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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
D.C.

SECY-R

For: The Commissioners

Subject: OFFSHORE NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

Purpose: To obtain comments or approval on a proposed mechanism to be utilized in the review of applications related to offshore plants.

Discussion: As you know, the Regulatory staff in the near future will be involved with the detailed safety and environmental reviews associated with the offshore concept. In view of the fact that major interest in the subject has been expressed by Congress as well as by other agencies and authorities and, that many federal agencies will be involved in these offshore plants, it is our proposal that positive measures be taken at this time to establish an efficient and effective means to provide a coordinated federal regulatory effort regarding such applications and at the same time establish the AEC as the lead agency in this effort. CEQ staff has been advised and agrees with this proposal. Included is a list of the departments and agencies to whom we propose to send letters and thereby invite their participation in this interagency effort. In addition, a separate letter of notification to CEQ is provided.

Recommendation: We believe that establishment of the committee discussed in the attached letter would enhance this coordination.

Schedule: For approval or comments on the proposal in general, and the letter in particular by *May 15, 1973.*

(Signed) L. Manning Muntzing

L. Manning Muntzing
Director of Regulation

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Enclosures:

1. Proposed Letter to Corps of Engineers
2. Proposed Letter to Council on Environmental Quality
3. List of Departments & Agencies

FOR PREVIOUS CONCURRENCES SEE ATTACHED YELLOW.
For Distribution See Page 2

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UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

SAMPLE LETTER

Lieutenant General Frederick J. Clarke, USA
Chief of Engineers

Dear General Clarke:

The Atomic Energy Commission is currently involved in regulatory activities associated with the licensing review of offshore nuclear power plants. In response to applications from industry for licenses and permits to manufacture floating nuclear plants, construct the attendant prospective offshore sites, and subsequently operate these offshore nuclear power generating stations, our reviews and evaluations, which encompass both the reactor safety and environmental viewpoints, are to be conducted in the near future.

It is clear that there are statutory requirements and regulatory functions related to the offshore nuclear plant concept which are the responsibility of federal agencies other than the Atomic Energy Commission. Furthermore, we recognize that certain other federal agencies, having special expertise in a variety of areas related to the unique nature of this concept, will also be involved in the licensing process. Consequently, to minimize duplication of effort and provide for an effective and efficient overall federal regulatory process, we believe there is considerable merit in taking steps to enhance the coordination of all federal regulatory activities concerning the licensing review of offshore nuclear power generating plants.

Accordingly, to provide the forum for a coordinated federal licensing process, the formation of an interagency steering committee is suggested. With senior representatives from the various federal agencies, which have regulatory responsibilities and/or other special interests in the offshore concept, constituting its membership, such a working group could provide special focus upon common interagency activities and related policy matters and necessary management implementation within each participating agency. This action would be consistent with the President's objective for efficient processing of federal regulatory responsibilities and with the CEQ guidelines.

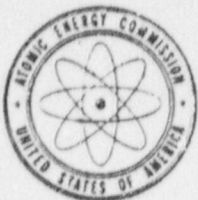
SAMPLE LETTER

In our view, the Corps of Engineers has an important role in this regard, and we would appreciate your participation in the work of such an interagency group. We invite you to appoint an appropriate member as your representative to this committee. We suggest that you consider appointing someone that will be able to implement within your agency any decisions of the steering committee. I have designated Mr. Angelo Giambusso, who is Deputy Director for Reactor Projects of our Regulatory Staff, as the AEC representative to this steering committee and would also propose that he act as chairman of the group. Mr. Giambusso's AEC position allows him active participation in AEC policy-making decisions regarding nuclear plant licensing, and provides him with sufficient authority to implement such decisions.

A response within about three weeks, regarding your views on this matter and the identification of a representative, would be most appreciated. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Giambusso will convene the first meeting for the purpose of developing the detailed scope, function and procedures of the committee.

Sincerely,

Chairman



UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

PROPOSED LETTER

Honorable Russell A. Train, Chairman
Council on Environmental Quality

Dear Mr. Train:

As discussed recently with Mr. William Dircks of your staff, the AEC is proposing measures to establish a coordinated federal regulatory effort regarding the licensing of offshore nuclear power plants. The attached letter, which was sent to the Corps of Engineers, discusses and elaborates on a special interagency steering committee made up of senior representatives of the several federal agencies who have regulatory roles to fulfill and will be involved in the offshore plant concept. Also included is a list of the departments and agencies to whom we have sent similar letters inviting their participation in such a committee.

Recognizing the broad spectrum of representatives participating in this effort, we invite the attendance of your representative at these committee meetings for information purposes as well as possibly providing assistance to agencies in resolving any potential interdepartmental problems. The assistance which could be given by CEQ to the steering committee would be most valuable.

I would appreciate your views on this matter and notification of the CEQ representative. As noted in our letters to the other agencies, Mr. A. Giambusso of our Regulatory staff will be advising the representatives of the administrative details of the first meeting.

Sincerely,

Chairman

Enclosures:

1. Letter to Corps of Engineers
2. List of Departments & Agencies

PROPOSED LETTER

Similar letters to be sent to:

Honorable Robert I. Fri
Acting Administrator, Environmental
Protection Agency
Washington, D. C. 20460

Admiral Chester R. Bender
Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard
Department of Transportation
400 7th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20590

Honorable Alexander P. Butterfield
Administrator, Federal Aviation
Agency
800 Independence Avenue, S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20591

Honorable Dr. Robert M. White
Administrator for National Oceanographic
and Atmospheric Administration
Commerce Building
14th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20510

Honorable Rogers C. B. Morton
Secretary of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Corps of Engineers - sample letter