

**POLICY ISSUE**  
**NOTATION VOTE**

**RESPONSE SHEET**

**TO:** Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary  
**FROM:** Chairman Hanson  
**SUBJECT:** SECY-20-0109: Petition for Rulemaking and Rulemaking Plan on Immediate Notification Requirements for Nonemergency Events

Approved  X  Disapproved  X  Abstain       Not Participating      

**COMMENTS:** Below       Attached  X  None      

**Entered in STARS**

Yes    ✓   

No      

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**Signature**  
Christopher T. Hanson

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**Date** **07/20/2021**

Chairman Hanson's Comments on SECY-20-0109, "Petition for Rulemaking and Rulemaking Plan on Immediate Notification Requirements for Nonemergency Events"

In this paper, the staff recommends addressing PRM-50-116 through rulemaking and evaluating the current regulatory framework for immediately notifying nonemergency events at operating nuclear power plants. I reviewed the staff's evaluation and agree that we can benefit from a systematic analysis of the current requirements and guidance considering the public comments received on the petition, accumulated operating data and technology advances over the last two decades. Such effort may identify changes that could benefit both the NRC and licensees by further aligning the requirements with safety and risk-significance and improving the efficiency of the reporting process without adversely affecting our safety and security mission.

As the staff notes in the paper, shifting the notification burden to resident inspectors could distract their focus from providing effective oversight. Therefore, changes that add duties to resident inspectors should not be pursued.

Proceeding with rulemaking would allow the staff to commit resources to thoroughly assess alternatives, benefits, costs, and stakeholder feedback on safety and openness concerns, and describe this information in a regulatory basis document. If the staff determines at any point that the costs are not justified by the benefits or that the rulemaking would unacceptably degrade the NRC's situational awareness, then it should be discontinued. The regulatory basis document should be provided to the Commission for its information no later than 10 business days prior to its transmittal for publication.

I encourage exploring innovative ways to enhance our regulatory approaches based on data and technology while maintaining our safety and security mission. Therefore, I approve the staff's recommendation to initiate a rulemaking to evaluate the immediate notification requirements for nonemergency events in 10 CFR 50.72. I also approve closure of the docket for PRM-50-116, publication of the Federal Register notice announcing the NRC's consideration of the PRM, and issuance of the letter informing the petitioner of this action.

At this time, I disapprove the staff's plan to not conduct the Committee to Review Generic Requirements review of this activity as I find the determination to be premature given the details of the proposed framework are still uncertain.