



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

DEC 17 1981

Enclosure 3
Action
Luz-Walt

Will go w/agenda
for 1/7/82 Cris Mtg.

MEMORANDUM FOR: Victor Stello, Jr.
Deputy Executive Director
Regional Operations and Generic Requirements

FROM: Guy A. Arlotto, Director
Division of Engineering Technology
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: EQUIPMENT QUALIFICATION RULEMAKING

With reference to your memorandum dated December 10, 1981, it has been mutually agreed with NRR that they will take the lead in briefing you on January 7, 1982, on the overall program in the area of equipment qualification.

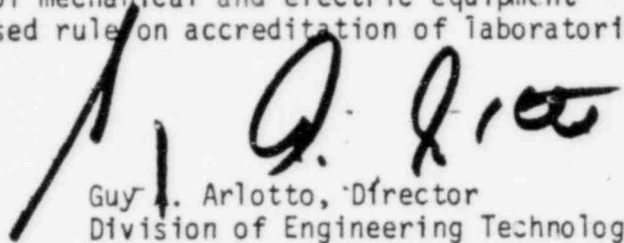
As you are aware, the proposed rule, "Environmental Qualification of Electric Equipment for Nuclear Power Plants," SECY 81-603, was discussed with the Commission on November 10, 1981, and is scheduled for affirmation on December 22, 1981. (As of December 17, 1981, three Commissioners have voted "affirmative" on the rule.) Included in the rule is the extension date for the completion of qualification. The final rule must, therefore, be effective prior to June 1982 in order to preclude licensees from pointlessly being in violation of the completion date stated in the Memorandum and Order. We are, therefore, working on an extremely tight schedule and under specific direction from the Commission to expedite its publication. For these reasons, we do not propose bringing the proposed rule before the Committee for Review of Generic Requirements (CRGR) for review. I understand that Mr. Aggarwal has discussed the approach with you, and more recently with Dr. Murphy on December 14, 1981, and that it is acceptable.

During your personal detailed review of the proposed rule, you had concluded that this rule codifies existing requirements and imposes no new costs or obligations on utilities beyond what is covered by the Commission's Memorandum and Order CLI-80-21. If the final rule is not significantly different in terms of backfitting requirements for operating power plants, we do not propose bringing the final rule package (including Regulatory Guide 1.89) before the CRGR.

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During the briefing on January 7, 1982, we will provide information on the other pending rulemaking actions on qualification (ANR on environmental and seismic qualification of mechanical and electric equipment important to safety and the proposed rule on accreditation of laboratories).



Guy A. Arlotto, Director
Division of Engineering Technology
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

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