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B&W NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES

DOCKET NUMBER PR 2
PROPOSED RULE

(54 FR 50610)

DOCKETED
USNRC

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February 5, 1990
JHT/90-14

90 FEB -6 A11324
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OFFICE OF SECRETARY
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BRANCH

Mr. Samuel J. Chilk
Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Docketing and Service Branch

Subject: 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C Policy and Procedures
for Enforcement Actions; Policy Statement
(54 Fed. Reg. 50610 - December 8, 1989)

Dear Mr. Chilk:

B&W Nuclear Technologies hereby submits comments on the subject policy change.

B&W Nuclear Technologies endorses sound actions to further improve maintenance activities on U.S. nuclear plants. We seriously question, however, that the proposed maintenance-related change in the Commission's Enforcement Policy will contribute to maintenance improvements. In fact, the recent rate of improvement may actually decrease if this change is promulgated.

An Enforcement Policy which is based on a forced connection of unrelated activities is wrong. Such a policy is quite likely to dilute corrective actions on both the primary activities which were the original bases for an enforcement action and desirable improvements in a utility's maintenance program.

Existing regulation and enforcement practices are clearly adequate when focused on the consequences of any given event. These current practices directly focus attention on specific problem areas including maintenance.

Because safety and performance improvements are likely to be slower or less effective and because current enforcement practices are quite adequate, B&W Nuclear Technologies recommends that the proposed change not be implemented in its current form.


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Mr. S. J. Chilk
JHT/90-14
February 5, 1990
Page 2

In addition to the above comments, B&W Nuclear Technologies endorses the comments presented by NUMARC in their February 6, 1990 letter dealing with the same subject.

Very truly yours,


J. H. Taylor, Manager
Licensing Services

JHT/bcc

cc: J. F. Colvin/NUMARC
W. J. Smith/NUMARC
C. W. Pryor
J. R. Bohart

U S NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION