views and opinions of interested persons or firms concerning NASA's procurement policies and practices. The purpose of the meeting is to have an open discussion between NASA's Associate Administrator for Procurement, industry, and the public.

DATES: August 31, 1995, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Von Karman Auditorium located at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, 4800 Oak Grove Drive, Pasadena, California, 91109.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lydia Casarez, NASA Management Office—Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Code 180–801, 4800 Oak Grove Drive, Pasadena, CA 91109, (818) 354–5359.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Format

There will be a presentation by the Associate Administrator for Procurement, followed by a question and answer period. Procurement issues will be discussed including NASA policies used in the award and administration of contracts.

Admittance

Doors will open at 1:30 p.m. Admittance will be on a first-come, firstserved basis. Auditorium capacity is limited to approximately 225 persons; therefore, a maximum of two representatives per firm is requested. No reservations will be accepted. Questions for the open forum should be presented at the meeting and should not be submitted in advance. Position papers are not being solicited.

Initiatives

In addition to the general discussion mentioned above, NASA invites comments or questions relative to its ongoing Procurement Initiatives, some of which include the following:

Cost Control. NASA is developing this initiative to increase the emphasis on cost control with its contractors and within the agency.

Source Selection. NASA is working to reduce the time and effort that contractors and source selection personnel spend on a contract.

Performance Based Contracting. NASA's newest procurement initiative is focused on structuring an acquisition around the purpose of the work to be performed instead of how the work is to be performed or broad and imprecise statements of work.

Change Order Reduction and Process Change. NASA is attempting to improve overall change order management through the use of better technical direction, realistic cost estimates and more effective and timely negotiations.

Award Fee Initiative. NASA has published regulations for Award Fee policy at 48 CFR part 1816, subpart 4.

MidRange Procurement Procedure. A test program for a third category of procurements between \$25,000 and \$500,000 (annually) has been implemented at all NASA Centers.

Procurement Reinvention Laboratory. The NASA Headquarters Acquisition Division is participating in this initiative which grew out of the National Performance Review. This Procurement Reinvention Laboratory is one of several Procurement Reinvention Labs underway across the Government. Deidre A. Lee,

Associate Administrator for Procurement. [FR Doc. 95–17238 Filed 7–13–95; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 7510–01–M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-298]

Nebraska Public Power District; Cooper Nuclear Station; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering the issuance of an exemption from the requirements of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50 to the Nebraska Public Power District (the licensee) for the Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS), located in Nemaha County, Nebraska.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

The proposed action would grant an exemption from the requirements of Section III.D.2(a) of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50, to allow Type B testing (local leak rate testing) of the drywell head and manport primary containment penetrations to be deferred from the current due date of July 17, 1995, until the next refueling outage, which is scheduled to commence on October 13, 1995.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's request for exemption dated December 27, 1994.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed action is needed to avoid a plant shutdown solely for the performance of two Type B tests of the subject penetrations. Plant shutdown is undesirable because it subjects the reactor and its supporting systems to transients which increase the potential for malfunctions that may challenge safety systems. Additionally, every shutdown and restart results in radiation exposure for plant workers a they perform shutdown and restart related tasks in radiation areas in various parts of the plant.

There is no overriding technical need for the Type B tests. The tests are intended to detect local leaks and to measure leakage across each pressurecontaining or leakage-limiting boundary for certain reactor containment penetrations, thereby providing assurance that maximum allowable containment leakage rates are not exceeded. Section III.D.2(a) of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50 requires that Type B leak rate tests, except for airlocks, be performed during reactor shutdown for refueling, or at other convenient intervals, but in no case at intervals greater than two years. The requested exemption for an extension of the 2-year surveillance interval would allow these penetrations to be tested at the next refueling outage, scheduled to commence on October 13, 1995. The current 2-year interval ends on July 17, 1995, when the plan this expected to be at power. The current operating cycle for CNS commenced on August 1, 1993, and has included an extended, unplanned outage of nearly nine months (May 25, 1994, through February 21, 1995). This factor, along with the anticipated load demand and fuel capacity, has resulted in the rescheduling of the next refueling outage to October 1995.

In its December 27, 1994, exemption request, the licensee cited several factors to demonstrate that a high level of confidence exists that the subject penetrations will still be capable of performing their intended function if the required testing is deferred for a short time. The drywell head and manport penetrations have never failed a Type B local leak rate test in the more than 20 years the plant has been operating; therefore, the potential for any significant degradation of the penetrations during the few months that the tests would be deferred is extremely low. Although the drywell head seal is made from a silicone rubber compound and environmental conditions such as heat and radiation have been shown to case degradation in silicone compounds, the current operating cycle will consist of a maximum of 18 months of power operation. Typically, the seal is expected to function for a much longer period, as Appendix J allows up to 2 years of power operation between tests. Finally, gross failure of the penetrations is highly unlikely, as the drywell head and manport penetrations