

submission to the NRC inform those persons that the NRC will not edit their comments to remove any identifying or contact information, and therefore, they should not include any information in their comments that they do not want publicly disclosed.

*Federal Rulemaking Web site:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for documents filed under Docket ID NRC-2011-0011. Address questions about NRC dockets to Carol Gallagher 301-492-3668; e-mail [Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov](mailto:Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov).

*Mail comments to:* Cindy K. Bladey, Chief, Rules, Announcements, and Directives Branch (RADB), Office of Administration, Mail Stop: TWB-05-B01M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by fax to RDB at 301-492-3446.

You can access publicly available documents related to this notice using the following methods:

*NRC's Public Document Room (PDR):* The public may examine and copy for a fee publicly available documents at the NRC's PDR, Room O1-F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

*NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* Publicly available documents created or received at the NRC are available electronically at the NRC's Electronic Reading Room at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. From this page, the public can gain entry into ADAMS, which provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC's PDR reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to [pdr.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov). The Regulatory Analysis is available electronically under ADAMS Accession Number ML102380594.

Comments would be most helpful if received by March 15, 2011. Comments received after that date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC is able to ensure consideration only for comments received on or before this date. Although a time limit is given, comments and suggestions in connection with items for inclusion in guides currently being developed or improvements in all published guides are encouraged at any time.

Electronic copies of DG-1245 are available through the NRC's public Web site under Draft Regulatory Guides in the "Regulatory Guides" collection of the NRC's Electronic Reading Room at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/>. Electronic copies are also available in ADAMS (<http://>

[www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html](http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html)), under Accession No. ML093060150.

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Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 7th day of January 2011.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Harriet Karagiannis,**

*Acting Chief, Regulatory Guide Development Branch, Division of Engineering, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.*

[FR Doc. 2011-724 Filed 1-13-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590-01-P**

## **NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**[NRC-2011-0010]**

### **Withdrawal of Regulatory Guide 1.154**

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Withdrawal of Regulatory Guide 1.154, "Format and Content of Plant-Specific Pressurized Thermal Shock Safety Analysis Reports for Pressurized Water Reactors."

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Mekonen M. Baysie, Regulatory Guide Development Branch, Division of Engineering, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, *telephone:* 301-251-7489 or *e-mail:* [Mekonen.Baysie@nrc.gov](mailto:Mekonen.Baysie@nrc.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Introduction**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is withdrawing Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.154, "Format and Content of Plant-Specific Pressurized Thermal Shock Safety Analysis Reports for Pressurized Water Reactors." RG 1.154 was issued by NRC in January 1987 to describe the format and content acceptable to the NRC staff for plant-specific pressurized thermal shock (PTS) safety analyses, and to describe acceptance criteria that NRC staff will use in evaluating licensee analyses and proposed corrective measures.

In recent years, the NRC's Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) developed a technical basis that supported updating the PTS regulations in Title 10, Section 50.61, of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR 50.61). This technical basis, as described in NUREG-1806 and in NUREG-1874, concluded that the risk of through-wall pressure vessel cracking due to a PTS event is much lower than previously

estimated. This finding indicated that the reference temperature (RT) screening criteria in 10 CFR 50.61 are overly conservative and may impose an unnecessary burden on some licensees. Therefore, the NRC developed a new rule, 10 CFR 50.61a, "Alternate Fracture Requirements for Protection against Pressurized Thermal Shock Events" (SECY-09-0059: "Final Rule Related to Alternate Fracture Toughness Requirements for Protection Against Pressurized Thermal Shock Events," RIN 3150-AI01, April 9, 2009). The alternative rule allows, but does not require, that licensees may comply with more permissive RT limits that were derived in a risk-informed manner provided that certain requirements regarding vessel inspection and surveillance programs, as outlined in 10 CFR 50.61a, are met.

In the course of developing 10 CFR 50.61a, it became clear to staff that the guidance provided by RG 1.154 is significantly outdated and, in some cases, technically deficient. As such, a plant-specific PTS analysis performed based on guidance in RG 1.154 will not be acceptable to the staff. While the methods and procedures were appropriate based on the situation in the industry when RG 1.154 was developed (1987), the methods and procedures have since either passed into common practice among plant operators, or were accounted for in the development of 10 CFR 50.61a. A fundamental premise underlying RG 1.154 is that the RT screening criteria in 10 CFR 50.61 are based on a large number of conservative assumptions. As such, RG 1.154 postulates that it is possible to perform a plant-specific analysis to show that some conservatism could reasonably be removed while still demonstrating that a plant can be operated at an acceptably low level of risk. The technical basis for 10 CFR 50.61a, however, considered the most accurate models and input values presently available given the current state of the science. This had the effect of eliminating much of the conservatism that was embedded in the more restrictive 10 CFR 50.61 RT screening criteria. This calls into question whether a strong case could be made to remove further conservatism in a plant-specific PTS analysis performed in accordance with RG 1.154. Moreover, RG 1.154 frequently discusses the "licensee's proposed program of corrective measures," reflecting the view that there are actions that an individual licensee can take, beyond present practices, that will mitigate the PTS risk. The continued validity of this premise is also questionable. An assessment of

