

July 26, 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 TO ENVIRONMENTAL
STANDARD REVIEW PLAN NUREG-1555 SECTIONS 9.2.1, REV 1,
9.2.2, REV 1, AND 9.2.3, REV 1

The purpose of this memorandum is to transmit the proposed revisions to NUREG-1555, Environmental Standard Review Plan (ESRP), Sections 9.2.1, Rev. 1, "Alternatives Not Requiring New Generating Capacity", 9.2.2, Rev. 1, "Alternatives Requiring New Generating Capacity", and 9.2.3, Rev. 1, "Assessment of Competitive Alternative Energy Sources and Systems." These documents are technically complete, reformatted following the guidelines in LIC-200, "Standard Review Plan Process," and are designated "publically available."

The present revisions update the versions of these documents that were published in March 2000. The revised portions of the ESRP Sections have been highlighted to aid in identifying the technical information that has been added or revised.

In addition, these revisions have 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.

The technical changes that the staff is proposing are summarized at the end of each of the enclosed proposed ESRP sections. There were also changes to each of the ESRP sections updating the list of applicable regulations and acceptance criteria.

A number of the changes to these sections are clarifications. In addition, all of these sections have been revised to address (1) the fact that early site permits are not required to address energy alternatives and (2) a focus on competitive alternatives, versus alternatives in general. A change was made to ESRP 9.2.1 to reflect the Commission's determination that the potential for conservation does not need to be analyzed if the applicant is proposing to build a merchant plant to sell electric power on the open market.

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301-415-1312

This memo and its enclosures 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 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 Robert Schaaf at 301-415-1312.

Enclosures: As stated

cc: w/encl.

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Enclosure