



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

March 31, 1981



COMMISSION
CORRESPONDENCE

The Honorable Bill Chappell, Jr.
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Chappell:

This is in response to your letter dated March 3, 1981 regarding inclusion of Offshore Power Systems manufacturing license application in the Commission's proposed rule defining Three Mile Island accident related requirements for pending construction permit and manufacturing license applications.

The Commission has made no decision at this time on whether Offshore Power Systems manufacturing license application should be included in the proposed rule. The issue here is a technical and policy one -- whether the proposed rule's requirements for the capacity of reactor containments to withstand the effects of accident-generated hydrogen gas are sufficient when applied to floating nuclear power plants with relatively small containment volumes and design pressures. The Commission has decided to ask public comment on the current version of the proposed rule and to seek specific comment in the notice of proposed rulemaking on the inclusion of Offshore Power Systems application within the rule. Enclosed for your information is a copy of the proposed rulemaking.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Hendrie

Enclosure: As stated

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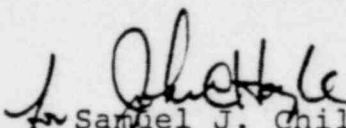
UNITED STATES
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March 18, 1981

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

To: Counsel to Parties in NRC Proceedings and Other Interested
Persons

The NRC has sent to the Federal Register for publication the enclosed proposed amendments to the Commission's Rules of Practice, 10 CFR Part 50. These amendments, if adopted, would add a set of licensing requirements applicable only to construction permit and manufacturing license applications pending at the effective date of the rule. Each applicant covered by the rule would have to meet these requirements, together with the existing regulations, in order to obtain a permit or license. The Commission would like your comments on the proposed rules by April 13. We are particularly interested in your views on whether the rule should be applied to the pending manufacturing license applications.


for Samuel J. Chilk
Secretary of the Commission

Enclosure:
Proposed Amendments

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8104210200*

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

10 CFR Part 50

Licensing Requirements for Pending Construction
Permit and Manufacturing License Applications

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is proposing to add to its power reactor safety regulations a set of licensing requirements applicable only to construction permit and manufacturing license applications pending at the effective date of the rule. The requirements stem from the Commission's ongoing effort to apply the lessons learned from the accident at Three Mile Island to power plant licensing. Each applicant covered by the rule would have to meet these requirements, together with the existing regulations, in order to obtain a permit or license. Comments are particularly sought on whether the rule should be applied to the pending manufacturing license application.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 13, 1981.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Branch.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert A. Purple, Deputy Director, Division of Licensing, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555. Telephone: 301-492-7990.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background of the Rulemaking

DUPLICATE

The events leading up to the issuance of this proposed rule were discussed

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