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Criteria to Return Retired Nuclear Power Reactors to Operations

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Criteria to Return Retired Nuclear Power Reactors to Operations

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Submitter Information

Name: William Kutcher

Address: Georgia

General Comment

I support the proposed ruling for grandfathering targeted retired nuclear plants under the licensing regulations that were relevant at the time of the plant's last operations. Nuclear power is a much cleaner energy source than natural gas and coal which would provide for a better known and sustainable energy source as other contemporary sources develop. Mercy in scope, I think there needs to be a close measure maybe on a case by case scenario to what the differences in regulation would be allowable.

It is unfortunate for the recent decline in nuclear energy as a source of electricity due to the cost competitiveness of lower-cost less-sustainable sources. That said, I believe there is a lot of interest in the nuclear energy space, including the \$25B investment in the ITER program in France to create a sustainable energy source through fusion by 2035 (Bloomberg, Nuclear Fusion by Jonathon Tirone). While nuclear fusion efforts are large and certainly different than nuclear fission, there is a need to tip start tipping the scale away from traditional fossil fuels.

By allowing the opportunity for retired sites to operate under previous-approved regulations of the prior license, would provide a refreshed opportunity for dormant sites amid a climate of

investment in this space. Repurposing an old site is certainly more cost-effective than building a new site and would give investors a leg up on trying to compete against alternative and less sustainable energy sources.