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**General Wage Determination
Publication**

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Signed at Washington, DC this 15th day of December 1995.

Philip J. Gloss,

Chief, Branch of Construction Wage
Determinations.

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**NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION****Docket Nos. 50-295 and 50-304]****Commonwealth Edison Co; Zion
Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2,
Environmental Assessment and
Finding of No Significant Impact**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from certain requirements of its regulations to Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-39 and DPR-48, issued to Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd, the licensee), for operation of the Zion Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2, located in Lake County, Illinois.

Environmental Assessment*Identification of the Proposed Action*

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for and exemption from certain requirements of 10 CFR 73.55, "Requirements for Physical Protection of Licensed Activities in Nuclear Power Reactors Against Radiological Sabotage." The requested exemption would allow the implementation of a hand geometry biometric system of site access control in conjunction with photograph identification badges, and would allow the badges to be taken off site.

The Need for the Proposed Action

Pursuant to 10 CFR 73.55(a), the licensee is required to establish and maintain an onsite physical protection system and security organization.

In 10 CFR 73.55(d), "Access Requirements," it specifies in part that "The licensee shall control all points of personnel and vehicle access into a protected area." In 10 CFR 73.55(d)(5), it specifies in part that "A numbered picture badge identification system shall be used for all individuals who are authorized access to protected areas without escort." It further indicates that an individual not employed by the licensee (e.g., contractors) may be authorized access to protected areas without an escort provided the individual, "receives a picture badge upon entrance into the protected area which must be returned upon exit from the protected area."

Currently, unescorted access for both employee and contractor personnel into the Zion Station, Units 1 and 2, is controlled through the use of picture badges. Positive identification of personnel who are authorized and request access into a the protected area is established by security personnel making a visual comparison of the

individual requesting access and that individual's picture badge. The picture badges are issued, stored, and retrieved at the entrance/exit location to the protected area. In accordance with 10 CFR 73.55(d)(5), contractor personnel are not allowed to take their picture badges off site. In addition, in accordance with the plant's physical security plan, the licensee's employees are also not allowed to take their picture badges off site. The licensee proposes to implement an alternative unescorted access control system which would eliminate the need to issue and retrieve picture badges at the entrance/exit location to the protected area. The proposal would also allow contractors who have unescorted access to keep their picture badges in their possession when departing the Zion site. In addition, the site security plans will be revised to allow implementation of the hand geometry system and to allow employees and contractors with unescorted access to keep their picture badges in their possession when leaving the Zion site.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action. In addition to their picture badges, all individuals with authorized unescorted access will have the physical characteristics of their hand (hand geometry) registered with their picture badge number in a computerized access control system. Therefore, all authorized individuals must not only have their picture badges to gain access into the protected area, but must also have their hand geometry confirmed.

All other access process, including search function capability and access revocation, will remain the same. A security officer responsible for access control will continue to be positioned within a bullet-resistant structure. The proposed system is only for individuals with authorized unescorted access and will not be used for individuals requiring escorts.

The underlying purpose for requiring that individuals not employed by the licensee must receive and return their picture badges at the entrance/exit is to provide reasonable assurance that the access badges could not be compromised or stolen with a resulting risk that an unauthorized individual could potentially enter the protected area. Although the proposed exemption will allow individuals to take their picture badges off site, the proposed measures require not only that the picture badge be provided for access to the protected area, but also that