

GL80022

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

March 10, 1980

ALL POWER REACTOR LICENSEES AND APPLICANTS FOR A LICENSE TO OPERATE A
NUCLEAR POWER REACTOR (FSAR DOCKETED)

Gentlemen:

This letter is being sent to all licensees authorized to operate a nuclear power reactor and to all applicants for a license to operate a nuclear power reactor (FSAR docketed). As you know, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), is proposing to amend its regulations to provide an interim upgrade of NRC emergency planning regulations. In support of the proposed rule and other ongoing emergency preparedness efforts, the NRC staff and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have developed interim guidance and upgraded acceptance criteria that will be used to determine the adequacy of emergency preparedness at each nuclear power plant as well as the State and local governments involved. This document, entitled "Criteria for Preparation and Evaluation of Radiological Emergency Response Plans (For Interim Use and Comment)", NUREG-0654-REP-1 is enclosed.

This document should be used as interim guidance in assuring that the level of emergency planning is promptly upgraded at and around each nuclear power plant. NUREG-0654 will be used to evaluate emergency plans submitted in accordance with D. Eisenhower's October 10, 1979, letter to all power reactor licensees. These plans are currently under review by the joint NRC/FEMA emergency preparedness evaluation teams. In addition, emergency plan revisions submitted pursuant to the adoption of the final rule will also be evaluated against NUREG-0654, incorporating any revisions to the criteria resulting from the rulemaking and comment process.

The proposed rule (50.54(s)) would require that each licensee submit, within 60 days of the effective date of the amendment, the upgraded radiological emergency response plans of State and local governments in the plume and ingestion emergency planning zones. The proposed rule does not contain a similar 60 day submittal requirement for facility emergency plans. However, the proposed rule (50.54(v)) would require that each licensee have revised emergency plans in place within 180 days after the effective date of the

final rule or by January 1, 1981, whichever is sooner. The staff is considering recommending to the Commission that the final rule require that each licensee submit the upgraded radiological emergency response plan of the facility within the same time period required in the final rule for the submission of State and local plans by the licensee.

For further information please contact Mr. Frank G. Pagano on 301-492-7846.

Brian K. Grimes, Director
Emergency Preparedness Task Group
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
NUREG-0654

cc w/enclosure:
Service List