

**CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE SYSTEM
DOCUMENT PREPARATION CHECKLIST**

This check list is to be submitted with each document (or group of Qs/As) sent for processing into the CCS.

1. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT(S) Don. James Inhofe
2. TYPE OF DOCUMENT CORRESPONDENCE HEARINGS (Qs/As)
3. DOCUMENT CONTROL SENSITIVE (NRC ONLY) NON-SENSITIVE
4. CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEE (if applicable)
_____ Congressional Committee
_____ Subcommittee
5. SUBJECT CODES
(A) _____
(B) _____
(C) _____
6. SOURCE OF DOCUMENTS
(A) _____ 5520 (DOCUMENT NAME _____)
(B) _____ SCAN (C) _____ ATTACHMENTS
(D) _____ OTHER _____
7. SYSTEM LOG DATES
(A) 11/23/99 DATA OCA SENT DOCUMENT TO CCS
(B) _____ DATE CCS RECEIVED DOCUMENT
(C) _____ DATE RETURNED TO OCA FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
(D) _____ DATE RESUBMITTED BY OCA TO CCS
(E) _____ DATE ENTERED INTO CCS BY _____
(F) _____ DATE OCA NOTIFIED THAT DOCUMENT IS IN CCS

COMMENTS:

RELEASE TO PDR

See Cont'd



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 23, 1999

The Honorable James M. Inhofe, Chairman
Subcommittee on Clean Air, Wetlands, Private
Property and Nuclear Safety
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for the information of the Subcommittee are copies of a notice of a final rule amending § 50.55a of 10 CFR Part 50 which will incorporate by reference national codes and standards for the construction, inservice inspection, and inservice testing of nuclear power plant components. The use of these voluntary standards by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is consistent with policies established by the "National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995," and OMB Circular A-119, "Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Standards," to use the latest edition of a standard and achieve the most effective use of agency resources.

This section of the regulations incorporates by reference Section III, "Rules for Construction of Nuclear Power Components," and Section XI, "Rules for Inservice Inspection of Nuclear Power Components," of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME BPV Code); and the ASME Code for Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants (ASME OM Code). This final action by the NRC will update these regulations by endorsing the 1989 Addenda through the 1996 Addenda of the ASME BPV Code, and the 1995 Edition with the 1996 Addenda of the ASME OM Code. In addition, the NRC will incorporate by reference Mandatory Appendix VIII, "Performance Demonstration for Ultrasonic Examination Systems," which was first published in the 1989 Addenda of Section XI of the ASME Code. The provisions contained in Appendix VIII are a result of an industry initiative to increase the effectiveness of ultrasonic testing.

This final rule continues the NRC process of reviewing and, as appropriate, endorsing ASME Code rules for the construction, inservice inspection, and inservice testing of components. The Nuclear Industry is continually developing new and improved methods and procedures to provide increased assurance of component integrity and operational readiness. Further, the industry continually provides important clarifications to already existing requirements. Thus, the adoption of these later editions and addenda will provide an increased level of safety.

In view of the routine nature of the amendment, we do not consider that a public announcement is warranted.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Dennis K. Rathbun in black ink.

Dennis K. Rathbun, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Attachment:
Federal Register Notice

cc: Senator Bob Graham



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 23, 1999

The Honorable Joe L. Barton, Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Power
Committee on Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for the information of the Subcommittee are copies of a notice of a final rule amending § 50.55a of 10 CFR Part 50 which will incorporate by reference national codes and standards for the construction, inservice inspection, and inservice testing of nuclear power plant components. The use of these voluntary standards by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is consistent with policies established by the "National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995," and OMB Circular A-119, "Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Standards," to use the latest edition of a standard and achieve the most effective use of agency resources.

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In view of the routine nature of the amendment, we do not consider that a public announcement is warranted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dennis K. Rathbun".

Dennis K. Rathbun, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Attachment:
Federal Register Notice

cc: Representative Ralph M. Hall



24722

Submission of Federal Rules Under the Congressional Review Act

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

GAO

Please fill the circles electronically or with black pen or #2 pencil.

1. Name of Department or Agency

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

2. Subdivision or Office

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

3. Rule Title

Industry Codes and Standards; Amended Requirements

4. Regulation Identifier Number (RIN) or Other Unique Identifier (if applicable)

RIN 3150-AE26

5. Major Rule Non-major Rule

6. Final Rule Other

7. With respect to this rule, did your agency solicit public comments?

Yes No N/A

8. Priority of Regulation (fill in one)

Economically Significant; or
Significant; or
Substantive, Nonsignificant

Routine and Frequent or
Informational/Administrative/Other
(Do not complete the other side of this form
if filled in above.)

9. Effective Date (if applicable) Sixty days after publication in the Federal Register

10. Concise Summary of Rule (fill in one or both)

attached stated in rule

Submitted by: D. K. Rathbun (signature)

Name: Dennis K. Rathbun

Title: Director, Office of Congressional Affairs

9/23/99

For Congressional Use Only:

Date Received: _____

Committee of Jurisdiction: _____



24722

	Yes	No	N/A
A. With respect to this rule, did your agency prepare an analysis of costs and benefits?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
B. With respect to this rule, by the final rulemaking stage, did your agency			
1. certify that the rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under 5 U.S.C. § 605(b)?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. prepare a final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis under 5 U.S.C. § 604(a)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
C. With respect to this rule, did your agency prepare a written statement under § 202 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
D. With respect to this rule, did your agency prepare an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
E. Does this rule contain a collection of information requiring OMB approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
F. Did you discuss any of the following in the preamble to the rule?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• E.O. 12612, Federalism	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• E.O. 12630, Government Actions and Interference with Constitutionally Protected Property Rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• E.O. 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• E.O. 12875, Enhancing the Intergovernmental Partnership	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• E.O. 12988, Civil Justice Reform	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• E.O. 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Other statutes or executive orders discussed in the preamble concerning the rulemaking process (please specify)			
Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996			
National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995			
Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations			



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8. Priority of Regulation (fill in one)
 Economically Significant; or Significant; or Substantive, Nonsignificant
 Routine and Frequent or Informational/Administrative/Other (Do not complete the other side of this form if filled in above.)

9. Effective Date (if applicable) Sixty days after publication in the Federal Register

10. Concise Summary of Rule (fill in one or both) attached stated in rule

Submitted by: D.K. Rath (signature)

Name: Dennis K. Rathbun

Title: Director, Office of Congressional Affairs 9/23/99

For Congressional Use Only:

Date Received: _____

Committee of Jurisdiction: _____



24722

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Name: Dennis K. Rathbun

Title: Director, Office of Congressional Affairs 9/23/99

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