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PROPOSED RULE
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United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Secretary of the Commission
Washington, DC 20555

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

Attention: Docketing and Service Branch

Dear Sir:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission proposed on May 9, 1988 to amend its regulations to establish more clearly what emergency planning and preparedness requirements are needed for fuel loading and initial low power operation at nuclear power plants. I strongly support the NRC's proposed rule which would clarify these requirements.

As officials most knowledgeable of nuclear power and responsible for the health and safety of the public, I would encourage you to not allow nuclear power opponents or self-serving public officials stop your efforts in clarifying and eliminating the ambiguities of the present requirements for low power operation.

I believe that the NRC has thoroughly evaluated the risks associated with low power operation, and has concluded that operation at low power poses little, if any, risk to the public located outside the plant. The NRC should make a decision on this proposed rule based on that knowledge and the fact that U.S. nuclear power plants are very conservatively designed, built, and operated.

I encourage the Commission to expeditiously rule in favor of this proposed rule and to evaluate other requirements which may also be clarified to help expedite the Commission's licensing process.

Sincerely yours,

Catherine M. Bennett
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