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The Honorable Ivan Selin
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Chairman Selin:

SUBJECT: PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
LICENSE RENEWAL RULE (10 CFR PART 54)

During the 419th meeting of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, March 9-10, 1995, we discussed with the NRC staff their proposal for the amendment to the License Renewal Rule (10 CFR Part 54). We also heard from representatives of the Nuclear Energy Institute and the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company on this matter. We had the benefit of the documents referenced.

The staff is proposing to revise the requirements contained in the rule to make it clearer and simpler and to allow more flexibility in its implementation. The intent of the amended rule continues to be to ensure that operation beyond the term of the original operating license will not jeopardize the public health and safety and that the current licensing basis will be preserved.

The amended rule is better integrated with the Maintenance Rule, and thereby provides greater coherence to the regulatory process. We agree that the proposed amendment to the current License Renewal Rule takes proper account of the existing licensee programs and provides a more stable and predictable license renewal process.

Sincerely,

T. S. Kress
Chairman

References:

1. Memorandum dated February 9, 1995, from W. T. Russell, Chair, License Renewal Rule Steering Group, to J. T. Larkins, Executive Director, ACRS, Subject: Transmittal of the 10 CFR Part 54 Statements of Consideration and Rule Language Associated With the Amendment to the License Renewal Rule
2. Staff Requirements Memorandum dated June 24, 1994, from John C. Hoyle, Acting Secretary, to James M. Taylor, Executive Director for Operations, NRC, Subject: SECY-94-140 - Proposed Amendment to the Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal Rule (10 CFR Part 54)
3. SECY-94-140 dated May 23, 1994, from James M. Taylor, Executive Director for Operations, NRC, for the Commissioners, Subject: Proposed Amendment to the Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal Rule (10 CFR Part 54)