

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: 9/4/15 5:46 PM
Received: August 28, 2015
Status: Pending_Post
Tracking No. 1jz-8kta-r4tc
Comments Due: October 27, 2015
Submission Type: API

Docket: NRC-2015-0202
Protection Against Extreme Wind Events and Missiles for Nuclear Power Plants

Comment On: NRC-2015-0202-0001
Protection Against Extreme Wind Events and Missiles for Nuclear Power Plants

Document: NRC-2015-0202-DRAFT-0002
Comment on FR Doc # 2015-21305

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8/28/2015
80 FR 52346

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2015 SEP -4 PM 5: 47

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General Comment

As a member of the public and electricity customer who lives close to a nuclear power plant (Comanche Peak) in an area subject to extreme windstorms, I believe I have a material interest in this matter. It appears to me that we have in this country many nuclear power stations in areas where tornadoes and hurricanes are reasonably frequent, and that such plants as South Texas Power Project (Hurricane Ike, 2008), Waterford (Hurricane Katrina, 2005), and Turkey Point (Hurricanes Andrew, 1992, and Wilma, 2005) have ridden out some of the most severe storms in living memory, storms which have caused vast damage to non-nuclear facilities and even a number of deaths among the public, not only without damage, but even without interruption of service. It hardly seems to me that this situation provides justification for new regulations, especially when that will inevitably cost me, the consumer, money on my power bill. Contrariwise, if the existing guidelines have proven adequate, it would seem to be the duty of the regulator to avoid changing them. I ask, therefore, that the Commission carefully reconsider what benefit is to be expected from this proposed measure, compared with its cost to the public.

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Template = ADM - 013
E-RIDS= ADM-03
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