

WPI WORCESTER
POLYTECHNIC
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PROPOSED RULE
(53 FR 16435)

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Worcester
Massachusetts 01609
(617) 798-5000

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June 1, 1988

OFFICE OF REGULATORY
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

Secretary of the Commission
Attn: Docketing and Service Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

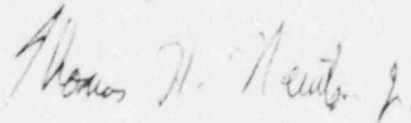
Dear Sir:

I am writing in support of the proposed clarification of 10 CFR 50.47 for emergency planning requirements for low power operation.

Under current rules, it becomes possible for state and local authorities to impede the progress of emergency planning, which is contrary to the intent of the new 10 CFR 50.47(e), approved last year by the Commission. A prime example of this is the removal of Seabrook Station siren systems by some public officials in Massachusetts, which is certainly not in the interest of public safety.

I hope that this rule will help shift attention from issues which allow local officials to overstep their authority and allow politics to prevail over technical issues of plant safety, where the attention belongs.

Sincerely,



Thomas H. Newton, Jr.
Director
Nuclear Reactor Facility

THN/ns

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