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NRC STAFF SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENTS ON
DRAFT REGULATORY ANALYSIS GUIDELINES

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff is publishing, for public comment, a proposed revision of the "Regulatory Analysis Guidelines of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission" (NUREG/BR-0058).

Regulatory analyses are used to assess the values and impacts associated with the NRC's regulatory actions, such as rulemaking. As such, the guidance used by the staff reflects policy decisions made by the Commission which have broad implications for the agency as well as its licensees, e.g., quantifying the values of a proposed action such as reducing or averting radiation exposures to workers and/or members of the public.

The original version of the NRC guidelines was issued in January 1983 and was followed, in December of that year, by publication of "A Handbook for Value-Impact Assessment" (NUREG/CR-3568) which sets out systematic procedures for performing value-impact assessments. NUREG/CR-0058 was revised in May 1984 to include appropriate references to the handbook.

A replacement for the handbook titled "Regulatory Analysis Technical Evaluation Handbook" (NUREG/BR-0814) is in preparation and copies of the draft also will be available during the public comment period.

The proposed revision (Revision 2) to the guidelines reflects: (1) the NRC's accumulated experience with implementing the previous guidelines; (2) changes in NRC regulations and procedures since 1984 (particularly the backfit rule contained in Part 50 of the Commission's regulations and the Commission's Policy Statement on Safety Goals for the Operation of Nuclear Power Plants; (3) advances and refinements in regulatory analysis techniques; (4) regulatory guidance for federal agencies issued by the Administrative Conference of the United States and the Office of Management and Budget; and (5) procedural changes designed to enhance the NRC's regulatory effectiveness.

Written comments on the proposed Revision 2 to NUREG/BR-0058 should be received by December 6. They should be addressed to the Regulatory Publications Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of Administration, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555.

Copies of the draft revision as well as of the draft replacement handbook may be obtained on written request to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001, Attention: Distribution and Mail Services Section.

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