

According to the application by NEP for approval of the indirect transfer, on December 11, 1998, NEES entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger with National Grid, a holding company incorporated in England and Wales. Upon consummation of the merger, NEES will become a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of National Grid with NEP remaining a subsidiary of NEES, thereby effecting an indirect transfer of NEP's interest in Millstone Unit 3's Facility Operating License. Northeast Utilities, the sole licensed operator of the facility, would remain as the managing agent for the 13 joint owners of the facility and would continue to have exclusive responsibility for the management, operation and maintenance of Millstone Unit 3. The application does not propose a change in the rights, obligations, or interests of the other joint owners of Millstone Unit 3. In addition, no physical changes to Millstone Unit 3 or operational changes are being proposed. No direct transfer of the license will result from the proposed merger.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.80, no license, or any right thereunder, shall be transferred, directly or indirectly, through transfer of control of the license, unless the Commission shall give its consent in writing. The Commission will approve an application for the indirect transfer of a license, if the Commission determines that the proposed transfer of control will not affect the qualifications of the holder of the license, and that the transfer is otherwise consistent with applicable provisions of law, regulations, and orders issued by the Commission pursuant thereto.

The filing of requests for hearing and petitions for leave to intervene, and written comments regarding the license transfer application, are discussed below.

By July 20, 1999, any person whose interest may be affected by the Commission's action on the application may request a hearing, and, if not the applicants, may petition for leave to intervene in a hearing proceeding on the Commission's action. Requests for a hearing and petitions for leave to intervene should be filed in accordance with the Commission's rules of practice set forth in Subpart M, "Public Notification, Availability of Documents and Records, Hearing Requests and Procedures for Hearings on License Transfer Applications," of 10 CFR Part 2. In particular, such requests and petitions must comply with the requirements set forth in 10 CFR 2.1306, and should address the considerations

contained in 10 CFR 2.1308(a). Untimely requests and petitions may be denied, as provided in 10 CFR 2.1308(b), unless good cause for failure to file on time is established. In addition, an untimely request or petition should address the factors that the Commission will also consider, in reviewing untimely requests or petitions, set forth in 10 CFR 2.1308(b)(1)-(2).

Requests for a hearing and petitions for leave to intervene should be served upon Edward Berlin, Esq., and Scott P. Klurfeld, Esq., Swidler Berlin Shereff Friedman, LLP, 3000 K Street, NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20007-5116, attorneys for New England Power Company; Thomas G. Robinson, Esq., New England Power Company, 25 Research Drive, Westborough, MA 01582, attorney for New England Power Company; Samuel Behrends IV, Esq., Mary A. Murphy, Esq., and Yvonne M. Coviello, Esq., LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae, L.L.P., 1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 1200, Washington, DC 20009, attorneys for the National Grid Group plc and NGG Holdings LLC; Paul K. Connolly, Jr., Esq., LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae, L.L.P., 260 Franklin Street, Boston, MA 02110, attorney for NGG Holdings LLC; Lillian M. Cuoco, Esq., Senior Nuclear Counsel, Northeast Utilities Service Company, 107 Selden Street, Berlin, Connecticut, 06037, attorney for Northeast Nuclear Energy Company; the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555 (e-mail address for filings regarding license transfer cases only: OGCLT@NRC.gov); and the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, in accordance with 10 CFR 2.1313.

The Commission will issue a notice or order granting or denying a hearing request or intervention petition, designating the issues for any hearing that will be held and designating the Presiding Officer. A notice granting a hearing will be published in the **Federal Register** and served on the parties to the hearing.

As an alternative to requests for hearing and petitions to intervene, by July 30, 1999, persons may submit written comments regarding the license transfer application, as provided for in 10 CFR 2.1305. The Commission will consider and, if appropriate, respond to these comments, but such comments will not otherwise constitute part of the decisional record. Comments should be submitted to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings

and Adjudications Staff, and should cite the publication date and page number of this **Federal Register** notice.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application dated March 15, 1999, submitted under cover of a letter dated March 15, 1999, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the Millstone Unit 3 local public document rooms located at the Learning Resources Center, Three Rivers Community-Technical College, 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich, Connecticut, and the Waterford Library, ATTN: Vince Juliano, 49 Rope Ferry Road, Waterford, Connecticut.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 21st day of June 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

John A. Nakoski,

Senior Project Manager, Section 2, Project Directorate I, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-272 and 50-311]

Public Service Electric and Gas Company; Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2; Notice of Consideration of Approval of Transfer of Facility Operating Licenses and Issuance of Conforming Amendments, and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering the issuance of an order under 10 CFR 50.80 approving the transfer of Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-70 and DPR-75 for the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, to the extent currently held by Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G), as a co-owner and the licensed operator of Salem Units 1 and 2. The transfer would be to PSEG Nuclear, LLC. PSE&G currently owns 42.59 percent of each Salem unit. The proposed transfers do not involve any change with respect to the non-operating ownership interests held by Philadelphia Electric Company, Delmarva Power and Light Company, and Atlantic City Electric Company. The Commission is also considering amending the licenses for administrative purposes to reflect the proposed transfer.

