

Licensee proposal

FAQ 06-0019 seeks the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) clarification on the definitions of the terms “power block” and “plant” as used in Chapter 3 of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 805. Based on RIN 3150-AG48, “Voluntary Fire Protection Requirements for Light Water Reactors; Adoption of NFPA 805 as a Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Alternative,” the licensee contends that under NFPA 805, the 10 CFR 50.48(a)(2)(iii) requirement to limit fire damage to structures, systems or components (SSCs) important to safety so that the capability to safely shut down the plant is ensured is satisfied by meeting the performance criteria in Section 1.5.1 of NFPA 805. Since Chapter 3 applicability is limited to only these SSCs, the licensee proposes the inclusion of the following clarification text into the next update of NEI 04-02 to resolve this issue:

Where used in Chapter 3, the terms “power block” and “plant” are equivalent to “areas in which a fire could jeopardize the ability to meet the performance criteria described in Section 1.5.1, Nuclear Safety Performance Criteria.”

Staff Response

In reviewing NFPA 805, the staff determined that the terms “power block” and “plant” as used in Chapter 3 is synonymous to areas in which a postulated fire could cause damages to any SSCs that are used for achieving and maintaining post-fire nuclear safety performance criteria. Therefore, it is recommended that FAQ 06-0019 be revised as follow:

Where used in Chapter 3, the terms “power block” and “plant” are equivalent to “areas in which a fire could jeopardize the ability of structures, systems, and components required to meet the performance criteria described in Section 1.5.1, Nuclear Safety Performance Criteria.”