



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

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Edward L. Jordan, Director
Committee to Review Generic Requirements

FROM: C. J. Heltemes, Jr., Deputy Director
for Generic Issues & Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: WAIVER OF CRGR REVIEW OF FINAL REVISION OF 10 CFR PARTS 50
AND 52 RELATED TO THE TRAINING AND QUALIFICATION ON NUCLEAR
POWER PLANT PERSONNEL

Enclosed is a revision of 10 CFR Parts 50 and 52 to be sent to the Commission for review and approval for publication in the Federal Register. The rule will require each applicant for and each holder of a license to operate a nuclear power plant to establish, implement, and maintain a training program for nuclear power personnel based on a systems approach to training (SAT), with the definition of SAT consistent with that contained in 10 CFR 55.4.

On April 17, 1990, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit concluded that the Commission's Policy Statement did not meet the intent of the Congressional directive to create mandatory requirements for personnel training programs at civilian nuclear power plants. In response to the court decision, NRC developed the proposed rule amending 10 CFR Parts 50 and 52. The rule is fully responsive to the Staff Requirements Memoranda (SRM) dated, October 2 and December 24, 1991. The rule meets the directives of Section 306 of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (NWPA), as interpreted by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and will help ensure that qualified personnel operate and maintain the facility in a safe manner in all modes of operation. The rule endorses existing industry programs and the positions covered by the rule are consistent with the scope of the industry's accreditation program.


As part of development of the proposed rule, the CRGR was briefed on February 26, 1991 and on April 12, 1991. Comments provided at the meetings were addressed by the staff in preparation of the proposed rule which was published in the Federal Register on January 7, 1992.

Comments were received from 30 individuals and corporate entities, virtually all of whom are directly involved in the nuclear power industry. The final rule, and its applications as intended by the staff, are essentially unchanged from the proposed rule that was published for public comments. The staff made one minor change to the rule as a result of the comments received. The title of one of nine categories of personnel was changed from "Technical Staff and Managers" to "Engineering Support Personnel." This change was made to maintain a category title listed in the rule consistent with the title of the accredited training program.

Edward L. Jordan

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The staff requests that in light of the above and the Commission's interest in expeditiously completing this rule, the CRGR briefing of this final rule be waived. If, however, after CRGR review of the enclosed package, a briefing is desired, the staff would be pleased to brief the committee at the earliest possible time. Your response by November 24, 1992, will be highly appreciated.


C. L. Heltemes, Jr., Deputy Director
for Generic Issues & Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

Enclosure:
Commission Paper w/encl.