

1954 and has been conducted annually since FY 1972. The survey represents one facet of the research and development component of NCSES's statistical program, which includes R&D surveys on the business, federal government, higher education, state government, and nonprofit sectors. NCSES proposes amending the survey to collect new information on R&D personnel. Details are below.

Description of New Information: The Higher Education R&D Survey is one of several surveys at NCSES that collect comparable information on R&D from different sectors of the economy (e.g., businesses, nonprofits, government). However, it does not currently collect as much information about the personnel carrying out R&D activities as some of the other NCSES R&D sector surveys, making it less useful for measurements of the R&D workforce in the United States. NCSES intends to address this shortcoming by collecting data on the number (headcounts) of R&D personnel by function, and the number of full-time equivalents (FTEs) by R&D function. These specific data are not available through other NCSES or federal surveys.

NCSES intends to revise the current question on R&D personnel headcounts and add a question on the number of full-time equivalents for those personnel to the HERD questionnaire. The revised question will collect headcounts on three categories of R&D personnel (researchers, R&D technicians, R&D support staff) by sex and citizenship. Headcounts of researchers will also be collected by highest level of education completed. The previous version of the question collected headcounts for two categories: principal investigators and all other personnel, without demographics. NCSES decided to make the revised personnel headcount question confidential and only publish these data in the aggregate because some institutions expressed reluctance to publish detailed demographics on employees and students. The subsequent new question will collect the full-time equivalents of the R&D personnel accounted for in the revised R&D personnel headcount question.

Use of the New Information: The United States is the only Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) member country that does not report higher education sector FTEs as published in the OECD's Main Science and Technology Indicators report. These new R&D personnel variables will allow NCSES to provide internationally comparable information not available elsewhere to data users interested in science policy, the nature of the science and

engineering workforce, and U.S. R&D competitiveness.

Expected respondents: The R&D personnel questions will only appear on the HERD standard form that is administered to approximately 650 institutions reporting at least \$1 million in R&D in the previous year. Neither the HERD short form respondents (those reporting at least \$150 thousand but less than \$1 million), nor the Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs), will receive these questions.

Estimate of burden: Since many institutions will need to create new internal reports to assemble these data and calculate the full-time equivalents, the average burden is estimated to increase by 10 hours (to a total of 64 hours per institution) for the approximately 650 institutions reporting at least \$1 million in R&D expenditures. This estimate is based on 32 interviews with 16 respondents conducted over two rounds between April and July 2020.

Comments: Comments are invited on (a) whether the proposed addition to the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (d) ways to 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.

Dated: September 25, 2020.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2020-0212]

Performance Review Boards for Senior Executive Service

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Appointments.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has announced appointments to the NRC Performance Review Board (PRB) responsible for making recommendations on performance appraisal ratings and performance awards for NRC Senior Executives and Senior Level System employees and appointments to the NRC PRB Panel responsible for making recommendations to the appointing and awarding authorities for NRC PRB members.

DATES: October 2, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2020-0212 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly-available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking website:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2020-0212. 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 individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document

- *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 reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by email to pdr.resource@nrc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary A. Lamary, Secretary, Executive Resources Board, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone: 301-415-3300, email: Mary.Lamary@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following individuals appointed as members of the NRC PRB are responsible for making recommendations to the appointing and awarding authorities on performance appraisal ratings and performance awards for Senior Executives and Senior Level System employees:

Margaret M. Doane, Executive Director for Operations
 Marian L. Zobler, General Counsel
 Daniel H. Dorman, Deputy Executive Director for Reactor and Preparedness Programs, Office of the Executive Director for Operations
 Laura A. Dudes, Regional Administrator, Region-II

Brian E. Holian, Director, Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response
 John W. Lubinski, Director, Office of Nuclear Materials and Safety Safeguards
 Nader L. Mamish, Director, Office of International Programs
 Jennifer M. Golder, Director, Office of Administration
 Ho K. Nieh, Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
 Darrell J. Roberts, Deputy Executive Director for Materials, Waste, Research, State, Tribal, Compliance, Administration, and Human Capital Programs, Office of the Executive Director for Operations
 Cherish K. Johnson, Chief Financial Officer

The following individuals will serve as members of the NRC PRB Panel that was established to review appraisals and make recommendations to the appointing and awarding authorities for NRC PRB members:

Brooke P. Clark, Director, Deputy General Counsel for Hearings and Administration
 Raymond V. Furstenu, Director, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
 David Lew, Regional Administrator, Region-1

All appointments are made pursuant to Section 4314 of Chapter 43 of Title 5 of the United States Code.

