

DRAFT SUPPORTING STATEMENT  
FOR  
REACTOR EVENT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS  
10 CFR 50.72(a)(1), (a)(2), (a)(3), (b), and (c), 50.54(z)

DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION COLLECTION

Section 50.54(z) makes it a license condition that each licensee licensed under Sections 103 or 104b of the Atomic Energy Act shall make the notifications specified in §50.72.

Sections 50.72(a)(1) and 50.72(a)(2) require that each power reactor licensee notify the NRC of specified events via the Emergency Notification System (ENS). If the ENS is inoperable, the licensee shall make the notifications via commercial telephone or other means. Many of these events are also subject to followup written reports as required by 10 CFR 50.73. These written followup reports are covered by a separate OMB clearance, 3150-0104.

Section 50.72(a)(3) specifies notification immediately after notification of State and local authorities and not later than one hour after the licensee declares one of the Emergency Classes. Activation of the Emergency Response Data System (ERDS), as required by §50.72(a)(4), is covered in Section 30 of this clearance.

Section 50.72(b)(1) requires notification as soon as practical and in all cases within one hour of the occurrence of events such as the initiation of a plant shutdown required by the plant's Technical Specifications.

Section 50.72(b)(2) requires notification as soon as practical and in all cases within 4 hours of events such as manual or automatic actuation of an engineered safety feature. Some of these events, involving spent fuel storage casks, are also subject to followup written reports as required by Section 72.216(b); this is covered in OMB clearance 3150-0132.

Section 50.72(c) requires that during the course of the event, the licensee shall: (1) immediately report any further degradation, any change of Emergency Class, the results of ensuing evaluations, the effectiveness of response or protective measures, or plant behavior that is not understood; and (2) maintain an open, continuous communication channel with the NRC Operations Center upon request by the NRC.

These reporting requirements affect 104 operating nuclear plants and 19 permanently shutdown nuclear plants.

A. JUSTIFICATION

1. Need for and Practical Utility of the Collection of Information

The NRC staff evaluates the information transmitted to the Commission in response to these reporting requirements and makes timely decisions required to provide adequate assurances regarding actual or potential threats to public safety. In addition, operational experience feedback is required to meet the NRC's statutory requirements for regulating the nuclear industry.

2. Agency Use of Information

The events reported under 50.72 are assessed immediately to determine the adequacy of emergency response actions, if needed. They are also assessed both individually and collectively to determine their safety significance and their generic implications and to identify any safety concerns with the potential to seriously impact public health and safety. The evaluation of these events provides valuable insights on improving reactor safety.

3. Reduction of Burden Through Information Technology

There is no legal obstacle to the use of information technology. Moreover, NRC encourages its use; however, at the current time, no responses are submitted electronically.

4. Effort to Identify Duplication and Use Similar Information

The information is available only from nuclear power reactor licensees and does not duplicate other information collections made by NRC or other government agencies. The Information Requirements Control Automated System (IRCAS) was searched, and no duplication was found.

5. Effort to Reduce Small Business Burden

These reporting requirements only affect nuclear power reactor licensees. Therefore, there is no burden on small business.

6. Consequences to Federal Program or Policy Activities if the Collection is Not Conducted or is Conducted Less Frequently

Not collecting this data or less frequent data collection would, in general, substantially reduce the NRC's ability to respond promptly to emergencies and would degrade the NRC's ability to assess operating experience and act on the lessons learned in a timely manner, including corrective actions to prevent recurrences.

7. Circumstances which Justify Variation from OMB Guidelines

Notification of significant events is needed in one to four hours to ensure that the NRC promptly responds to situations with the potential to seriously impact public health and safety.

8. Consultations Outside the NRC

Notice of opportunity for public comment on this information collections has been published in the Federal Register.

9. Payment or Gift to Respondents

Not applicable.

10. Confidentiality of Information

Proprietary or confidential information is protected in accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's regulations. However, confidential information is not anticipated.

11. Justification for Sensitive Questions

The subject regulations do not request sensitive information. However, if any reported information is within the purview of the Privacy Act, it would be handled in accordance with 10 CFR 2.790.

12. Estimated Industry Burden and Burden Hour Cost

Based on experience in recent years, it is estimated that about 1,400 reports per year will be received in response to 10 CFR 50.72. The burden for each call is estimated to be 90 minutes. Therefore, the total annual burden would be about 2,100 person hours. At \$141 per person hour, the annual cost to industry would be about \$296,100.

13. Estimate of Other Additional Costs

None.

14. Estimated Annualized Cost to the Federal Government

Events Analysis

The cost to the Federal government is estimated as follows:

- a. Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation - 8 person years (2,080 person hours/per year x 8 person years = 16,640 person hours) 16,640 x \$141 = \$2,346,240.
- b. Four Regional offices - 1 person year each (2,080 person hours x 4 = 8,320

person hours)  $8,320 \times \$141 = \$1,173,120$ .

Event Report Receipt

- a. 1 operations officer on shift 7 days per week, 24 hours per day (8,760 hours per year) and one additional operations officer on shift for 8 hours on weekdays (2,080 hours per year) for a total of 10,840 hours  $\times \$141 = \$1,528,440$  per year.
- b. Cost of maintaining the emergency telecommunications system is estimated at \$650,000 per year during this clearance period.

Based on the above, annual Federal cost associated with these regulations is estimated to be  $(\$2,346,240 + \$1,173,120 + \$1,528,440 + \$650,000) = \$5,697,800$ . This cost is fully recovered through fee assessments to NRC licensees pursuant to 10 CFR 170 and/or 171.

15. Reasons for Changes in Burden or Cost

Licensees Burden

The estimated burden has been reduced from 2,400 to 2,100 hours and is based on experience over the last 3 years.

Cost to the Federal Government

The estimated cost has been reduced from \$7,644,800 to \$5,697,800 and is attributed to:

- a. Walnut Creek field office has been shut down.
- b. Maintenance costs for ETS adjusted to reflect current spending levels.
- c. Reduced resources in events analysis.

16. Publication for Statistical Use

The collection information is not published for statistical purposes.

17. Reason for Not Displaying the Expiration Date

The requirement is contained in a regulation. Amending the Code of Federal Regulations to display information that, in an annual publication, could become obsolete would be unduly burdensome and too difficult to keep current.

18. Exceptions to the Certification Statement

None.

B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

Not applicable.