UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 8, 2018

Mr. Steven A. Arndt, Chair
American Nuclear Society Standards Board
555 North Kensington Avenue
La Grange Park, Illinois 60526-5592

SUBJECT: NRC RESPONSE TO ANS LETTER OF NOTIFICATION OF ANSI APPROVED STANDARDS FOR NRC REVIEW AND POTENTIAL ENDORSEMENT

Dear Mr. Arndt:

In a letter dated July 24, 2018 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML18299A061), the American Nuclear Society (ANS), a standards development organization under the auspices of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), provided copies of ANS standards recently approved by ANSI, and requested that these standards be reviewed by the NRC staff and considered for endorsement.

The staff completed a preliminary review of the recently approved standards for endorsement, reference, or use in its regulatory guidance. The staff's determination for each standard is listed below.

- New standard ANSI/ANS-2.6-2018, "Guidelines for Estimating Present & Projecting Future Population Distributions," provides guidance for suitable procedures to develop estimates and forecasts of human population distribution around commercial and government-owned nuclear facility sites. The staff reviewed the new standard ANSI/ANS-2.6-2018 and referenced it in revision 3 of Regulatory Guide (RG) 4.2, "Preparation of Environmental Reports for Nuclear Power Stations." Revision 3 of RG 4.2 was issued on September 18, 2018.

- ANSI/ANS-2.10-2017, "Criteria for Retrieval, Processing, Handling, and Storage of Records from Nuclear Facility Seismic Instrumentation," is a revision of ANSI/ANS-2.10-2003. It provides criteria for the timely retrieval and the subsequent processing, handling, and storage of data obtained from nuclear power plant and non-power nuclear facility strong-motion analog and digital seismic instrumentation. ANSI/ANS-2.10-2003 is not currently endorsed in RGs or other NRC regulatory guidance. However, this revision of ANSI/ANS-2.10 will be endorsed in a near-term revision to RG 1.166, "Pre-Earthquake Planning, Shutdown and Restart of a Nuclear Power Plant Following a Seismic Event."

- ANSI/ANS-8.24-2017, "Validation of Neutron Transport Methods for Nuclear Criticality Safety Calculations," is a revision of ANSI/ANS-8.24-2007. It provides requirements and recommendations for validation, including establishing applicability, of neutron transport calculational methods used in determining critical or subcritical conditions for nuclear criticality safety analyses. A previous version of the standard was endorsed in RG 3.71, "Nuclear Criticality Safety Standards for Fuels and Material Facilities," with some exceptions. The NRC staff reviewed and endorsed this revision of ANSI/ANS-8.24 in Revision 3 of RG 3.71. Revision 3 of RG 3.71 was issued on October 10, 2018.

- ANSI/ANS-57.3-2018, “Design Requirements for New Fuel Storage Facilities at Light Water Reactor Plants,” is a revision of historical standard ANSI/ANS-57.3-1983 (W1993). This standard defines the required functions of dry storage facilities for new fuel at light water reactor nuclear power plants. The staff has determined that the current NRC-developed regulations and guidance are sufficient for their intended purpose and does not plan to issue new or revised guidance based on the information contained in this standard. However, in the future the NRC may decide to endorse or reference the standard based on its regulatory needs.

The NRC considers consensus standards prepared by standards development organizations when developing its regulation and guidance, consistent with the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA). In general, the NRC considers the standards in lieu of either: (i) NRC-developed regulations (government-unique standards under the NTTAA), or (ii) NRC-developed guidance (such as regulatory guides) as an acceptable approach for meeting NRC regulatory requirements.

Thank you for your interest in developing consensus standards that support ongoing NRC activities. We will continue to work with ANS to support development and use of these standards in the future.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Brian E. Thomas
NRC Standards Executive
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

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cc:
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