U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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REGULATORY GUIDE

OFFICE OF STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT

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REGULATORY GUIDE 2.5

QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR RESEARCH REACTORS

A. INTRODUCTION

Paragraph (a)(7) of §50.34, "Contents of Applications; Technical Information," of 10 CFR Part 50, "Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities," requires that each applicant for a construction permit to build a production or utilization facility include in its preliminary safety analysis report a description of the quality assurance program to be applied to the design and construction of the structures, systems, and components of the facility. Paragraph (b)(6)(ii) of §50.34 requires that each applicant for a license to operate a facility include in the final safety analysis report a description of the managerial and administrative controls to be used to assure safe operation. This guide describes a method acceptable to the NRC staff of complying with the Commission's regulations with regard to overall quality assurance program requirements for research reactors.

B. DISCUSSION

Work Group ANS-15.8 of Subcommittee ANS-15, Research Reactors, of the American Nuclear Society Standards Committee has developed a standard that describes a quality assurance program for use in research reactors. The standard was approved by the American National Standards Committee N17, Research Reactors. It was subsequently approved and designated ANSI N402-1976 by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) on August 19, 1976.

C. REGULATORY POSITION

The general requirements for establishing and executing a quality assurance program for the design, construction, testing, modification, and maintenance of research reactors that are included in ANSI N402-1976, "Quality Assurance Program Requirements for Research Reactors,"[1] provide an acceptable method for complying with the program requirements of 10 CFR §50.34.

D. IMPLEMENTATION

The purpose of this section is to provide information to applicants regarding the NRC staff's plans for using this regulatory guide.

Except in those cases in which the applicant proposes an acceptable alternative method for complying with specified portions of the Commission's regulations, the method described herein will be used in the evaluation of submittals in connection with applications for operating licenses, construction permits, or proposed amendments thereto docketed after January 16, 1978, unless this guide is revised as a result of suggestions from the public or additional staff review.

If an applicant wishes to use this regulatory guide in developing submittals for applications docketed on or before January 16, 1978, the pertinent portions of the application will be evaluated on the basis of this guide.

[1]Copies may be obtained from the American Nuclear Society, 555 North Kensington Avenue, LaGrange Park, Illinois 60525.

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Regulatory Guides are issued to describe and make available to the public methods acceptable to the NRC staff of implementing specific parts of the Commission's regulations, to delineate techniques used by the staff in evaluating specific problems or postulated accidents, or to provide guidance to applicants. Regulatory Guides are not substitutes for regulations, and compliance with them is not required. Methods and solutions different from those set out in the guides will be acceptable if they provide a basis for the findings requisite to the issuance or continuance of a permit or license by the Commission.

Comments and suggestions for improvements in these guides are encouraged at all times, and guides will be revised, as appropriate, to accommodate comments and to reflect new information or experience. However, the staff's consideration of comments received during the initial public comment period for this guide has resulted in the determination that there is no need for a revision at this time.

Comments should be sent to the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Branch.

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This guide is being reissued with the words "For Comment" deleted. The staff's consideration of comments received during the initial public comment period has resulted in the determination that there is no need for a revision at this time. Consequently, no changes have been made in the text of the guide.

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