According to an application for approval filed by PSE&G, PSEG Nuclear,

LLC, would assume title to PSE&G's interest in both units of the facility following approval of the proposed transfer of the licenses, and would become exclusively responsible for the operation, maintenance, and eventual decommissioning of Salem Units 1 and 2. No physical changes to the Salem facility or operational changes are being proposed in the application.

The proposed amendments would replace references to PSE&G in the licenses with references to PSEG Nuclear, LLC, to reflect the proposed transfer.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.80, no license, or any right thereunder, shall be transferred, directly or indirectly, through transfer of control of the licenses, unless the Commission shall give its consent in writing. The Commission will approve an application for the transfer of a license, if the Commission determines that the proposed transferee is qualified to hold the license, and that the transfer is otherwise consistent with applicable provisions of law, regulations, and orders issued by the Commission pursuant thereto.

Before issuance of the proposed conforming license amendments, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's regulations.

As provided in 10 CFR 2.1315, unless otherwise determined by the Commission with regard to a specific application, the Commission has determined that any amendment to the license of a utilization facility which does no more than conform the license to reflect the transfer action involves no significant hazards consideration. No contrary determination has been made with respect to this specific license amendment application. In light of the generic determination reflected in 10 CFR 2.1315, no public comments with respect to significant hazards considerations are being solicited, notwithstanding the general comment procedures contained in 10 CFR 50.91.

The filing of requests for hearing and petitions for leave to intervene, and written comments with regard to the license transfer application, are discussed below.

By July 20, 1999, any person whose interest may be affected by the Commission's action on the application may request a hearing, and, if not the applicants, may petition for leave to intervene in a hearing proceeding on the Commission's action. Requests for a hearing and petitions for leave to intervene should be filed in accordance with the Commission's rules of practice

set forth in Subpart M, "Public Notification, Availability of Documents and Records, Hearing Requests and Procedures for Hearings on License Transfer Applications," of 10 CFR Part 2. In particular, such requests and petitions must comply with the requirements set forth in 10 CFR 2.1306, and should address the considerations contained in 10 CFR 2.1308(a). Untimely requests and petitions may be denied, as provided in 10 CFR 2.1308(b), unless good cause for failure to file on time is established. In addition, an untimely request or petition should address the factors that the Commission will also consider, in reviewing untimely requests or petitions, set forth in 10 CFR 2.1308(b)(1)-(2).

Requests for a hearing and petitions for leave to intervene should be served upon Jeffrie J. Keenan, Esquire, Public Service Electric and Gas Company, Nuclear Business Unit—N21, P.O. Box 236, Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038 (tel: 609-339-5429, fax: 609-339-1234, and e-mail: JKeenan@PSEG.com); the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555 (e-mail address for filings regarding license transfer cases only: OGCLT@NRC.gov); and the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, in accordance with 10 CFR 2.1313.

The Commission will issue a notice or order granting or denying a hearing request or intervention petition, designating the issues for any hearing that will be held and designating the Presiding Officer. A notice granting a hearing will be published in the **Federal Register** and served on the parties to the hearing.

As an alternative to requests for hearing and petitions to intervene, by July 30, 1999, persons may submit written comments regarding the license transfer application, as provided for in 10 CFR 2.1305. The Commission will consider and, if appropriate, respond to these comments, but such comments will not otherwise constitute part of the decisional record. Comments should be submitted to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, and should cite the publication date and page number of this **Federal Register** notice.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application dated June 4, 1999, available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW, Washington, DC, and at the

local public document room located at the Salem Free Public Library, 112 West Broadway, Salem, NJ 08079.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 23rd day of June 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Patrick D. Milano,

Senior Project Manager, Section 2, Project Directorate I, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-354]

Public Service Electric and Gas Company, Hope Creek Generating Station; Notice of Consideration of Approval of Transfer of Facility Operating License and Issuance of Conforming Amendment, and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering the issuance of an order under 10 CFR 50.80 approving the transfer of Facility Operating License No. NPF-57 for the Hope Creek Generating Station, to the extent currently held by Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G), as a co-owner and the licensed operator of Hope Creek. The transfer would be to PSEG Nuclear, LLC. PSE&G currently owns 95 percent of Hope Creek. The proposed transfer does not involve any change with respect to the non-operating ownership interest held by Atlantic City Electric Company. The Commission is also considering amending the license for administrative purposes to reflect the proposed transfer.

According to an application for approval filed by PSE&G, PSEG Nuclear, LLC, would assume title to PSE&G's interest in the facility following approval of the proposed license transfer, and would become exclusively responsible for the operation, maintenance, and eventual decommissioning of Hope Creek. No physical changes to the Hope Creek facility or operational changes are being proposed in the application.

The proposed amendments would replace references to PSE&G in the license with references to PSEG Nuclear, LLC, to reflect the proposed transfer.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.80, no license, or any right thereunder, shall be transferred, directly or indirectly,