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2004 JAN 21 AM 9:15
Rules and Directives
Branch
USNRC

January 14, 2004

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Chief, Rules and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Office of Administration
Washington, DC 20555-0001

I am writing to oppose the proposed relaxation of enforcement of current fire code that would allow non-compliant reactor operators to sacrifice automated reactor shutdown electrical systems, substituting non-validated manual actions. This increases unacceptable and undue risks to public health and safety and the environment in the event of a reactor fire.

As a result of the near catastrophic fire at Browns Ferry nuclear power station in 1975, NRC is mandated by federal law to require electrical systems used for the automated shutdown of the reactor from the control room be maintained free from fire damage in the event of a serious fire.

Thank you for your help in this urgent matter.

Respectfully,

J. Capozzelli

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