

September 22, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: David B. Matthews, Director, DRIP:NRR
Thomas L. King, Director, DRAA:RES
Micahel E. Mayfield, Acting Director, DET:RES

FROM: Farouk Eltawila, Acting Director **/RA/**
Division of Systems Analysis and Regulatory Effectiveness
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: DRAFT REPORT, "REGULATORY EFFECTIVENESS OF THE
ANTICIPATED TRANSIENT WITHOUT SCRAM RULE"

Attached for your review and comment is a copy of draft report, "Regulatory Effectiveness of the Anticipated Transient Without Scram Rule," prepared by the Regulatory Effectiveness Assessment and Human Factors Branch, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES). In accordance with our "peer review" process prior to finalizing and distributing the report, we wish to provide you with the opportunity to comment regarding (1) the reasonableness of the approach, (2) the appropriateness of the conclusion, (3) and other regulations, accompanying regulatory guides and inspection documents that should be assessed to make U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) activities more effective, efficient, and realistic.

RES is reviewing regulations to determine if the requirements are achieving the desired outcomes. This initiative is part of an evolving program to make NRC activities and decisions more effective, efficient, and realistic. The goal of this evaluation is to determine whether the ATWS rule and the recommendations issued with it were effective. The effectiveness of the ATWS rule was determined by comparing regulatory expectations to outcomes. The report concluded that the ATWS rule was effective in reducing ATWS risk and that the cost of implementing the rule was reasonable. However, uncertainties in RPS unreliability and mitigative capability may warrant continued attention to ensure the expected levels of safety are maintained.

We welcome your comments. To meet our planned issuance schedule, we would appreciate receiving your comments by December 11, 2000.

It is our understanding that NRR will coordinate the review by and receipt of comments from the regions.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please feel free to contact William S. Raughley, E-mail: WSR@NRC.GOV, (301) 415-7577.

Attachment: As stated

cc w/att.: See attached list

Multiple Addressees

2

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SUBJECT: DRAFT REPORT, "REGULATORY EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ANTICIPATED
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cc w/att.:

J. Johnson, NRR

ADAMS Package No. ML003753140

B. Sheron, NRR

Memorandum: ADAMS Accession No. ML003753131

J. Zwolinski, NRR

G. Holahan, NRR

Report: ADAMS Accession No. ML003753154

J. Strosnider, NRR

B. Boger, NRR

M. Fields, NRR

R. Savio, ACRS

A. Blough, R-I

L. Plisco, R-II

G. Grant, R-III

K. Brockman, R-IV

W. Lanning, R-I

B. Mallett, R-II

G. Grobe, R-III

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Distribution: See attached list

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