

July 20, 2007

MEMORANDUM TO: Brent Clayton, Chief  
Environmental Technical Support Branch  
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews  
Office of New Reactors

FROM: James E. Lyons, Director */RA/*  
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews  
Office of New Reactors

SUBJECT: TRANSMITTAL OF PROPOSED REVISION 1 TO ENVIRONMENTAL  
STANDARD REVIEW PLAN (NUREG-1555) SECTION 9.3

The purpose of this memorandum is to transmit the proposed revision to NUREG-1555, Environmental Standard Review Plan (ESRP), Section 9.2, Rev. 1, "Site Selection Process". This document is technically complete, reformatted following the guidelines in LIC-200, "Standard Review Plan Process," and is designated "publically available."

The present revision updates the version of this document that was published in March 2000. Based on lessons learned from the first early site permits, and on inputs from technical reviewers, this revision is a complete re-write of Section 9.3. Therefore, unlike other ESRP section revisions, changes are not indicated by highlighting. This revision does not yet reflect information contained in the June 29, 2007, initial decision on the North Anna early site permit. Any associated changes can be incorporated into a future revision. But the staff believes it is important to issue this ESRP now in order to allow stakeholders to review and comment on it.

In addition, this revision has been administratively updated using the guidance in NRR Office Instruction, LIC-200. The administrative update is comprised of assigning the review responsibilities by function, with the responsible organizations maintained separately from the ESRP itself to minimize impacts of office reorganizations, and editorial and formatting changes.

This memo and its enclosure will be made publicly available as a preliminary ESRP section revision. It will be formally published following reconciliation against the ongoing Part 52 rule-makings and regulatory guide updates, including the planned update to RG 4.2, "Preparation of Environmental Reports for Nuclear Power Stations." After formal issuance, the ESRP will be available for public comment. Comment resolution will be addressed in subsequent ESRP

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B. Clayton

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revisions. Prior to revision to individual sections, comment resolution may establish a basis for how alternatives to the NUREG-1555 acceptance criteria provide an acceptable method of complying with the NRC's regulations.

For questions concerning these documents, please contact Andrew Kugler at 301-415-2828

Enclosure: As stated

cc: w/encl.

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