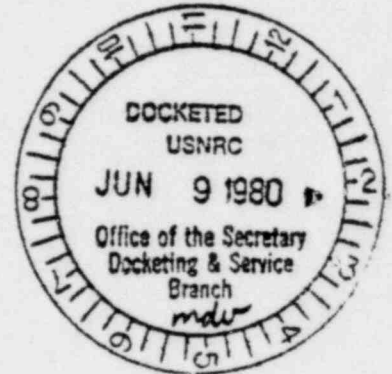


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June 3, 1980



PROPOSED RULE

PR-51 (4)  
(45 FR 24168)

Secretary of the Commission  
Docketing and Service Section  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are our comments on the proposed rule change to 10CFR51 regarding alternative site reviews as noticed in the April 9, 1980 Federal Register.

We appreciate having been given the opportunity to comment.

Yours very truly,

J. S. Loomis, Head  
Nuclear Safeguards &  
Licensing Division

JSL:MEJ:ep  
Enclosure  
Copies:  
R. F. Janecek (1/1)  
G. P. Wagner (1/1)  
NSLD File: 1B-4 (1/1)

ACKNOWLEDGED BY CARD 6/9/80 mdv...

L-4-1 PR. 51

Sargent & Lundy Comments on Proposed Alternative  
Site Review Regulations as Noticed in the April 9,  
1980 Federal Register

General

1. The proposed regulations concerning alternative site reviews should be coordinated with the March 3, 1980, proposed regulations concerning environmental impact statements. This coordination should cover simple clerical matters such as the correct lettering of appendices (the March 3, 1980 proposal includes an Appendix A to 10 CFR 51 and the April 9, 1980 proposal includes a different Appendix A to 10 CFR 51; one should be designated Appendix B). But more importantly, there should be substantive coordination. For example, Section 51.71, "Draft Environmental Impact Statement - Content," of the March 3, 1980, proposal should be revised to clearly state that alternative sites do not have to be considered if an early alternative site review has been conducted in accordance with the April 9, 1980, proposal.

We believe that the subject matter of these proposed regulations is so interrelated that they should be coordinated and repropose as a single package.

2. To avoid unnecessary controversy and focus alternative site reviews in the most efficient manner possible, safety issues should not be included in the environmental evaluation of alternative sites. We favor Option 1 on page 24169.

Specific

1. Section VI.4 of Appendix A should require that a party proposing additional sites defend the Region of Interest in which those sites are located in the manner described in Section V, unless the Region of Interest is the same as that used by the applicant.
2. Section VIII.1 of Appendix A should define the "new information" required to reopen the alternative site decision as new information relating to the proposed site, i.e., not the existence of a new site proposed by an intervenor.