



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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No. 07-088

July 24, 2007

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION VOTES TO RECONSIDER LIMITED PROVISION IN FINAL RULE ON FITNESS FOR DUTY

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission today voted to reconsider wording in a limited provision of a recently issued final rule under Part 26 of the agency's regulations. The rule, which the Commission approved on April 17, revises, reorganizes and clarifies requirements for determining whether nuclear power plant employees are fit for work, including new requirements for managing worker fatigue.

The Commission's vote restores the words "working on outage activities" in place of "solely performing outage activities" in rule language that relates to worker fatigue. The NRC staff proposed the "working on" language to the Commission after public comment and staff interactions with stakeholders. The language was modified following that process and before the rule was published in the *Federal Register*.

Upon further reflection, the Chairman proposed the Commission reconsider the language. The Commission determined a vote was necessary to avoid misinterpretation of the rule before the staff issued appropriate guidance.

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