



NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-18, 50-70, 50-73, 50-183, 70-754, 70-1113, 70-1220, 72-1, 11001075, 11001076, 11005081, 11005086, 11005186, 11005555, and 11006278; NRC-2023-0119]

General Electric Company, GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas, LLC, and Global Nuclear Fuel-Americas, LLC; Consideration of Approval of Indirect Transfer of Licenses

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Application for indirect transfer of licenses; opportunity to comment, request a hearing, and petition for leave to intervene.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC, the Commission) received and is considering approval of an application filed by General Electric Company (GE), GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas, LLC (GEHA), and Global Nuclear Fuel-Americas, LLC (GNF-A) (together, the Applicants) on May 30, 2023, as supplemented by letters dated June 20 and June 26, 2023. The application seeks NRC approval of the indirect transfer of Facility Operating License No. R-33 for the Nuclear Test Reactor at the Vallecitos Nuclear Center (VNC) in Sunol, California; Possession Only License No. DPR-1 for the Vallecitos Boiling Water Reactor at the VNC; Possession Only License No. DR-10 for the Empire State Atomic Development Associates Vallecitos Experimental Superheat Reactor at the VNC; Possession Only License No. TR-1 for the GE Test Reactor at the VNC; Special Nuclear Material License Nos. SNM-960 and SNM-1270 for the VNC; Special Nuclear Material License No. SNM-1097 for the Wilmington Fuel Manufacturing Facility in Wilmington, North Carolina; Special Nuclear Material License No. SNM-2500 for the Morris Operation Independent Spent Fuel Storage Facility in Grundy County, Illinois, near Morris, Illinois; and Export License Nos. XR135, XSNM1662, XSNM03135, XSNM3398, XCOM1124, XSNM3785, and XSNM3066 from GE, the parent company of the license holders, GEHA and GNF-A, to a recently created

wholly-owned subsidiary of GE named GE Vernova, LLC that will then be spun-off and will no longer be part of GE. The application contains sensitive unclassified non-safeguards information (SUNSI).

DATES: Submit comments by **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*]**. A request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene must be filed by **[INSERT DATE 20 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*]**. Any potential party as defined in § 2.4 of title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), who believes access to SUNSI is necessary to respond to this notice must follow the instructions in Section VI of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods; however, the NRC encourages electronic comment submission through the **Federal rulemaking website**:

- **Federal rulemaking website:** Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID **NRC-2023-0119**. Address questions about Docket IDs in Regulations.gov to Stacy Schumann; telephone: 301-415-0624; email: Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov. For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the **“FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT”** section of this document.

- **Email comments to:** Hearing.Docket@nrc.gov. If you do not receive an automatic email reply confirming receipt, then contact us at 301-415-1677.

- **Fax comments to:** Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission at 301-415-1101.

- **Mail comments to:** Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, ATTN: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff.

- **Hand deliver comments to:** 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. eastern time (ET) Federal workdays; telephone: 301-415-1677.

For additional direction on obtaining information and submitting comments, see “Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments” in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Osiris Siurano-Pérez, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone: 301-415-7827; email: Osiris.Siurano-Perez@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments

A. Obtaining Information

Please refer to Docket ID **NRC-2023-0119** when contacting the NRC about the availability of information for this action. You may obtain publicly available information related to this action by any of the following methods:

- **Federal Rulemaking Website:** Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID **NRC-2023-0119**.

- **NRC’s Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):** You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select “Begin Web-based ADAMS Search.” For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC’s Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, at 301-415-4737, or by email to PDR.Resource@nrc.gov. The ADAMS accession number for each document referenced (if it is available in ADAMS) is provided the first time that it is mentioned in this document.

- **NRC’s PDR:** The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of publicly available documents, is open by appointment. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to PDR.Resource@nrc.gov or call 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

B. Submitting Comments

The NRC encourages electronic comment submission through the **Federal rulemaking website** (<https://www.regulations.gov>). Please include Docket ID **NRC-2023-0119** in your comment submission.

The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. The NRC will post all comment submissions at <https://www.regulations.gov> as well as enter the comment submissions into ADAMS. The NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove identifying or contact information.

If you are requesting or aggregating comments from other persons for submission to the NRC, then you should inform those persons not to include identifying or contact information that they do not want to be publicly disclosed in their comment submission. Your request should state that the NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove such information before making the comment submissions available to the public or entering the comment into ADAMS.

