November 22, 2013

Donald J. Spellman, Chair
ANS Standards Board
555 North Kensington Ave.
La Grange Park, IL 60526-5592

SUBJECT: Response to your letter of notification of ANSI approved standards for NRC review

Dear Mr. Spellman:

Thank you for bringing to my attention some of the recent progress in standards development by the American Nuclear Society (ANS). Your letter (23 Aug 2013) enclosed copies of three new standards and one revised standard, and named three reaffirmed standards. You requested that the NRC staff review these documents for possible endorsement in our regulatory guidance.

ANSI/ANS-3.4-1996, "Medical Certification and Monitoring of Personnel Requiring Operator Licenses for Nuclear Power Plants," is endorsed in Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.134, Rev. 3 (1998), with some exceptions, as an acceptable approach for determining the medical qualifications of applicants for initial or renewal operator or senior operator licenses. That RG is currently undergoing revisions, including a thorough review by the staff of the revised ANS-3.4 standard, ANSI/ANS-3.4-2013. Publication of a revised RG is expected in approximately one year.

ANSI/ANS-15.8-1995 (R2013), "Quality Assurance Program Requirements for Research Reactors," is endorsed in RG 2.5. As the standard was reaffirmed without changes, no associated revision of our RG is expected.

The new standard ANSI/ANS-2.15-2013, "Criteria for Modeling and Calculating Atmospheric Dispersion of Routine Radiological Releases from Nuclear Facilities," covers a technical scope similar to that of our RG 1.111, "Methods for Estimating Atmospheric Transport and Dispersion of Gaseous Effluents in Routine Releases from Light-Water-Cooled Reactors." The staff has decided that the more prescriptive approach used in the RG is necessary. The new standard will be considered, however, during any future revisions of the RG.

The new standard ANSI/ANS-10.7-2013, "Non-Real-Time, High-Integrity Software for the Nuclear Industry – Developer Requirements," was developed, in part, using NRC's NUREG/CR-6263. While the NRC has ongoing efforts in software quality, validation, and verification, there are no immediate plans to apply this new standard in regulatory guidance. Staff will review the standard for potential use in the future.

The standard ANSI/ANS-15.21-1996 (R2006), "Format and Content for Safety Analysis Reports for Research Reactors," is not currently referenced in our Regulatory Guides. Similarly, ANSI/ANS-15.1-2007, "The Development of Technical Specification for Research Reactors," is not being used in a RG. The staff is aware of the revised standard ANSI/ANS-15.21-2012 and

the reaffirmed ANSI/ANS-15.1-2007 (R2013), and the standards will be evaluated if guidance on these topics is initiated or revised in the future.

ANSI/ANS-5.10-1998 (R2013), "Airborne Release Fractions at Non-Reactor Nuclear Facilities," is not currently referenced in a RG. Staff is aware of the reaffirmed standard, and it will be available for reference if guidance on this topic is initiated or revised in the future.

Thank you again for sharing this information on ANSI/ANS standards that are newly published or reaffirmed, as it assists the agency in its ongoing efforts to plan the effective use of resources.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Michael J. Case
Standards Executive
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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Sincerely,

Michael J. Case
Standards Executive
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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