

November 6, 2006

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

FROM: Cornelius F. Holden, Director /RA/
Division of Risk Assessment
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: TRANSMITTAL OF PROPOSED REVISION TO STANDARD REVIEW
PLAN NUREG-0800 SECTION 9.5.1, REV 5, "FIRE PROTECTION
PROGRAM"

The purpose of this memorandum is to transmit the proposed revision to NUREG-0800, Standard Review Plan (SRP), Section 9.5.1, Rev. 5, "Fire Protection Program" to the ACRS for their consideration. This document is technically complete, reformatted in conformance with LIC-200, "Standard Review Plan Process," and is designated "publically available."

In accordance with the staff requirements memorandum dated May 10, 2005, on the April 6, 2005 Commission meeting, the Office of New Reactors (NRO) has revised SRP Section 9.5.1 (Enclosure 1). A redline/strikeout version (Enclosure 2) is also attached to aid in identifying the technical information that has been added or revised.

The present revision updates SRP 9.5.1, Rev. 4 dated October 2003. The following are the significant changes made subsequent to the October 2003 version:

1. Removed Branch Technical Position SPLB 9.5-1 (the BTP guidance has been incorporated in draft Revision 1 of Regulatory Guide 1.189, "Fire Protection for Nuclear Power Plants," (DG-1170)),
2. Expanded the review guidance for new reactors,
3. Added references to applicable regulatory documents issued subsequent to Revision 4,
4. Deleted Appendix A: "Supplemental Fire Protection Review Criteria for Shutdown and Decommissioned Reactors" (this guidance is provided in RG 1.191), and
5. Updated guidance on the use of fire modeling and probabilistic methodologies for non-NFPA 805 plants (a new separate SRP section is being prepared for NFPA 805 plants).

Additional changes can be seen in the redline/strikeout version provided as Enclosure 2.

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In addition, this revision has been administratively updated in accordance with NRR Office Instruction, LIC-200, Standard Review Plan Process. The administrative update is comprised of assigning the review responsibilities by function, with the responsible organizations maintained separately from the SRP itself to minimize impacts of office reorganizations, and editorial and formatting changes. The revision also adds standard paragraphs to extend application of the updated SRP section to prospective submittals by applicants pursuant to 10 CFR Part 52.

This SRP is being provided for your consideration in conjunction with proposed revisions to RG 1.189. Also, the staff has determined that the changes do not involve any new staff positions, therefore we will not be requesting a review by the Committee to Review Generic Requirements. Note that most SRP sections will be issued as final versions without publishing them as draft and requesting comment. The staff is revising the SRP in this manner to provide a more up-to-date SRP in light of the requirement in 10 CFR 50.34(h) for an applicant to evaluate its facility against the SRP revision in effect six months before the docket date of the application. In addition, this memo and its enclosure will be made publicly available as a preliminary SRP section revision. It will be formally published following reconciliation against the ongoing Part 52 rulemaking and regulatory guide updates including DG-1145, "Combined License Applications for Nuclear Power Plants (LWR Edition)." After formal issuance, the SRP will be available for public comment. Comment resolution will be addressed in subsequent SRP revisions. Prior to revision to individual sections, comment resolution may establish a basis for how alternatives to the NUREG-0800 acceptance criteria provide an acceptable method of complying with the NRC's regulations.

For questions concerning this document, please contact Robert Radlinski at 301-415-3174 or Chau (John) Nguyen at 301-415-1177.

Enclosures:
As stated