

May 12, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: David L. Meyers, Chief
Rules and Directives Branch
Office of Administration
/RA/

FROM: Bruce A. Boger, Director
Division of Inspection Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON 10 CFR
50.54(a) PERFORMANCE-BASED APPROACH-VOLUNTARY OPTION
(TAC NO. M88651)

A direct final and parallel proposed rule for 10 CFR 50.54(a) concerning control of changes to quality assurance (QA) programs was published in the *Federal Register* (64 FR 9029) on February 23, 1999. The direct final rule which became effective on April 26, 1999, amends the Commission's regulations to permit power reactor licensees to implement certain QA program changes without obtaining prior NRC approval of these changes. A public workshop (*Federal Register* notice attached) is planned for June 7, 2000, which will solicit feedback on the implementation of the direct final rule and gather information to determine the need for the development of the voluntary alternative rulemaking based on a petition filed previously by the Nuclear Energy Institute. Please publish this public workshop in the *Federal Register*.

Attachment: As stated

cc: S. Collins
J. Johnson

CONTACT: Robert L. Pettis, Jr.
(301) 415-3214
rlp4@nrc.gov

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Public Workshop on 10 CFR Part 50.54(a)
Performance-Based Approach - Voluntary Option

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission

ACTION: Notice of Workshop

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will host a public workshop to solicit feedback on the implementation of the direct final rule for 10 CFR 50.54(a) and to gather information to determine the need for the development of the voluntary alternative rulemaking based on Nuclear Energy Institute petition PRM-50-62. On February 23, 1999, the NRC published a direct final rule in the *Federal Register* (64 FR 9029), that amended its regulations to permit power reactor licensees to implement certain quality assurance (QA) program changes without obtaining prior NRC approval of these changes. The direct final rule became effective on April 26, 1999. Based on the workshop outcome, the staff will determine whether additional rulemaking is warranted. The NRC invites comments from interested parties who are unable to attend the workshop.

DATE: The workshop will be held on Wednesday, June 7, 2000, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

ADDRESS: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint North (Room 14 B6)
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852-2738
(301) 415-7000

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Pettis, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, telephone: (301) 415-3214, email rlp4@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The discussion topics are tentative and subject to change. Anyone interested in providing a presentation on these or other related topics, please contact Robert Pettis at (301) 415-3214.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 12th day of May, 2000

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Theodore R. Quay, Chief, IQMB
Division of Inspection Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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