



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

Docket  
File

AUG 10 1978

Docket No: 50-438 ✓  
and 50-439

All Power Reactor Licensees and Applicants with Applications for a License to Operate or Construct a Power Reactor

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: STANDARD FORMAT FOR METEOROLOGICAL DATA ON MAGNETIC TAPE

A standardized format for providing hour-by-hour meteorological data on magnetic tapes that would facilitate our review of atmospheric diffusion characteristics and cooling system impacts was distributed in a letter in April 1977. This has led to a faster and more efficient meteorological review in the cases where these hourly data tapes have been received. However, even though most of the magnetic tapes that have been received since April 1977 have met the data formatting criteria, problems with the physical attributes such as tape recording technique, density, internal labels, etc., have rendered some of the tapes unreadable. This has led to delays in attempts to process the tape data or in the request and delivery of a second tape as a replacement from the originator. To give further guidance in this area, a more detailed description of the tape attributes for an IBM and CDC system is enclosed. Questions on the standard format should be referred to William Snell, Hydrology-Meteorology Branch, Division of Site Safety and Environmental Analysis, phone number 301-492-7288.

Sincerely,

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for Light Water Reactors  
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Enclosure:  
As stated

may  
let

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USEKEYWORDS

		<u>IBM</u>	<u>CDC</u>
Mode:	9-track, 1600bpi, EBCDIC <sup>1</sup>	UNIT = TAPE9, DEN = 3	NT, PE, EB, S, CM = Yes
Internal Labels:	none <sup>2</sup>	LABEL = (,NL)	
Record Format:	fixed length/blocked	RECFM = FB	RT = F, BT = K
Record Length:	160 characters	LRECL = 160	FL = 160
Blocking:	3200 characters/block	BLKSIZE - 3200	RB = 20

<sup>1</sup>9-track, 800 bpi, EBCDIC or  
7-track, 800 or 556 bpi, BCD  
are also acceptable

<sup>2</sup>IBM standard labels are also acceptable

DO NOT USE

Variable length or unformatted records or records that span tape blocks.

e.g. IPM's RECFM = U or VBS

e.g. CDC SCOPE standard tape data format (use the S parameter on the  
REQUEST to avoid this)

OTHER SYSTEMS

For systems other than IBM or CDC the above information should be used as a guideline  
to produce tapes with similar characteristics: