



OFFICE OF THE  
COMMISSIONER

UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555  
November 30, 1990

*Common. Curtis*  
*JRC*  
*JRG*  
*KAC*  
*file*

MEMORANDUM FOR: James M. Taylor  
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Kenneth C. Rogers *KCR*

SUBJECT: STANDARD FOR LEVEL OF DESIGN DETAIL REQUIRED  
FOR DESIGN CERTIFICATION

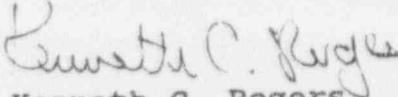
The staff has done a commendable job in SECY-90-377, Requirements for Design Certification Under 10 CFR Part 52, in establishing a proposed policy for implementing the requirements of Part 52, including the Level of Detail required for Design Certification and Application for COL issuance. It is my opinion that the Commission's interest in encouraging plant standardization has led the the staff to increase scope and level of detail of design documentation deemed necessary by the staff to make its safety determination.

Absent in SECY-90-377 is an articulation of the process and criteria by which the staff has established the information that is both necessary and sufficient to make this safety determination. I wish to understand the staff's reasoning process and the existing guidance the staff proposes to rely upon in making the safety determination necessary for design certification. In the Commission briefing on December 7, 1990, I intend to question the staff on the decision process and the guidance presently available.

Would you please inform the staff of my interest and intent. I assume that existing guidance would include such documentation as the Standard Review Plan, resolution of Unresolved Safety Issues and medium and high-priority Generic safety Issues, the experience gained with implementation of 10 CFR Part 50 Appendix O, and Integrated Design Inspections for existing plants.

*KCR*  
DEC 10/30 PM 4:13

SECY, please track.

  
Kenneth C. Rogers  
Commissioner

cc: Chairman Carr  
Commissioner Curtiss  
Commissioner Remick  
SECY  
OGC