

PR 50
(71FR62942)



NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

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James H. Riley
DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING
NUCLEAR GENERATION DIVISION

January 10, 2007

DOCKETED
USNRC

Secretary
Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

January 11, 2007 (8:37am)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

SUBJECT: Proposed Rulemaking on 10 CFR 50.55a, Codes and Standards
(71 FR62942) RIN 3150-AH80; October 27, 2006, Public Comment

PROJECT NUMBER: 690

The NRC proposes to amend §50.55a to incorporate by reference the latest revisions of two previously incorporated regulatory guides (RG's) that approve Code Cases published by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME). Specifically, these are Rev. 34 of RG 1.84 "Design and Fabrication Code Case Acceptability, ASME Section III" and Revision 15 of RG 1.147 "In-service Inspection Code Case Acceptability, ASME Section XI, Division 1".

The Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI)¹ submits the following comment to the proposed changes to 10 CFR 50.55a, *Codes and Standards*.

62946	(g)(3)(ii)	<p>"Paragraph (g)(3)(i) includes components (including supports) which are classified as ASME Class 1 must be designed etc..."</p> <p>Comment: This paragraph identifies components that are classified as ASME Code Class 2 and 3, however the mention of associated supports are classified as Class 1, 2, or 3. Including Class 1 supports in both paragraphs seem redundant and could cause some confusion in implementation or understanding.</p>	Delete reference to Class 1 supports in paragraph (g)(3)(ii).
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¹ NEI is the organization responsible for establishing unified nuclear industry policy on matters affecting the nuclear energy industry, including the regulatory aspects of generic operational and technical issues. NEI's members include all utilities licensed to operate commercial nuclear power plants in the United States, nuclear plant designers, major architect/engineering firms, fuel fabrication facilities, materials licensees, and other organizations and individuals involved in the nuclear energy industry.

SEC4067

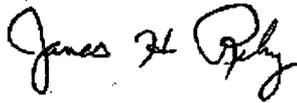
SEC402

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The above comment is a general clarification; of more importance to NEI is the fact that the NRC continues the use of regulatory guides to establish regulatory positions. Now that the regulatory guides have been incorporated into this regulation, the NRC is continuing a loop of activity that has, at best, marginal benefit to plant safety. The process continues to be inefficient, ineffective, and burdensome as demonstrated by this proposed rulemaking and highlighted by NEI in past correspondence relative to 10 CFR 50.55a.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 739-8137; jhr@nei.org or James Ross, at (202) 739-8101; jr@nei.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James H. Riley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "R" at the end.

James H. Riley

From: "RILEY, Jim" <jhr@nei.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 10, 2007 4:49 PM
Subject: Proposed Rulemaking on 10 CFR 50.55a, Codes and Standards

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From: "RILEY, Jim" <jhr@nei.org>

Created By: jhr@nei.org

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