

*NRR Release*

**From:** Erasmia Lois *LES*  
**To:** Ray Gallucci; Sunil Weerakkody *NRR*  
**Date:** Tue, Nov 18, 2003 4:39 PM  
**Subject:** Re: sandia report

THANK YOU!

*NRR*

>>> Ray Gallucci 11/18/03 02:39PM >>>

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is in the process of revising fire protection program requirements contained in Appendix R of 10 CFR Part 50. At issue is the reliance of many licensees on operator manual actions, rather than the use of fire barriers or spatial separation, with fire detectin and automatic suppression if required, to maintain safe shutdown capability. That is, they rely on operators to perform field manipulations of components that would not normally be necessary if redundant safe shutdown trains were not located in the same fire area. Per 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R, at least for plants licensed to operate before 1/1/1979 (and in practice for those licensed after 1/1/1979), operator manual actions are not permitted unless a specific exemption has been granted.

>>> Erasmia Lois 11/18/03 11:27AM >>>

could you check the opening statement of the report to make sure that the rulemaking activity is characterized appropriately?

thanks

Erasmia

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