

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 16, 2004

**NRC REGULATORY ISSUE SUMMARY 2004-06
INDEPENDENT SURVEY OF POWER REACTOR LICENSEES**

ADDRESSEES

All holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel.

INTENT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing this regulatory issue summary (RIS) to inform addressees that the NRC is conducting a survey of addressees to gain insights into the impact of its regulatory activities. The survey gives addressees the opportunity to provide feedback to an independent contractor regarding the NRC's regulatory process. This RIS requires no action or written response on the part of an addressee. Any action on the part of addressees to provide feedback on NRC activities is strictly voluntary.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

To improve its oversight activities, the NRC implemented a regulatory impact feedback process for power reactor licensees in 1992. This ongoing process uses regional managers to solicit feedback regarding regulatory activities from their licensee counterparts during routine visits to reactor sites. This feedback is evaluated in an integrated manner and the results are reported to the Commission annually.

SUMMARY OF ISSUE

The staff is augmenting NRC's ongoing regulatory impact process with a survey to be conducted by an independent contractor. The objective of the survey is to obtain licensee feedback using an independent interface to help gauge the effectiveness of the ongoing regulatory impact process. The NRC and the independent contractor will make no effort to connect responses with originating licensees. The NRC is seeking survey input from the four licensee managers that interact most directly with the NRC in the areas of operations, licensing issues, engineering and overall plant management.

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VOLUNTARY RESPONSE

Addressees that choose to participate in the survey may do so by using the Internet to respond directly or to download the survey and mail it to the appropriate address. The survey will be available on an independent contractor's Web site for the month of May for viewing, responding, and downloading. Each licensee will be mailed information on how to participate in the survey.

BACKFIT DISCUSSION

This RIS requires no action or written response. Any action on the part of addressees to respond to the survey in accordance with the guidance contained in this RIS is strictly voluntary and, therefore, is not a backfit under 10 CFR 50.109. Consequently, the staff did not perform a backfit analysis.

FEDERAL REGISTER NOTIFICATION

A notice of opportunity for public comment on this RIS was not published in the *Federal Register* because the RIS is informational and involves the voluntary submission of information on the part of addressees.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT

This proposed Regulatory Issue Summary does not contain information collection requirements and, therefore, is not subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.).

If you have any questions about this matter, please contact the person listed below.

/RA/

William D. Beckner, Chief
Reactor Operations Branch
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Technical Contact: David K. Allsopp, NRR
301-415-3073
E-mail: dka@nrc.gov

Attachment: List of Recently Issued NRC Regulatory Issue Summaries

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LIST OF RECENTLY ISSUED
NRC REGULATORY ISSUE SUMMARIES

Regulatory Issue Summary No.	Subject	Date of Issuance	Issued to
2004-05	Grid Reliability and the Impact on Plant Risk and the Operability of Offsite Power	04/15/2004	All holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel.
2004-04	Use of Code Cases N-588, N-640, and N-641 in Developing Pressure-Temperature Operating Limits	04/05/2004	All holders of construction permits or operating licenses for nuclear power reactors except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel.
2004-03	Risk-informed Approach For Post-Fire Safe-Shutdown Associated Circuit Inspections	03/02/2004	All holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel.
2004-02	Deferral of Active Regulation of Ground-Water Protection at <i>in Situ</i> Leach Uranium Extraction Facilities	02/23/2004	All holders of materials licenses for uranium and thorium recovery facilities.
2004-01	Method for Estimating Effective Dose Equivalent from External Radiation Sources Using Two Dosimeters	02/17/2004	All U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) licensees.

Note: NRC generic communications may be received in electronic format shortly after they are issued by subscribing to the NRC listserver as follows:

To subscribe send an e-mail to <listproc@nrc.gov>, no subject, and the following command in the message portion:

subscribe gc-nrr firstname lastname