

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DIRECTIVE TRANSMITTAL

TN: DT-99-18

To: NRC Management Directives Custodians

Subject: Transmittal of Directive 8.11, "Review Process for 10 CFR 2.206 Petitions"

Purpose: Directive and Handbook 8.11 are being revised to address stakeholder feedback, to make the 2.206 review process more timely and effective, and to facilitate increased petitioner-staff communication and interaction.

Office and Division of Origin: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Date Approved: September 23, 1994 (**Revised: July 1, 1999**)

Volume: 8 Licensee Oversight Programs

Directive: 8.11 Review Process for 10 CFR 2.206 Petitions

Availability: Rules and Directives Branch
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Significant Changes to Management Directive 8.11 Review Process for 10 CFR 2.206 Petitions

The entire document has been revised to improve clarity, remove redundancy and reflect current organizations and administrative practices. The significant changes to be noted are as follows:

- Replace current informal public hearing process with a staff-petitioner-licensee meeting, similar in format to staff-licensee meetings.
- Offer all petitioners an opportunity to make a 30-minute presentation to the petition review board (PRB).
- The acknowledgment letter must be issued within 5 weeks from the date of petition, rather than 4 weeks, and will include a copy of MD 8.11.
- Periodic PRB meetings will be held, in addition to the initial meeting, if appropriate.
- The goal of issuing a director's decision within 120 days from the acknowledgment letter applies only when the review schedules are within the staff's control.
- The revised process requires significantly improved communications between the petition manager and the petitioner, early on and throughout the process.
- Petitioners are added to the service lists on affected dockets.
- Acknowledgment letters and director's decision transmittal letters will have a friendlier and more positive tone, stressing the actions the staff has taken to address the petitioner's concerns, even when the petition is denied.