

UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20555-0001

June 15, 2009

**NRC REGULATORY ISSUE SUMMARY 2009-06  
IMPORTANCE OF GIVING NRC ADVANCE NOTICE OF INTENT TO  
PURSUE LICENSE RENEWAL**

**ADDRESSEES**

All holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors under the provisions of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50, "Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities," except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel.

**INTENT**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing this regulatory issue summary (RIS) to emphasize to addressees the importance of (1) providing the NRC with advance notice of their plans for license renewal and (2) notifying the NRC of changes in previously announced plans for license renewal. Responses to this RIS will allow the NRC staff to better plan and budget for the reviews of applications submitted in accordance with 10 CFR Part 54, "Requirements for Renewal of Operating Licenses for Nuclear Power Plants." This RIS does not transmit or imply any new or changed requirements or staff positions. The submission of advance notice of addressee plans or changes to previously announced plans is strictly voluntary; therefore, no specific action or written response is required.

**BACKGROUND**

The NRC issued RIS 2000-20, "Importance of Industry Providing NRC Advance Notice of Intent to Pursue License Renewal," dated November 14, 2000, and RIS 2003-02, "Importance of Giving NRC Advance Notice of Intent to Pursue License Renewal," dated February 3, 2003, respectively, to emphasize to licensees the importance of notifying the agency regarding their plans for submitting license renewal applications. Responses to these requests have allowed the NRC to plan for license renewal applications projected through fiscal year (FY) 2011. The NRC will use the information already received to begin the FY 2012 budgeting process. The review of renewal applications involves significant NRC resources, and the number of applications and their submission dates greatly impact resource requirements. Voluntary submission of licensee plans regarding license renewal will assist the NRC in its budgeting and planning processes.

As of the date of this RIS, the NRC has received from licensees the following information regarding plans to submit license renewal applications:

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Renewal Application</b>	<b>Submission Date</b>
2009	1	Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1 and 2	Sept. 2009
	2	Hope Creek Generating Station	Sept. 2009
2010	1	Strategic Teaming and Resource Sharing (STARS) No. 3	Oct. to Dec. 2009
	2	Columbia Generating Station	Jan. 2010
	3	Seabrook Station, Unit 1	Apr. to June 2010
	4	Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, Unit 1	Aug. 2010
2011	1	South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2	Oct. to Dec. 2010
	2	Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3	Jan. 2011
	3	Limerick Generating Station, Units 1 and 2	Sept. 2011
2012	1	Callaway Plant, Unit 1	Oct. to Dec. 2011
	2	Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Unit 1	Jan. 2012
2013	1	STARS No. 6	Oct. to Dec. 2012
	2	River Bend Station, Unit 1	Jan. 2013
	3	STARS No. 7	July to Sept. 2013
	4	Exelon Generation Company, LLC (Exelon)	July 2013
	5	Perry Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 1	Aug. 2013
2015	1	Exelon	July 2015
2017	1	Exelon	Apr. 2017

The NRC staff maintains an updated list of planned license renewal application submissions on its public Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications.html>.

## **SUMMARY OF ISSUE**

To improve the accuracy of resource forecasts, the NRC requests all power reactor licensees to submit advance notice if they intend to pursue license renewal, including potential plans for requesting a second renewed operating license. Licensees should provide in their response the anticipated schedule for filing the license renewal application. The agency also encourages licensees to provide notification as soon as possible of any changes in previously announced license renewal application submission dates. Due to the substantial resources that must be allocated for each application review, the NRC uses the application filing schedule information for planning and budgeting purposes. The NRC requests notification of intent to submit a license renewal application by the August three years before the fiscal year of submittal. For example, the NRC will budget for an application submitted in FY 2012 if the licensee notified the NRC before August 2009. Applications submitted for which the NRC has not received such advance notice will be assessed using the integrated planning, budgeting, and performance management process and scheduled to the extent practical on a case-by-case basis.

A licensee may submit an affidavit pursuant to 10 CFR 2.390(b) to have information withheld from public disclosure if the licensee determines that license renewal application submission

information is proprietary because it represents confidential financial or commercial information. The affidavit should contain the basis for withholding the information from public disclosure.

## **VOLUNTARY RESPONSE**

Addressees that choose to provide advance notice of intent to pursue license renewal, or to provide changes in previously announced schedules for submitting license renewal applications, should send their responses to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, DC 20555-0001. The NRC staff is requesting addressees to respond to this RIS by August 2009 to ensure that their license renewal plans are appropriately considered in NRC's FY 2012 budget. The NRC staff also requests the voluntary submission of addressee plans, when available, to pursue license renewal after FY 2012. This information will assist the NRC staff in planning for future NRC budgets.

## **BACKFIT DISCUSSION**

This RIS is being issued to request the voluntary submission of information. This information will be used for internal NRC planning and budgeting. This RIS does not affect licensee procedures required for operating a power plant, and requires no action or written response. Any action on the part of addressees to provide advance notice of intent to pursue license renewal, or to notify the NRC of changes in previously announced schedules for submitting license renewal applications in accordance with this RIS, for the purpose of aiding the NRC in planning the use of its resources, is strictly voluntary. Therefore, this is not a backfit under 10 CFR 50.109, "Backfitting," and the staff did not perform a backfit analysis.

## **FEDERAL REGISTER NOTIFICATION**

The NRC did not publish a notice of opportunity for public comment on this RIS in the *Federal Register* because it pertains to an administrative aspect of the regulatory process that involves the voluntary submission of information by addressees and does not represent a departure from current regulatory requirements.

## **CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT**

This RIS is not a rule as designated in the Congressional Review Act (5 U.S.C. §§ 801-808) and, therefore, is not subject to the Act.

## **PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT**

This RIS contains information collection requirements that are subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). These information collections were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, approval number 3150-0011.

The burden to the public for these voluntary information collections is estimated to average 8 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the information collection. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of these information collections, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Records and FOIA/Privacy Services Branch (T-5 F53), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail to [INFOCOLLECTS.Resorce@NRC.GOV](mailto:INFOCOLLECTS.Resorce@NRC.GOV); and to

the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, (3150-0011),  
Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

#### Public Protection Notification

The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, an information collection unless the requesting document displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget clearance number.

#### **CONTACT**

Please direct any questions about this matter to the technical contact listed below, or the appropriate Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) project manager.

*/RA/*

Timothy J. McGinty, Director  
Division of Policy and Rulemaking  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Note: NRC generic communications may be found on the NRC public Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov>, under Electronic Reading Room/Document Collections.

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