II. Introduction

The NRC is considering the issuance of an order under 10 CFR 50.80, "Transfer of licenses," 10 CFR 70.36, "Inalienability of licenses," 10 CFR 72.50, "Transfer of license," and 10 CFR 110.50, "Terms," approving the indirect transfer of control of the NRC licenses held by GEHA and GNF-A.

According to the application dated May 30, 2023, as supplemented by letters dated June 20 and June 26, 2023, the application and request for NRC approval are necessitated by a proposed transaction implementing the publicly announced separation of GE into three separate companies. The application involves the second phase of this transaction in which GE will transfer its various energy-related businesses, including its ownership interests in GEHA and GNF-A, into a recently created wholly-owned subsidiary named GE Vernova, LLC. GE Vernova, LLC will later convert to a corporation (GE Vernova Corp.), will then be spun-off to GE shareholders as a publicly traded corporation, and will no longer be part of GE. With respect to the licenses held by GEHA

and GNF-A, the proposed transaction will occur in two steps. First, GE Vernova, LLC will become an intermediate holding company and an indirect corporate parent of both GEHA and GNF-A. Second, after GE Vernova, LLC has been converted to a corporation, GE will distribute the shares of GE Vernova Corp. to its shareholders, as a result of which GE Vernova Corp. will become the new ultimate parent company for both GEHA and GNF-A, which, in turn, will continue to operate the facilities and hold the NRC licenses.

No physical changes or operational changes associated with the licensed activities are being proposed in the application.

Section 184, "Inalienability of Licenses," of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, states that "[n]o license granted hereunder and no right to utilize or produce special nuclear material granted hereby shall be transferred, assigned or in any manner disposed of, either voluntarily or involuntarily, directly or indirectly, through transfer of control of any license to any person, unless the Commission shall, after securing full information, find that the transfer is in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and shall give its consent in writing." The NRC's regulations at 10 CFR 50.80, 70.36, and 72.50 provide that no license, or any right thereunder, shall be transferred, assigned, or in any manner disposed of, either voluntarily or involuntarily, directly or indirectly, through transfer of control of the license to any person, unless the Commission gives its consent in writing. The NRC's regulation at 10 CFR 110.50(d) states that a specific export license may be transferred only with the approval of the Commission by license amendment. 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 licensee to hold the license, and that the transfer is otherwise consistent with applicable provisions of law, regulations, and orders issued by the Commission.

III. Opportunity to Comment

Within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, persons may submit written comments regarding the license transfer application, as provided for in 10 CFR 2.1305 and 10 CFR 110.81. 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 as described in the ADDRESSES section of this document.

IV. Opportunity to Request a Hearing and Petition for Leave to Intervene

Within 20 days after the date of publication of this notice, any person (petitioner) whose interest may be affected by this action may file a request for a hearing and petition for leave to intervene (petition) with respect to the action. Petitions shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure" in 10 CFR part 2. Interested persons should consult 10 CFR 2.309. If a petition is filed, the presiding officer will rule on the petition and, if appropriate, a notice of a hearing will be issued.

Petitions must be filed no later than 20 days from the date of publication of this notice in accordance with the filing instructions in the "Electronic Submissions (E-Filing)" section of this document. Petitions and motions for leave to file new or amended contentions that are filed after the deadline will not be entertained absent a determination by the presiding officer that the filing demonstrates good cause by satisfying the three factors in 10 CFR 2.309(c)(1)(i) through (iii).

A State, local governmental body, Federally recognized Indian Tribe, or designated agency thereof, may submit a petition to the Commission to participate as a party under 10 CFR 2.309(h) no later than 20 days from the date of publication of this notice. Alternatively, a State, local governmental body, Federally recognized Indian Tribe, or agency thereof may participate as a non-party under 10 CFR 2.315(c).

For information about filing a petition and about participation by a person not a party under 10 CFR 2.315, see ADAMS Accession No. ML20340A053

(<https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML20340A053>) and on the NRC's public website at <https://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/adjudicatory/hearing.html#participate>.

V. Electronic Submissions (E-Filing)

All documents filed in NRC adjudicatory proceedings including documents filed by an interested State, local governmental body, federally recognized Indian Tribe, or designated agency thereof that requests to participate under 10 CFR 2.315(c), must be filed in accordance with 10 CFR 2.302. The E-Filing process requires participants to submit and serve all adjudicatory documents over the internet, or in some cases, to mail copies on electronic storage media, unless an exemption permitting an alternative filing method, as further discussed, is granted. Detailed guidance on electronic submissions is in the "Guidance for Electronic Submissions to the NRC" (ADAMS Accession No. ML13031A056) and on the NRC's public website at <https://www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals.html>.

