

Departures,” of 10 CFR part 52, appendix D, allows the licensee to depart from the Tier 1 information. With the requested amendment, SNC sought proposed changes to Updated Final Safety Analysis Report Tier 2 information. The proposed amendment also involves related changes to plant-specific Tier 1 information, with corresponding changes to the associated COL Appendix C information. Specifically, the licensee requested changes to reflect revisions in the routing of Class 1E cables associated with the passive containment cooling system. Additionally, related consistency revisions in the safe shutdown evaluation divisional separation information are proposed.

Part of the justification for granting the exemption was provided by the review of the amendment. Because the exemption is necessary in order to issue the requested license amendment, the NRC granted the exemption and issued the amendment concurrently, rather than in sequence. This included issuing a combined safety evaluation containing the NRC staff's review of both the exemption request and the license amendment. The exemption met all applicable regulatory criteria set forth in §§ 50.12, 52.7, and section VIII.A.4 of appendix D to 10 CFR part 52. The license amendment was found to be acceptable as well. The combined safety evaluation is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML19113A261.

Identical exemption documents (except for referenced unit numbers and license numbers) were issued to SNC 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. ML19113A259 and ML19113A260, 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. ML19113A255 and ML19113A257, 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 16, 2018, and supplemented January 24, 2019, 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, as part of license amendment request 18-028, “Routing of Class 1E Division Cables Supporting Passive Containment Cooling.”

For the reasons set forth in Section 3.2 of the NRC staff's Safety Evaluation, which can be found in ADAMS under Accession No. ML19113A261, 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, SNC is granted an exemption from the certified DCD Tier 1 information, with corresponding information in COL Appendix C of the Facility Combined License as described in the licensee's request dated November 16, 2018, and supplemented January 24, 2019. This exemption is related to, and necessary for the granting of License Amendment Nos. 161 and 159 which is being issued concurrently with this exemption.

3. As explained in Section 5.0 of the NRC staff's Safety Evaluation (ADAMS Accession No. ML19113A261), 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 16, 2018, and supplemented by letter dated January 24, 2019, (ADAMS Accession Nos. ML18320A225 and ML19024A179). SNC 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 document.

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 January 2, 2019 (84 FR 20). 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 exemption and issued the amendment that SNC requested on November 16, 2018, and supplemented January 24, 2019.

The exemption and amendment were issued to SNC on May 20, 2019, as part of a combined package (ADAMS Accession No. ML19113A253).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 12th day of June 2019.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Jennifer L. Dixon-Herrity,
Chief, Licensing Branch 2, Division of
Licensing, Siting, and Environmental
Analysis, Office of New Reactors.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2019-0001]

Sunshine Act Meetings

TIME AND DATE: Weeks of June 17, 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 2019.

PLACE: Commissioners' Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

STATUS: Public and Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Week of June 17, 2019

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

10:00 a.m.—Briefing on Human Capital and Equal Employment

Opportunity (Public Meeting)
(Contact: Jason Lising; 301-287-0569)

This meeting will be webcast live at the web address—<http://www.nrc.gov/>.
Thursday, June 20, 2019

10:00 a.m. Briefing on Results of the Agency Action Review Meeting (Public Meeting) (Contact: Andrea Mayer; 301-415-1081)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov/>.

Week of June 24, 2019—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of June 24, 2019.

Week of July 1, 2019—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of July 1, 2019.

Week of July 8, 2019—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of July 8, 2019.

Week of July 15, 2019—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of July 15, 2019.

Week of July 22, 2019—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of July 22, 2019.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For more information or to verify the status of meetings, contact Denise McGovern at 301-415-0681 or via email at Denise.McGovern@nrc.gov. The schedule for Commission meetings is subject to change on short notice.

The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the internet at: <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/public-meetings/schedule.html>.

