June 21, 2004

ALL AGREEMENT AND NON-AGREEMENT STATES

ELIMINATING THE SITE DECOMMISSIONING MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ESTABLISHING MANAGEMENT OF ALL SITES UNDERGOING DECOMMISSIONING UNDER A COMPREHENSIVE DECOMMISSIONING PROGRAM (STP-04-043)

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has decided to eliminate the Site Decommissioning Management Plan (SDMP) designation for sites and manage the SDMP sites as "complex sites," under a comprehensive decommissioning program. Elimination of the SDMP designation and the discontinuance of the SDMP as a separate site listing is appropriate, because the original intent of the SDMP and SDMP Action Plan (i.e., to achieve closure on cleanup issues so that cleanup could proceed in a timely manner) has been achieved. The SDMP sites have been incorporated into a comprehensive decommissioning program that facilitates the cleanup of routine and complex sites in a manner that is consistent with the goals of the SDMP and SDMP Action Plan.

Viewed in the context of this comprehensive decommissioning program, which includes routine decommissioning sites, formerly licensed sites, SDMP sites, non-routine/complex sites, fuel cycle sites, and test/research and power reactors, the continued use of the SDMP does not provide the same benefits that it did when it was first developed. The staff believes the cleanup of these sites is managed more effectively as part of this larger program. As the SDMP sites will be managed as complex sites under this comprehensive program, the level of safety currently in place at SDMP sites will not be diminished. In addition, as sites are identified and managed as complex sites, and as more sites are evaluated pursuant to the comprehensive decommissioning program, common problematic technical issues should be identified more easily, and resolutions to these issues should be implemented in a more consistent manner.

Details of this action were published in the *Federal Register* on June 17, 2004. For more information please refer to http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html and search under 6933946.

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