



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

July 6, 1992

U.9 E S JRC
FRG
Rest
File

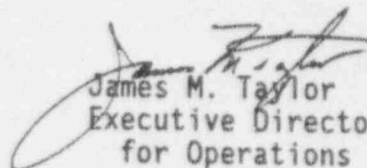
MEMORANDUM FOR: The Chairman
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Curtiss
Commissioner Remick
Commissioner de Planque

FROM: James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT TO FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE ON REVISION OF
10 CFR PART 100, REACTOR SITE CRITERIA

At the Commission briefing of June 24, 1992, on the proposed revision of the reactor site criteria, 10 CFR Part 100, I indicated that the background section of the Federal Register notice on the proposed revision would be amended to reflect the fact that the Congress directed the NRC, in the 1980 Authorization Act, to decouple reactor siting from design and to specify demographic criteria for siting.

Enclosed is a revised background page with the additional words highlighted. This revision, plus any changes arising via the staff requirements memorandum, will also be incorporated.


James M. Taylor
Executive Director
for Operations

Enclosure: As stated

cc: SECY
OGC

9408160103 940629
PDR COMMS NRCC
CORRESPONDENCE PDR

07 JUL 7 2015

I. Background

The present regulation regarding reactor site criteria (10 CFR Part 100) was promulgated April 12, 1962 (27 FR 3509). Staff guidance on exclusion area and low population zone sizes as well as population density was issued in Regulatory Guide 4.7, "General Site Suitability Criteria for Nuclear Power Stations," published for comment in September 1974. Revision 1 to this guide was issued in November 1975. On June 1, 1976, the Public Interest Research Group (PIRG) filed a petition for rulemaking (PRM-100-2) requesting that the NRC incorporate minimum exclusion area and low population zone distances and population density limits into the regulations. On April 28, 1977, Free Environment, Inc. et. al., filed a petition for rulemaking (PRM-50-20) requesting, among other things, that the central Iowa nuclear project and other reactors be sited at least 40 miles from major population centers. In August 1978, the Commission directed the NRC staff to develop a general policy statement on nuclear power reactor siting. The "Report of the Siting Policy Task Force" (NUREG-0625) was issued in August 1979 and provided recommendations regarding siting of future nuclear power reactors. In the 1980 Authorization Act for the NRC, the Congress directed the NRC to decouple siting from design and to specify demographic criteria for siting. On July 29, 1980 (45 FR 50350), the NRC issued an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) regarding revision of the reactor site criteria, which discussed the recommendations of the Siting Policy Task Force and sought public comments. The proposed rulemaking was deferred by the Commission in December 1981 to await development of a Safety Goal and improved research on accident source terms. On August 4, 1986 (51 FR 23044), the NRC issued its Policy Statement on Safety Goals that stated quantitative health objectives with regard to both prompt and latent cancer fatality risks. On December 14, 1988 (53 FR 50232), the NRC denied PRM-100-2 on the basis that it would unnecessarily restrict NRC's regulatory siting policies and would not result in a substantial increase in the overall protection of the public health and safety. Because of possible renewed interest in power reactor siting, the NRC is proceeding with a rulemaking in this area. Because the proposed regulations would include population density criteria for future nuclear power reactor sites, the Commission concludes that the remaining issue in PRM-50-20 has been addressed as part of this rulemaking action.

Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 100, "Seismic and Geologic Siting Criteria for Nuclear Power Plants," was originally issued as a proposed regulation on November 25, 1971 (36 FR 22601), published as a final regulation on November 13, 1973 (38 FR 31279), and became effective on December 13, 1973. There have been two amendments to 10 CFR Part 100, Appendix A. The first amendment, issued November 27, 1973 (38 FR 32575), corrected the final regulation by adding the legend under the diagram. The second amendment resulted from a petition for rulemaking (PRM 100-1) requesting that an opinion be issued that would interpret and clarify Appendix A with respect to the determination of the Safe Shutdown Earthquake. A notice of filing of the petition was published on May 14, 1975 (40 FR 20983). The substance of the petitioner's proposal was accepted and published as an immediately effective final regulation on January 10, 1977 (42 FR 2052).

V9
F

F