The NRC provides reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in these public meetings or need this meeting notice or the transcript or other information from the public meetings in another format (e.g., Braille, large print), please notify Kimberly Meyer-Chambers, NRC Disability Program Manager, at 301-287-0739, by videophone at 240-428-3217, or by email at Kimberly.Meyer-Chambers@nrc.gov. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Members of the public may request to receive this information electronically. If you would like to be added to the distribution, please contact the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20555 (301-415-1969), or by email at Wendy.Moore@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 13th day of June 2019.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Denise L. McGovern,
Policy Coordinator, Office of the Secretary.
[FR Doc. 2019-12822 Filed 6-13-19; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

January 2019 Pay Schedules

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The President adjusted the rates of basic pay and locality payments for certain Federal civilian employees effective in January 2019. This notice serves as documentation for the public record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristen Foy, Pay and Leave, Employee Services, Office of Personnel Management; (202) 606-4194 or pay-leave-policy@opm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 28, 2018, the President signed Executive Order (E.O.) 13856 (84 FR 65), which provided that the 2019 pay rates for civilian employee pay schedules covered by the order remain at 2018 levels. On March 28, 2019, the President signed E.O. 13866 (84 FR 12853), which implemented a retroactive pay adjustment required by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (Pub. L. 116-6, February 15, 2019). E.O. 13866 provides an overall average pay increase of 1.9 percent for the statutory pay systems. The pay rates in E.O. 13856 have been superseded.

The publication of this notice satisfies the requirement in Section 5(b) of E.O. 13866 that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) publish appropriate notice of the 2019 locality payments in the **Federal Register**.

Schedule 1 of E.O. 13866 provides the rates for the 2019 General Schedule (GS) and reflects a 1.4 percent increase from 2018. Executive Order 13866 also includes the percentage amounts of the 2019 locality payments. (See Section 5 and Schedule 9 of Executive Order 13866.)

General Schedule employees receive locality payments under 5 U.S.C. 5304. Locality payments apply in the United States (as defined in 5 U.S.C. 5921(4)) and its territories and possessions. In 2019, locality payments ranging from 15.67 percent to 40.35 percent apply to GS employees in the 53 locality pay areas. The 2019 locality pay area

definitions can be found at: <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/2019/locality-pay-area-definitions/>.

The 2019 locality pay percentages became effective the first day of the first pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2019 (January 6, 2019). An employee's locality rate of pay is computed by increasing his or her scheduled annual rate of pay (as defined in 5 CFR 531.602) by the applicable locality pay percentage. (See 5 CFR 531.604 and 531.609.)

Executive Order 13866 establishes the new Executive Schedule (EX), which incorporates a 1.4 percent increase required under 5 U.S.C. 5318 (rounded to the nearest \$100). By law, Executive Schedule officials are not authorized to receive locality payments.

Executive Order 13866 establishes the 2019 range of rates of basic pay for members of the Senior Executive Service (SES) under 5 U.S.C. 5382. The minimum rate of basic pay for the SES is \$127,914 in 2019. The maximum rate of the SES rate range is \$192,300 (level II of the Executive Schedule) for SES members who are covered by a certified SES performance appraisal system and \$176,900 (level III of the Executive Schedule) for SES members who are not covered by a certified SES performance appraisal system.

The minimum rate of basic pay for the senior-level (SL) and scientific and professional (ST) rate range was increased by 1.4 percent (\$127,914 in 2019), which is the amount of the across-the-board GS increase. The applicable maximum rate of the SL/ST rate range is \$192,300 (level II of the Executive Schedule) for SL or ST employees who are covered by a certified SL/ST performance appraisal system and \$176,900 (level III of the Executive Schedule) for SL or ST employees who are not covered by a certified SL/ST performance appraisal system. Agencies with certified performance appraisal systems for SES members and employees in SL and ST positions must also apply a higher aggregate limitation on pay—up to the Vice President's salary (\$246,900 in 2019.)

Note that Section 749 of division D of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019, continues a pay freeze for certain senior political officials, except that it allows for an increase of up to 1.9 percent in the preexisting payable (frozen) rate for covered officials. The section 749 pay freeze extends through the last day of the last pay period that begins in calendar year 2019 (i.e., January 4, 2020, for those on the standard biweekly payroll cycle). Future