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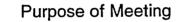


Meeting on Criteria to Review Alternative Sites

Nuclear Regulatory Commission January 28, 2003



- Meeting Format
- Ground Rules
- Agenda Overview



- Why Hold This Meeting
- Issue: Alternative Site Reviews
- · Benefits in Solving the Issue
- What We Plan to Accomplish Today

To Accomplish Today

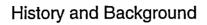
- Obtain your views on criteria to consider in reviewing alternative sites
- · Summarize the issues and views
- Decide how to proceed from here

The Task Before Us

- Definition of Regulatory Issue
 - History and Background
- How the NRC's Current Regulatory Structure
 Addresses the Issue
- Options

The Regulatory Issue

- Fulfill National Environmental Policy Act [NEPA] requirement to review alternatives
- Why an Issue?



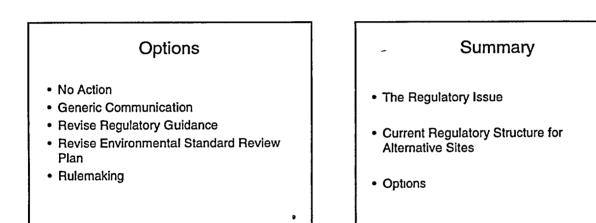
- Seabrook Litigation (1973-1979)
- 1978 Policy Statement

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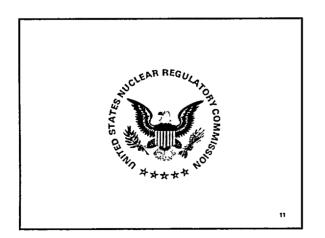
- Early Rulemakings (1980s)
- Current Need (Early Site Permit Applications)

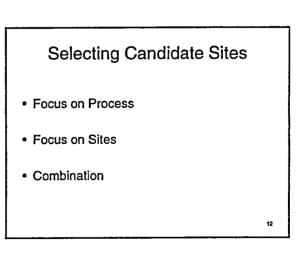
Current Regulatory Structure for Alternative Sites

- Rules: 10 CFR Parts 2, 50, 51 and 52
- Guidance
 Regulatory Guides 4.2 and 4.7
- Environmental Standard Review Plan NUREG-1555



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Region of Interest

What is a region of interest?

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- Why have a region of interest?
- Consider: area, size, location

NUMBER OF ALTERNATIVE SITES

- Should the NRC specify the number of sites to be considered?
- If so, options might include:
 Approach taken in 1980 proposed rule
 Approach taken by prospective ESP applicant

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INTRODUCTION OF SITES BY OTHER PERSONS

- Should the NRC specify when nonapplicants may introduce candidate sites?
 - Such requirements may be inappropriate.
 - Nevertheless, the 1980 proposed rule included some conditions.

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OBVIOUSLY SUPERIOR TEST

- First determine if an alternative site is environmentally preferable considering biological resources, land use, socioeconomics, and population.
- Then determine if it's also obviously superior considering project economics, technology, and institutional factors.

Emergency Preparedness (EP)

- · Currently part of safety review.
- Options for alternative sites:
 - Continue current practice
 - Consider EP in environmental review:
 - Require description of significant impediments
 - Establish exclusionary standards
 - Weigh degree of Impediment, with other factors

Emergency Preparedness (EP)
Should the NRC consider EP in alternative site reviews and, if so, how?
Once option is to continue current practice - review EP for the proposed site as part of the safety review
On the other hand, if EP considerations are incorporated into alternative site reviews, the options might include
- Require description of significant impediments at alternative sites
- Establish exclusionary standards for alternative sites (go - no go test)
Weigh the degree of impediment, along with other factors, in determining whether an alternative site is obviously superior

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Comparing Proposed Site and Alternative Sites

Obviously superior standard:

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- NRC's approach in the past; documented in the 1980 proposed rule.
- NRC would reject the application only if it finds an alternative site obviously superior.

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