

May 12, 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR: David L. Meyer, Chief
Rules and Procedures Branch
Division of Rules and Records
Office of Administration

FROM: Frank P. Gillespie
Regulatory Review Group, EDO

SUBJECT: FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE

One signed original and five copies of a Federal Register notice identified as follows are enclosed for your transmittal to the Office of the Federal Register for filing and publication as soon as possible.

Regulatory Review Group

Thank you for your assistance.

Original signed by
Frank P. Gillespie

Frank P. Gillespie
Regulatory Review Group, EDO

Enclosures:
As stated

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RETURN TO REGULATORY CONTROL ROOM

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Regulatory Review Group

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Publication of The Regulatory Review Groups Report to the Executive Director for Operations for Comment.


SUMMARY: On January 4, 1993, the Executive Director for Operations established a Regulatory Review Group. The Group has conducted a comprehensive and disciplined review of power reactor regulations and related processes, programs, and practices with special attention placed on the feasibility of substituting performance based requirements and guidance founded on risk insights for prescriptive requirements and guidance. The recommendations of the Group and a summary of the basis for those recommendations are contained in a report to be made available on May 28, 1993. The comment period will end June 29, 1993 in order to allow the final report with comments to be provided to the Executive Director for Operations by July 15, 1993. The report is in four sections: (1) a brief summary and list of recommendations, (2) a detailed analysis of regulations and processes, (3) an analysis of four licenses and process, and (4) potential applications of risk analysis approaches within the regulatory structure beyond current usage.

The overall intent of the Group was to identify where increased flexibility could be made available to licensees with little or no direct safety impact. The Group believes enhanced safety would result from the elimination of irrelevant items and their inherent cost allowing management attention to focus on safety relevant problems. While the group was in a position to address flexibility in a regulatory context, the current or future value of that flexibility is clearly a utility decision. Comments are, therefore, requested on the report which address the value or potential value of the specific recommendations either in absolute or relative terms. In addressing the value, we ask also that the regulatory method and time for implementation be considered and discussed. In those areas where the commentor disagrees with a recommendation in total or in part comments would be appreciated in at least as much detail as is provided in the report so that changes and corrections in the supporting material can also be evaluated.

A public meeting is planned for June 15, 1993 to answer questions and receive comments on the report. The meeting will take place in Room 1F-7/9 at 2:00 p.m., at the NRC headquarters building located at 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD. Copies of the referenced material are available for inspection and/or copying for a fee in the NRC Public Document Room, 2102 L Street, N.W. (Lower Level), Washington, DC.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 12th day of May, 1993.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission


Frank P. Gillespie, RRG