To comply with the procedural requirements of E-Filing, at least 10 days prior to the filing deadline, the participant should contact the Office of the Secretary by email at Hearing.Docket@nrc.gov, or by telephone at 301-415-1677, to (1) request a digital identification (ID) certificate, which allows the participant (or its counsel or representative) to digitally sign submissions and access the E-Filing system for any proceeding in which it is participating; and (2) advise the Secretary that the participant will be submitting a petition or other adjudicatory document (even in instances in which the participant, or its counsel or representative, already holds an NRC-issued digital ID certificate). Based upon this information, the Secretary will establish an electronic docket for the proceeding if the Secretary has not already established an electronic docket.

Information about applying for a digital ID certificate is available on the NRC's public website at <https://www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals/getting-started.html>. After a digital ID certificate is obtained and a docket created, the participant must submit adjudicatory documents in Portable Document Format. Guidance on submissions is

available on the NRC's public website at <https://www.nrc.gov/site-help/electronic-sub-ref-mat.html>. A filing is considered complete at the time the document is submitted through the NRC's E-Filing system. To be timely, an electronic filing must be submitted to the E-Filing system no later than 11:59 p.m. ET on the due date. Upon receipt of a transmission, the E-Filing system timestamps the document and sends the submitter an email confirming receipt of the document. The E-Filing system also distributes an email that provides access to the document to the NRC's Office of the General Counsel and any others who have advised the Office of the Secretary that they wish to participate in the proceeding, so that the filer need not serve the document on those participants separately. Therefore, applicants and other participants (or their counsel or representative) must apply for and receive a digital ID certificate before adjudicatory documents are filed to obtain access to the documents via the E-Filing system.

A person filing electronically using the NRC's adjudicatory E-Filing system may seek assistance by contacting the NRC's Electronic Filing Help Desk through the "Contact Us" link located on the NRC's public website at <https://www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals.html>, by email to MSHD.Resource@nrc.gov, or by a toll-free call at 1-866-672-7640. The NRC Electronic Filing Help Desk is available between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Participants who believe that they have good cause for not submitting documents electronically must file an exemption request, in accordance with 10 CFR 2.302(g), with their initial paper filing stating why there is good cause for not filing electronically and requesting authorization to continue to submit documents in paper format. Such filings must be submitted in accordance with 10 CFR 2.302(b) through (d). Participants filing adjudicatory documents in this manner are responsible for serving their documents on all other participants. Participants granted an exemption under 10 CFR 2.302(g)(2) must still meet the electronic formatting requirement in 10 CFR 2.302(g)(1), unless the participant also seeks and is granted an exemption from 10 CFR 2.302(g)(1).

Documents submitted in adjudicatory proceedings will appear in the NRC's electronic hearing docket, which is publicly available at <https://adams.nrc.gov/ehd>, unless excluded pursuant to an order of the presiding officer. If you do not have an NRC-issued digital ID certificate as previously described, click "cancel" when the link requests certificates and you will be automatically directed to the NRC's electronic hearing dockets where you will be able to access any publicly available documents in a particular hearing docket. Participants are requested not to include personal privacy information such as social security numbers, home addresses, or personal phone numbers in their filings unless an NRC regulation or other law requires submission of such information. With respect to copyrighted works, except for limited excerpts that serve the purpose of the adjudicatory filings and would constitute a Fair Use application, participants should not include copyrighted materials in their submission.

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.

For further details with respect to this application, see the application dated May 30, 2023, as supplemented by letters dated June 20 and June 26, 2023 (ML23152A116, ML23171A976, and ML23177A089, respectively).

**VI. Access to Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information for
Contention Preparation**

Any person who desires access to proprietary, confidential commercial information that has been redacted from the application should contact the Applicants by emailing Michelle P. Catts, Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs, GE, at Michelle.Catts@GE.com for the purpose of negotiating a confidentiality agreement or a proposed protective order with the Applicants. If no agreement can be reached, persons who desire access to this information may file a motion with the Secretary and

addressed to the Commission that requests the issuance of a protective order.

Dated: July 13, 2023.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Shana R. Helton,
Director,
Division of Fuel Management,
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and
Safeguards.

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