Dated: September 29, 2020.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Miriam L. Cohen,

Secretary, Executive Resources Board.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-247 and 50-286; NRC-2020-0205]

Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.; Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit Nos. 2 and 3

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Exemption; issuance.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has issued a partial exemption in response to the October 22, 2019, request from Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy, the licensee). The issuance of the exemption will grant Entergy a partial exemption from regulations that require the retention of records for certain systems, structures, and components associated with Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit Nos. 2 and 3 (Indian Point 2 and 3) until the termination of the respective Indian Point operating license.

DATES: The exemption was issued on September 28, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2020-0205 when contacting the

NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly-available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- **Federal Rulemaking Website:** Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2020-0205. Address questions about NRC docket IDs in [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) to Jennifer Borges; telephone: 301-287-9127; email: Jennifer.Borges@nrc.gov. For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.

- **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 reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by email to pdr.resource@nrc.gov. The ADAMS accession number for each document referenced (if it is available in ADAMS) is provided the first time that it is mentioned in this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Richard V. Guzman, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone: 301-415-1030, email: Richard.Guzman@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The text of the exemption is attached.

Dated: September 29, 2020.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Richard V. Guzman,

Senior Project Manager, Plant Licensing Branch I, Division of Operating Reactor Licensing, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

Attachment—Exemption

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Docket Nos. 50-247 and 50-286

Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.

Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit Nos. 2 and 3

Exemption Related to Record Retention Requirements

I. Background

Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy, the licensee) is the holder of Renewed Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-26 and DPR-64 for Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit Nos. 2 and 3 (Indian Point 2 and 3, or together, Indian Point). The licenses provide,

among other things, that the facility is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC, the Commission) now or hereafter in effect. The Indian Point 2 and 3 facility consists of two pressurized-water reactors located in Buchanan, New York.

By letter dated February 8, 2017 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML17044A004), Entergy submitted a Notification of Permanent Cessation of Power Operations for Indian Point 2 and 3. In the letter, Entergy provided notification to the NRC of its intent to permanently cease power operations at Indian Point 2 no later than April 30, 2020, and at Indian Point 3 no later than April 30, 2021, subject to operating extensions through, but not beyond, 2024 and 2025, respectively.

By letter dated May 12, 2020 (ADAMS Accession No. ML20133J902), Entergy certified that power operations ceased at Indian Point 2 on April 30, 2020, and that the fuel was permanently removed from the Indian Point 2 reactor vessel and placed in the Indian Point 2 spent fuel pool (SFP) on May 12, 2020. Entergy further acknowledged that the Indian Point 2 Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50 license no longer authorizes operation of the reactor or emplacement or retention of fuel into the reactor vessel. However, the licensee is still authorized to possess and store irradiated nuclear fuel for Indian Point. Irradiated fuel is currently being stored onsite in a spent fuel pool (SFP) and in independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) dry casks. The irradiated fuel will be stored in the ISFSI until it is shipped off site. With the reactor emptied of fuel, the reactor, reactor coolant system, and secondary system is no longer in operation and has no function related to the safe storage and management of irradiated fuel. Once Entergy certifies that it has permanently defueled the Indian Point 3 reactor vessel and placed the fuel in the SFP, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2), the Indian Point 3 renewed facility operating license will no longer authorize operation of the reactor or emplacement or retention of fuel in the reactor vessel.

II. Request/Action

By letter dated October 22, 2019 (ADAMS Accession No. ML19295F894), Entergy submitted a partial exemption request for NRC approval from the record retention requirements of (1) 10 CFR part 50, Appendix B, Criterion XVII, "Quality Assurance Records," which requires certain records (e.g.,