



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

November 24, 1980

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 DISTRICT OFFICE
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Docket No. 50-348
 Plant Name: Joseph M. Farley Unit No. 1

TO ALL POWER REACTOR LICENSEES WITH PLANTS
 LICENSED PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 1979

The Commission published on November 19, 1980 (45 FR 76602), a revised Section 10 CFR 50.48 and a new Appendix R to 10 CFR 50 regarding fire protection features of nuclear power plants. The revised Section 50.48 and Appendix R will become effective February 17, 1981, which is 90 days after publication. A copy of the Federal Register Notice is enclosed (Enclosure 1).

The provisions of Appendix R that are applicable to the fire protection features of your facility can be divided into two categories. The first category consists of those provisions of the Appendix that are required to be backfit in their entirety by the new rule, regardless of whether or not alternatives to the specific requirements of these Sections have been previously approved by the NRC staff. These requirements are set forth in Sections III-G, Fire Protection of Safe Shutdown Capability; III-J, Emergency Lighting; and III-O, Oil Collection Systems for Reactor Coolant Pump. The fire protection features of your facility must satisfy the specific requirements of these three Sections by the dates established by Paragraph 50.48(c), unless an exemption from the Appendix R requirements is approved by the Commission. You should note the provisions for tolling the time for completing the modifications required by these three Sections of Appendix R set forth in Paragraph 50.48(c)(6).

The second category of Appendix R provisions applicable to the fire protection features of your facility consists of requirements concerning the "open" items of previous NRC staff fire protection reviews of your facility. An open item is defined as a fire protection feature that has not been previously approved by the NRC staff as satisfying the provisions of Appendix A to Branch Technical Position BTP PCSB 9.5-1, as reflected in a staff fire protection safety evaluation report. The fire protection features of your facility that are in this category must satisfy the specific requirements of Appendix R by the dates established by Paragraph 50.48(c), unless an exemption from the Appendix R requirements on those features is approved by the Commission.

Enclosure 2 is a summary listing of the open items concerning the fire protection features of your facility based on a review of our records. Also included is our position on the specific requirements that must be satisfied in order to resolve these open items. If you have any questions or disagreements with this enclosure, please advise us within 30 days of your receipt of this letter.


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With regard to the fire protection modifications that have been previously approved by the NRC staff, Paragraph 50.48(d) specifies a new schedule for their completion. This paragraph, when it becomes effective, will supersede the currently effective section of the regulations that temporarily suspends completion dates for previously approved fire protection modifications that are given in facility license conditions (45 FR 71569, October 29, 1980). The Commission expects that all such modifications will be completed in accordance with this new schedule, unless an extension has been requested and granted by the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation [see Paragraph 50.48(d)], or an exemption has been requested and granted by the Commission pursuant to Section 50.12 of the Commission's regulations.

If you have previously requested extensions of dates for completion of modifications that are required by license conditions for your facility which were not approved, and you have determined that these extensions are still necessary and justifiable, it will be necessary for you to reapply for any such extensions in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 50.48(d).

All requests for Commission action resulting from this rule are subject to the schedule of fees specified in 10 CFR 170.21. If you have any questions concerning the subject matters of this letter, please contact the NRC Project Manager for your facility.

Sincerely,


Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director
Division of Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

1. Notice - Fire Protection Rule
2. Summary of Staff Requirements to Resolve Open Items

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

SUMMARY OF STAFF REQUIREMENTS
TO RESOLVE OPEN ITEMS
J. M. FARLEY, UNIT 1
DOCKET NO. 50-348

Alternate Shutdown System

In the Fire Protection Safety Evaluation Report (paragraph IV.A) it was our concern that in several areas redundant systems could be damaged by a single fire, thus the possibility of affecting safe shutdown.

The licensee has not demonstrated that adequate protection features have been provided for cables and equipment of redundant systems important to achieving safe shutdown conditions to ensure that at least one means of achieving such conditions survives postulated fires.

To meet our fire protection guidelines, alternate shutdown capability should be provided when safe shutdown cannot be ensured by barriers and detection and suppression systems because of the exposure of redundant safe shutdown equipment, cabling, or components in a single fire area, to an exposure fire, or fire suppression activities, or rupture or inadequate operation of fire suppression systems.

To meet Section III, Paragraph G of the Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50, the licensee should provide an alternate shutdown capability for the following areas of the plant:

1. Control Room
2. Cable Spreading Room

The alternate shutdown systems should meet the requirements of Section III, Paragraph L of Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50.




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November 25, 1980

TO ALL POWER REACTOR LICENSEES WITH PLANTS
LICENSED PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 1979

The Federal Register Notice enclosed with my letter dated November 24, 1980 has a typographical error in the effective date. The effective date should be February 17, 1981. A correction will be published in the Federal Register in the near future.

for 
Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director
Division of Licensing

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