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

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Robert Greger, Section Chief Emergency Preparedness & Radiological Safety Branch Region III

FROM: LeMoine J. Cunningham, Section Chief Section 2, Operating Reactor Programs Branch Division of Quality Assurance, Safeguards, and Inspection Programs, IE

SUBJECT: INSPECTION GUIDANCE - 50.72

On October 20, 1983, Paul Lovendale requested clarification of several aspects of the new 50.72 notification requirements. The questions related to the requirement that licensees call in notification of radioactive releases that exceed the specified concentrations. Specifically, the questions were: 1) what meteorological data should be used in determining offsite concentrations? (e.g., annual average, real time or worse case?) and 2) what location should be used? (e.g., unrestricted area as defined by Part 20 or the expanded definition as specified in NUREG-0133?).

In addition, you noted that the revised 50.72 was incorporated into the 10 CFR by Supplement No. 12 issued September 20, 1983, although the rule change is not effective until January 1, 1984. You note that a currently effective version is not in the 10 CFR.

Inspection guidance for operating nuclear power reactors concerning 50.72 is as follows:

- Annual average meteorological data should be used for determining offsite airborne concentrations of radioactivity. This is to maintain consistency with the tech specs.
- The expanded definition of an unrestricted area as specified in NUREG-0133 should be used. This is to maintain consistency with the tech specs.

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3. The lack of a currently effective version of 50.72 in the 10 CFR loose-leaf version is an administrative problem only. Licensees and inspectors should keep the old pages for reference until January 1, 1984. The old version is still the effective rule until January and deviation from those requirements in favor of the new requirements would be a technical violation. However, in such a case, notation in the inspection report without further enforcement action would be the appropriate approach.

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Appropriate NRR, Admin, ELD and IE representatives were consulted during the formulation of this guidance.

Than annen LeMoine J. Cunningham, Section Chief

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