

PDR



CHAIRMAN

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

July 29, 1982

DESIGNATED ORIGINAL

Certified By AD

Mr. Carl Walske, President
Atomic Industrial Forum, Inc.
7101 Wisconsin Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20014

Dear Mr. Walske:

This is in response to your letter of June 2, 1982 which proposes that we extend current Preliminary Design Approvals (PDAs) for nuclear power plant designs until such time as these PDAs are reactivated under new guidelines. The Commission is reviewing a proposed statement of policy on severe accidents and related matters that addresses design approvals for standard plants. It would provide an updating of our previous policy statement on standard plants.

The last Commission policy statement on standardization was issued in August 1978. Since that time there have been numerous developments, one of which was the Construction Permit/Manufacturing License Rule that we issued on January 15, 1982 (47 FR 2286). It embodies the requirements for new Construction Permits (CPs) that we developed as a result of the accident at Three Mile Island. The NRC staff's proposed policy statement on severe accidents that is now under review by the Commission would require that all new CPs, standard designs or not, would have to meet the new CP rule. It would also require that new applications address the revised Standard Review Plan and the applicable Unresolved Safety Issues as well as provide a probabilistic risk assessment.

If a new application were to reference a previously approved PDA before we take action on this policy statement, we would be willing to review it on a case-by-case basis with due consideration of the requirements for new standardized design approvals contained in the staff's proposed policy statement.

I continue to believe that standardization of nuclear power plant designs is a vital component of a viable nuclear power plant program. We will welcome any additional views you may have on this matter.

Sincerely,

Nunzio J. Palladino

8206200097

XA