

September 22, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO: John T. Larkins, Executive Director  
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS)  
Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste

FROM: Michael E. Mayfield, Director  
Division of Engineering /RA/  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)

SUBJECT: TRANSMITTAL OF PROPOSED FINAL REVISION TO  
STANDARD REVIEW PLAN NUREG-0800 SECTION 17.5,  
"QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM DESCRIPTION - DESIGN  
CERTIFICATION, EARLY SITE PERMIT AND NEW LICENSE  
APPLICANTS"

The purpose of this memorandum is to transmit the proposed revision to NUREG-0800, *Standard Review Plan (SRP)*, Section 17.5, Rev. 0, Quality Assurance Program Description - Design Certification, Early Site Permit and New License Applicants," to the ACRS for their consideration. In a memorandum dated November 23, 2005 (ML053250301), NRR requested that ACRS defer its review of SRP Section 17.5 until after the public comment period. In a response to this memorandum dated December 16, 2005 (ML053620268), the ACRS stated that it did not object to the staff's proposal to issue SRP Section 17.5 for public comment and would like the opportunity to review the draft final revision after reconciliation of public comments.

In accordance with the staff requirements memorandum dated May 10, 2005, on the April 6, 2005, Commission meeting, NRR has developed a draft final revision of SRP Section 17.5 (Enclosure 1). A matrix listing public comments with staff responses on SRP Section 17.5 is included (Enclosure 2). To aid in identifying changes that were made based on public comments, a redline/strikeout version of this document is included (Enclosure 3).

No new guidance is included in this new SRP section, rather existing guidance has been consolidated to ensure the quality and uniformity of staff safety reviews. SRP Section 17.5 is based on quality assurance (QA) related guidance in industry standards, regulatory guides, generic letters, regulatory information summaries, existing SRP Sections 17.1 and 17.2, and 17.3, and revised QA program provisions that have been approved by the staff in safety evaluations via the 10 CFR 50.54(a) process. The draft final revision also adds standard paragraphs to extend application of the updated SRP section to prospective submittals by applicants pursuant to 10 CFR Part 52. Based on the nature of the changes, we recommend that ACRS elect not to review the proposed final draft revision to the SRP. If the ACRS determines that there is a need to review the proposed revision to the SRP, then please inform the technical contact and NRR will support a subsequent ACRS briefing. Separately, a memorandum dated December 15, 2005 (ML053500279), the Committee to Review Generic Requirements agreed to waive their review of new SRP Section 17.5.

J. Larkins

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For questions concerning this document, please contact Paul Prescott of my staff at 301-415-3026.

Enclosure(s):  
As stated

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