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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NRC PROPOSES TO AMEND REGULATIONS
TO REDUCE CERTAIN EVENT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is proposing to amend its regulations to make minor modifications to the current nuclear power reactor event reporting requirements.

The proposed amendments would delete reporting requirements for a limited set of events that have been determined to be of little or no safety significance and would reduce the industry's reporting burden and the NRC's response burden in event review and assessment.

The NRC staff's reviews of operating experience and the patterns of licensees' reporting of operating events for the past seven years have indicated that reports on some of these events are not necessary for the NRC to perform its safety mission. In particular, the staff has determined that invalid actuation, isolation or realignment of a limited set of engineered safety features (ESFs) or their equivalent systems, subsystems or components are of little or no safety significance. However, these events currently are reportable.

As proposed, the following types of events would be deleted from the existing reporting requirements:

(1) events in which an invalid ESF or reactor protection system (RPS) actuation occurs when the system already is properly removed from service if all requirements of plant procedures for removing equipment from service have been met;

(2) events in which an invalid ESF or RPS actuation occurs after the safety function already has been completed;

(3) events in which an invalid actuation, isolation or realignment of only the reactor water clean-up (RWCU) system or specified ventilation systems occurs.

Invalid actuations that involve other ESFs, not specifically proposed for exclusion (such as emergency core cooling system isolations or actuations, containment isolation valve closures

that affect cooling systems, main steam flow or essential support systems containment spray actuation and residual heat removal system isolations) would continue to be reportable.

Licensees would continue to submit Licensee Event Reports if a deficiency or adverse conditions associated with any of the invalid ESF actuation of the reactor water clean-up system or the ventilation systems satisfy any other reportability criteria in the NRC's regulations.

Written comments on the proposed amendments to Part 50 of the Commission's regulations should be received by July 27. They should be addressed to the Secretary of the Commission, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Branch.

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