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Regulatory Guide 8.23 was published in January 1981 to provide guidance on the types and frequencies of surveys that are acceptable to the NRC staff for use in medical institutions to comply with part 20 of title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), "Standards for Protection Against Radiation."

The regulations in 10 CFR part 20 were revised after 1981 and became less prescriptive. As part of amending its regulations in 10 CFR part 20, several of the prescriptive survey requirements applicable to radiation protection programs were deleted. Therefore, the prescriptive guidance in RG 8.23 is no longer needed, and RG 8.23 is being withdrawn.

The NRC is withdrawing RG 8.23 because it is no longer needed. Withdrawal of a RG means that the guide no longer provides useful information or has been superseded by other guidance, technological innovations, congressional actions, or other events. The withdrawal of RG 8.23 does not alter any prior or existing NRC licensing approval or the acceptability of licensee commitments to RG 8.23. Although RG 8.23 is withdrawn, current licensees may continue to use it, and withdrawal does not affect any existing licenses or agreements. However, RG 8.23 should not be used in future

requests or applications for NRC licensing actions.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 1st day of August 2018.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Thomas H. Boyce,**

*Chief, Regulatory Guidance and Generic Issues Branch, Division of Engineering, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.*

[FR Doc. 2018-16830 Filed 8-6-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590-01-P**

## **NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**[NRC-2018-0092]**

### **Standard Format and Content of Physical Security Plans, Training and Qualifications Plans and Safeguards Contingency Plans for Nuclear Power Plants**

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Draft regulatory guide; extension of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** On May 29, 2018, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) solicited comments on draft regulatory guide (DG), DG-5048, "Standard Format and Content of Physical Security Plans, Training and Qualifications Plans and Safeguards Contingency Plans for Nuclear Power Plants." The public comment period was originally scheduled to close on August 13, 2018. The NRC has decided to extend the public comment period by 30 days to allow more time for members of the public to develop and submit their comments.

**DATES:** The due date of comments requested in the document published on May 29, 2018 (83 FR 24510), is extended. Comments should be filed no later than September 13, 2018. 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 on or before this date.

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

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2018-0092. Address questions about NRC dockets to Jennifer Borges; telephone: 301-287-9127; email: [Jennifer.Borges@nrc.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Borges@nrc.gov). For technical questions, contact the individuals listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.

- *Mail comments to:* May Ma, Office of Administration, Mail Stop: TWFN-7A86, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory

Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

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:**

Dennis Gordon, Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response, telephone: 301-287-3633, email: [Dennis.Gordon@nrc.gov](mailto:Dennis.Gordon@nrc.gov) and Mekonen Bayssie, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research; telephone: 301-415-1699, email: [Mekonen.Bayssie@nrc.gov](mailto:Mekonen.Bayssie@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-2018-0092 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this action. You may obtain publically-available information related to this action, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2018-0092.

- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS)*: You may obtain publicly-available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select "ADAMS Public Documents" and then 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](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov). DG-5048 is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML17124A490.

- *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-2018-0092 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 posts all comment submissions at <http://www.regulations.gov> as well as enters the comment submissions into ADAMS. The NRC does not routinely edit