

September 30th Posting of Preliminary Draft License Renewal Guidance Documents

To increase staff effectiveness, the staff is updating the license renewal guidance documents. This update includes a multi-phased approach to improving NUREG-1800, "Standard Review Plan for License Renewal Applications for Nuclear Power Plants" (SRP-LR) and NUREG-1801, "Generic Aging Lessons Learned (GALL) Report." The update also includes Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.188, "Standard Format and Content for Applications to Renew Nuclear Power Plant Operating Licenses." Upon incorporation of conforming revisions to NEI 95-10-Rev. 4, the staff intends to endorse NEI 95-10 through the update to RG 1.188.

This update process will increase license renewal review efficiency by consolidating components, increasing consistency between the GALL Report table line items, correcting errors in the documents released in 2001, updating aging management programs, incorporating guidance consistent with the license renewal audit process, and incorporating 'lessons learned' from approved staff positions (based on interim staff guidance and staff-approved precedents from the review of previous license renewal applications).

The NRC is developing a preliminary interim draft of the GALL Report and SRP-LR for public view (Phase 1) prior to publishing a formal proposed revision for public comment by about 1/30/2005. The official revision of these documents (Revision 1) is currently scheduled to be published on 9/30/2005.

The NRC is making preliminary drafts of these documents available on this NRC public website (<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/guidance/updated-guidance.html>). The staff intends to post updates periodically to this Web site that may be of interest to stakeholders.

Although these preliminary drafts reflect a work in progress (the document sections have not yet been presented to NRC management or Commission, and are still undergoing staff revision), they provide an indication of the status of the update project. The line-item numbering contained in the 2001 version of the GALL Report is also retained to show traceability to the original GALL line-items. A public meeting is scheduled for October 27th to discuss the preliminary drafts of SRP-LR and the GALL updates. NRC will distribute a meeting announcement to publicize the time and location of this meeting.

The intention of this September 30 posting is to provide a "snapshot in time" of the license renewal guidance update to provide an early opportunity for stakeholder involvement. This approach is consistent with the NRC strategy to obtain early public involvement on issues most likely to generate substantial interest and promote two-way communication to enhance public confidence in the NRC's regulatory processes and to actively engage the public before actions are taken. This is also consistent with the strategy to maintain and update the NRC's external Web site with timely, user-friendly information.

The NRC anticipates completing the following before the 1/30/2005 update:

- Development of a 'bases' document to justify planned changes to the license renewal guidance documents
- Further technical review to ensure the effectiveness, completeness, accuracy and consistency of these documents
- Incorporation of selected NRC staff and contractor Phase II comments
- Incorporation of NRC management and interfacing organizations comments
- Increased use of linking between documents
- Conforming changes to all documents for consistency

- Discussion and possible development of new Aging Management Programs
- Development of a relational database
- Scoping methodology update (in SRP-LR)
- Update of FSAR supplement section(in SRP-LR)
- Potential new system additions (GALL)
- Aging Management Program Update (GALL)
- Further changes as deemed technically or procedurally necessary.

If there are any questions relating to this website or posting, please direct them to Jerry Dozier (301) 415-1014 or Amy Hull (301) 415-4095.