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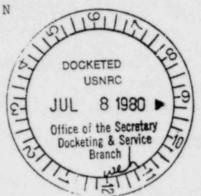
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

ENERGY DIVISION

PROPOSED RULE PR Mise Notices

Reg suide

June 20, 1980



Secretary of the Commission U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555

Attention: Docketing and Service Branch

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Energy Division of the Office of Policy and Management has reviewed the draft regulatory guide, "Instruction Concerning Risk from Occupational Radiation Exposure."

We have no technical comments on the subject matter of this document. However, we support the need for such instruction. Perceived risks of radiation exposure are often based on unreliable information: those who work in the industry should be informed of immediate and potential dangers, the level of risk they can expect to encounter, and precautions they should take in their work to avoid unnecessary exposures.

It would be useful to increase the general level of public understanding of this issue as well.

Because the overall level of occupational exposure is low, correlations of cause and effect are more difficult. At the same time, the existence of documented cause-effect relationships or lack thereof would be very important for enhancing public acceptance of nuclear power and for assuring workers of their realistic risks. Under these circumstances, records of exposure and follow-up is very important.

Implementation of this program should proceed without delay.

Yours very truly,

Thomas H. Fitzpatrick Undersecretary for Energy

THF: PMS: 1md

cc: Art Heubner, DEP, Office of Radiologic Safety

Acknowledged by card 7-8-80

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