

May 20, 2009

STATE LIAISON OFFICERS

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO 10 CFR PARTS 50 AND 52 TO ENHANCE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS REGULATIONS (FSME-09-031)

Purpose: To inform the State Liaison Officers of the May 18, 2009, publication of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) proposed emergency preparedness regulations in *Federal Register* notice (FRN), 74 FR 23254.

Contents: Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) supporting the proposed rule.

Background: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has published the enclosed FRN, to amend 10 CFR 50.47, 50.54, and Appendix E to codify certain generically applicable requirements similar to those previously imposed by Commission orders, update the emergency preparedness regulations to include requirements previously and voluntarily initiated by nuclear power plant licensees, and amend other licensee emergency plan requirements based on a comprehensive review of the NRC's emergency preparedness regulations and guidance. The proposed requirements would enhance the ability of licensees in preparing, and taking, certain emergency preparedness and protective measures in the event of a radiological emergency; address, in part, security issues identified after the terrorist events of September 11, 2001; clarify regulations to effect consistent emergency plan implementation among licensees, and modify certain emergency preparedness requirements to be more effective and efficient. The proposed rule is available for public comment through notice in the Federal Register and can be accessed at <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-10947.pdf>. Enclosed with this letter is the EA supporting the proposed rule. The conclusion of the EA is the Commission's finding that no significant environmental impact will result from the proposed rule.

Discussion: If you have any comments on the rule and its environmental assessment, please provide them by August 3, 2009. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC is able to assure consideration only for comments received on or before this date. You can use the following methods to transmit your comments: (1) mail written comments to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff; (2) fax comments to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, at (301) 415-1101; (3) e-mail comments to SECY@nrc.gov; and (4) provide comments via the Federal e-rulemaking portal <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FSME-09-031

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If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact the individual named below.

POINT OF CONTACT: Lauren Quiñones,
PHONE: (301) 415-2007

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FAX: (301) 415-1032

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mark R. Shaffer
Division of Intergovernmental Liaison
and Rulemaking
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

Enclosure:
Draft Environmental Assessment

FSME-09-031

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Mark R. Shaffer
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Enclosure:
Draft Environmental Assessment

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