

December 28, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: William F. Kane, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: DIRECT FINAL RULE TO AMEND 10 CFR 72.214, "LIST OF APPROVED SPENT FUEL STORAGE CASKS" (VSC-24 AMENDMENT 3 - MODIFICATION OF LOADING REQUIREMENTS FOR CE 16X16 FUEL)

Attached, for your signature, is a direct final rule, along with the companion proposed rule (Attachments 1 and 2), amending U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regulations, by revising the cask system listing for the Pacific Sierra Nuclear Associates (PSNA) VSC-24 cask system. This amendment number 3 changes Technical Specifications 1.2.1 and 1.2.6 to modify the fuel specifications for Combustion Engineering 16x16 spent fuel stored in the VSC-24 cask system and will allow holders of power reactor operating licenses, as general licensees under 10 CFR Part 72, to store the Combustion Engineering 16x16 spent fuel in the VSC-24 cask system. The amendment also makes other minor clarifying changes to the Certificate of Compliance and Technical Specifications.

The Commission directed the staff, in a Staff Requirements Memorandum dated September 3, 1998, to use a direct final rule approach for Certificate of Compliance rulemakings. This amendment is considered to be noncontroversial because it only amends a previously approved cask system.

Notices: A notice to the Commission that the Executive Director for Operations has signed the Federal Register notices is included for the "Daily Staff Notes" (Attachment 3) and "Weekly Report" (Attachment 4). The "Approved for Publication," the "Environmental Assessment," and the forms for the "Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996" can be found in Attachments 5 through 7, respectively, of this paper. The appropriate Congressional committees will be notified.

CONTACTS: Stan Turel, NMSS/IMNS
(301) 415-6234

Steve O'Connor, NMSS/SFPO
(301) 415-8561

Resources: No additional resources will be needed to implement this rule, unless we receive significant adverse comments on the proposed rule.

Coordination: The Offices of Administration and Enforcement concur with this amendment. The Office of the General Counsel has no legal objection. The Office of the Chief Financial Office has reviewed the direct final rule for resource implications and has no objection. The Office of the Chief Information Officer has reviewed the direct final rule for information technology and information management implications and concurs in it.

Attachments:

1. FRN for Direct Final Rule
2. FRN for Proposed Rule
3. "Daily Staff Notes"
4. "Weekly Report to the Commission"
5. "Approved for Publication"
6. "Environmental Assessment"
7. "Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996" Forms

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