potential corrective measures described in RG 1.154 indicates that they are either impractical or that they have already been implemented because of changes to standard industry practices since the issuance of the RG in 1987. RG 1.154 lists five general classes of potential corrective actions. The current assessment suggests that few of the corrective actions listed in RG 1.154 would effectively mitigate PTS risk relative to the baseline risk established by the technical basis documents that support the alternative rule 10 CFR 50.61a. Licensees have a choice to apply more conservative screening criteria in 10 CFR 50.61 or more permissive and risk-informed criteria in the alternative rule 10 CFR 50.61a. If a licensee chooses to apply the screening criteria in 10 CFR 50.61 to their plant, and the plant is projected to reach the screening limits in 10 CFR 50.61, the licensee can either choose to follow procedures prescribed in 10 CFR 50.61 (b)(3) on implementing flux reduction measures or 10 CFR 50.61 (b)(4) on performing plant-specific safety analysis. However, if a licensee chooses to follow 10 CFR 50.61 (b)(4) on performing safety analysis, Regulatory Guide 1.154 cannot be used, as it is hereby being withdrawn.

## II. Further Information

The withdrawal of RG 1.154 does not alter any prior or existing licensing commitments based on its use. Regulatory guides may be withdrawn when their guidance no longer provides useful information, or is superseded by technological, congressional action, or other events.

Guides are revised for a variety of reasons, and the withdrawal of a regulatory guide should be thought of as the final revision of the guide. Although a regulatory guide is withdrawn, current licensees may continue to use it, and withdrawal does not affect any existing licenses or agreements. Withdrawal means that the guide should not be used for future NRC licensing activities. Changes to existing licenses would be accomplished using other regulatory products.

Regulatory guides and publicly available NRC documents are available electronically through the Electronic Reading Room on the NRC's public Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/>. The documents can also be viewed online or printed for a fee in the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) at 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland; the mailing address is USNRC PDR, Washington, DC 20555; telephone: 301-415-4737 or 800-397-4209; fax: 301-415-3548; and e-mail: [pdr.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov).

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Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 6th day of January 2011.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Harriet Karagiannis,**

*Acting Chief, Regulatory Guide Development Branch, Division of Engineering, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.*

[FR Doc. 2011-723 Filed 1-13-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590-01-P**

## PEACE CORPS

### Proposed Collection of Information

**ACTION:** Submission for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) review; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The Peace Corps has submitted a proposed collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This notice invites the public to comment on the proposed collection of information by the Peace Corps' Office of Communications. The Peace Corps invites comments on whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for proper performance of the functions of the Peace Corps, including whether the information will have practical use; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who respond, including through the use of automated collection techniques, when appropriate, and other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Comments regarding this collection must be received on or before February 14, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name/or OMB approval number and should be sent via e-mail to: [oir\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:oir_submission@omb.eop.gov) or fax to: 202-395-3086. *Attention:* Desk Officer for Peace Corps.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Denora Miller, FOIA Officer, Peace Corps, 1111 20th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20526, (202) 692-1236, or e-mail at [pcf@peacecorps.gov](mailto:pcf@peacecorps.gov). Copies of available documents submitted to OMB may be obtained from Denora Miller.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of this survey is to collect feedback from Peace Corps applicants and Returned Volunteers to help understand which factors are driving recruitment attrition, as well as what information or education needs would increase the conversion ratio. An online survey will be conducted among 1,200 Peace Corps applicants and Returned Peace Corps Volunteers including 300 from each of the following segments: Inquire—complete an initial inquiry but do not begin or submit an application; Begin application—but either do not submit it or move forward; Submit complete application—but then elect not to proceed by stopping communication or actively withdrawing during the review process; Returned Peace Corps Volunteers—who recently closed Peace Corps service in the past two years. Including Returned Peace Corps Volunteers in the study will provide information to understand what is working in the application process and will help guide the strategies for correcting the conversion loss. There is no statutory or regulatory requirement for this information.

**Method:** The information will be collected through an online survey.

**Title:** Peace Corps Conversion Loss Survey.

**OMB Control Number:** [To be assigned.]

**Type of Review:** New.

**Affected Public:** Former applicants to the Peace Corps and Returned Peace Corps Volunteers Respondents' obligation to reply: Voluntary.

**Estimate of the total number of respondents:** 1,200.

**Estimated time to complete survey:** 20 minutes.

**Estimate of the total public burden (in hours):** 400 hours.

**Frequency of Response:** 1 time.

**Estimated number of respondents:** 1,200.

**General description of collection:** To understand which factors are driving recruitment attrition, as well as what information or education needs would increase the conversion ratio.

Dated: January 10, 2011.

**Earl W. Yates,**

*Associate Director for Management.*

[FR Doc. 2011-766 Filed 1-13-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6051-01-P**

## RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

### Sunshine Act; Notice of Public Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Railroad Retirement Board will hold a