

As of: 2/8/18 1:40 PM Received: February 02, 2018 Status: Pending_Post Tracking No. 1k2-919t-kz1g Comments Due: February 05, 2018 Submission Type: API

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

Docket: NRC-2017-0236
Preparing to License Accident Tolerant Fuel

Comment On: NRC-2017-0236-0001
Preparing to License Accident Tolerant Fuel

Document: NRC-2017-0236-DRAFT-0003
Comment on FR Doc # N/A

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Submitter Information

82 FR 60633
12/21/2017

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Organization: Office of Nuclear Energy
Government Agency Type: Federal
Government Agency: DOE

SUNSI Review Complete
Template = ADM - 013
E-RIDS = ADM-03
Add = Andrew Proffitt (JAAS)

General Comment

Please see attached file, which is a scanned copy of a letter we mailed to Ms. May Ma at the Office of Administration containing comments from the Office of Nuclear Energy's Office of Advanced Fuels Technologies.

Attachments

NRC Letter 1-29-18 Comments on Draft Project Plan to prepare NRC to license and regulate ATF



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

January 29, 2018

Ms. May Ma
Office of Administration
Mail Stop: OWFN-2-A213
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001
Submitted via Regulations.gov

Subject: Comments on Draft Project Plan to Prepare the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to License and Regulate Accident Tolerant Fuel, 82 FR 60633, 12/21/17, Docket ID NRC-2017-0236

Dear Ms. Ma,

On behalf of the accident tolerant fuel program within the Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on NRC's draft project plan. We commend the NRC for preparing this draft project plan and issuing it for public comment at this time. It is an important contribution to the accident tolerant fuel program and should help all program participants, working together, to achieve the goals of the program. We are committed to working closely with the NRC under our Memorandum of Understanding as noted throughout the draft project plan.

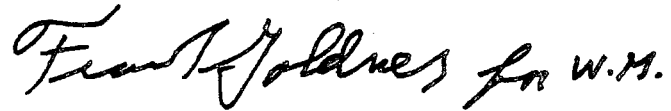
We are pleased with the effort and amount of communication that the NRC has put into the early stages of the accident tolerant fuel program. Our fuel vendor teams have benefited greatly from those early interactions and they have contributed to the quick pace of efforts to date. We see this draft project plan as a continuation of that effort. We look forward to future refinements to the plan and acting upon it with all program participants to maintain that pace.

The draft program plan refers to the Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy for research on the safety and performance of accident tolerant fuel. It also points out where the NRC will rely on DOE for data and modeling needs. We began working together in the early stages of the program to exchange information and we realize that these efforts must accelerate. The MOU notes that the goal of NRC's engagement is two-fold: (1) to obtain information from DOE and (2) to collaborate to help ensure the program's research address the key safety issues associated with licensing. We are committed to working with the NRC on both of those fronts.



The Office of Nuclear Energy's accident tolerant fuel program commends the NRC for taking this important step in issuing the draft project plan. We look forward to continuing to work closely to refine and implement the plan going forward. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank J. Goldnes for W.M." The signature is written in a cursive style.

William McCaughey
Acting Director
Office of Advanced Fuels Technologies
Office of Nuclear Energy
U.S. Department of Energy