

Rulemaking Comments

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ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

It is not possible for mechanical and nuclear engineering, nor societal and political planning, to anticipate and eliminate the hazards associated with nuclear energy generation. The hazards are so potentially extensive in their reach, long term in their effects, and devastating in their power that they risk the integrity of all biotic life. Human life is completely and totally dependent on that integrity: it cannot survive without investment in the health and viability of plant, animal, and microbial life; water, air, and soils; and weather systems of the planet. Ongoing impacts of the Fukushima and Chernobyl disasters are proven examples of the sustained and far reaching catastrophic effects of false assumptions regarding nuclear power.

In the near-term, emergency evacuation zones for related to nuclear facilities are grossly inadequate to protect the health and safety of U.S. citizens from ionizing radiation: they should be expanded to at least 25 miles, as proven by Fukushima. Even if long-term effects might be mitigated, human food supplies are seriously compromised by the current planning standards, and the ingestion zone recognizing the radioactive contamination of food should expand to at least 100 miles.

In addition, a new requirement should be made for emergency exercises to include scenarios of regionally appropriate for initiating or concurrent natural disasters.

Thank you,

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