

July 28, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: Samuel J. Collins, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

THRU: Brian W. Sheron, Director */RA By GMHolahan for/*
Associate Director for Project Licensing
and Technical Analysis

FROM: John A. Zwolinski, Director */RA/*
Division of Licensing Project Management

SUBJECT: PUBLICATION OF NUREG-1628, "STAFF RESPONSES TO
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CONCERNING
DECOMMISSIONING OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS"

Attached is a copy of the final version of NUREG-1628, "Staff Responses to Frequently Asked Questions Concerning Decommissioning of Nuclear Power Plants." The staff prepared an earlier version for public comment and issued it in 1998. NUREG-1628 was published June 2000, and asks and answers questions on the subject of power reactor decommissioning obtained from public meetings, written correspondence, and in discussions with NRC decommissioning staff members. It includes changes resulting from the comments received on the earlier draft. The NRR decommissioning staff realized in the mid-1990s that there was considerable misunderstanding over the decommissioning process. The frequently asked question format was used effectively during the Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 2, cleanup and was adapted for facilities undergoing decommissioning. The staff has secured permission from the Office of the Chief Information Officer to distribute single copies to members of the public for free. In the past, the draft version of this document was distributed at public meetings, provided to local officials, given to the media, and studied by staff members. The staff plans to continue this practice. The document has also been invaluable to the staff in preparing for public meetings, discussions with the media, and ensuring consistency in the staffs positions and answers. We have found that educating the public is one of the best ways to increase public confidence in NRC oversight activities and the decommissioning process.

Attachment: As stated

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