



Friday
August 15, 1980

Part XI

**Nuclear Regulatory
Commission**

**Functional Criteria for Emergency
Response Facilities; Request for
Comments and Notice of Workshops**

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

10 CFR Part 50

Functional Criteria for Emergency Response Facilities

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Request for comments.

SUMMARY: The NRC staff is developing guidance for an acceptable method for providing the emergency response facilities needed to implement the plans for coping with emergencies that are required by § 50.34 and Appendix E of 10 CFR Part 50. Development of this guidance is motivated by the experience from the accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant and the recommendations resulting from the investigations of the accident. The proposed functional criteria of the four elements of the emergency response facilities, the Safety Parameter Display (SPDS), the Technical Support Center (TSC), the Emergency Operations Facility (EOF), and the Nuclear Data Link (NDL) are contained in the document NUREG-0696, "Functional Criteria for Emergency Response Facilities." The staff is now soliciting public comment on these functional criteria and the schedule for implementation discussed below.

DATES: Comment period expires: September 29, 1980.

ADDRESSES: Written comments or suggestions should be sent to the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Branch. Copies of comments received may be examined at the Commission's Public Document Room at 1717 H Street, NW, Washington, D.C. A copy of the functional criteria (NUREG-0696, "Functional Criteria for Emergency Response Facilities") is also available for inspection at the same address. Requests for single copies at no cost should be made in writing to the Division of Technical Information and Document Control, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555 (Phone 301-492-9530).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Warren Minners, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555 (Phone 301-492-7581).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The investigations of the accident at the Three Mile Island Unit 2 nuclear power plant identified the need for extensive

improvements in emergency preparedness at nuclear power plants. Areas identified as deficient and in need of improvement included the organization of personnel to control, manage, assess, support and coordinate activities both on and off the site during emergency situations; the facilities for these personnel; the availability of information needed to assess and manage the reactor, other sources of radioactivity and the actual and potential radiological consequences; and the provisions for disseminating accurate and timely information, warnings and instructions to local and state agencies, the affected population and the public in general. An acceptable method of providing emergency response facilities is proposed in NUREG-0696, "Functional Criteria for Emergency Response Facilities." These proposed facilities include a Technical Support Center (TSC) and an Emergency Operations Facility (EOF) which are dedicated areas for the management, assessment, support and coordination of accident situations. Also included with these facilities is a Safety Parameter Display which monitors the safety status of the plant and the Nuclear Data Link which transmits critical plant variables to the NRC headquarters.

Background

The current requirements for emergency preparedness are contained in Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50, "Emergency Plans for Production and Utilization Facilities," which was published in December 1970 and amended in January 1973. In conjunction with this rule, the Commission developed a document entitled "Guide to the Preparation of Emergency Plans for Production and Utilization Facilities," to help applicants establish adequate emergency plans. More complete guidance for an acceptable method for complying with this regulation, including general guidance for emergency facilities, is contained in Revision 1 of Regulatory Guide 1.101 "Emergency Planning for Nuclear Power Plants," published in March 1977.

As part of the responsibilities of the NRC and FEMA under the Atomic Energy Act, as amended, and the President's statement of December 7, 1979, the staffs of the two agencies have jointly prepared NUREG-0654 (FEMA-REP-1) "Criteria for Preparation and Evaluation of Radiological Emergency Response Plans and Preparedness in Support of Nuclear Power Plants" which was published in January 1980 for interim use and comment. The purpose of NUREG-0654 is to provide a common reference and interim guidance for state

and local governments, nuclear facility operators, the NRC, FEMA, and other federal agencies in the development and review of state and local government and licensee emergency plans and preparedness, including emergency support facilities. The NRC also published (44 FR 75167) a proposed revision to its emergency planning regulations including Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50. The proposed revision to the regulations includes a specific requirement for emergency support facilities. On June 16, 1980, the Commission issued a Statement of Policy (45 FR 41738) as further guidance to Boards and the staff that current operating license applications should be measured against the regulations as augmented by the requirements, including requirements for emergency support facilities, listed in NUREG-0694 "TMI-Related Requirements for New Operating Licensees."

Bases for the Functional Criteria

These proposed emergency facilities are needed because effective emergency response requires the establishment of dedicated areas for the management, assessment, support and coordination of potential or actual accident situations. To reduce congestion and confusion, the use of the control room should be limited to direct control of the plant. However, a nearby area designated as the Technical Support Center (TSC) is proposed to accommodate the technical personnel who support control room functions, evaluate and diagnose plant conditions and manage and coordinate other emergency response functions related to the plant. A second area, designated as the Emergency Operations Facility (EOF) is proposed to provide a planned, organized control focal point for the coordination of onsite and offsite activities. The EOF is to be located offsite and equipped to function as the center for the licensee's management, control and assessment of all activities related to an emergency having potential or actual environment consequences. A primary function of the EOF would be the analysis of plant effluent, meteorological conditions, offsite radiation releases and offsite dose projections.

In addition to these facilities, two associated functions are proposed. The first is directed to the ability of the reactor operators to readily monitor the safety status of the plant. The investigators of the TMI accident criticized the design of nuclear power plant control rooms and questioned the ability of operators to quickly and correctly interpret the multitude of alarms, indicators, and other

information that are currently installed in control rooms. As an aid to the operators in monitoring the status of the plant during normal operation transients and accident a Safety Parameter Display System (SPDS) is proposed which would provide a continuous concise display of critical plant variables. This display would be provided in the TSC and the EOF.

The second associated function is that of the NRC in accident situations. In addition to sending personnel to the site if an incident occurs, information is required by the NRC headquarters staff to monitor the licensee's actions, provide advice and be prepared, in extreme circumstances, to direct that some actions be taken. In order to accomplish this function, information concerning the status of the plant, radiation releases and meteorology would be required to be transmitted to the NRC. A proposed method of providing this information is through an acquisition, transmission, and display system designated as the Nuclear Data Link. The NDL would condition, process, and transmit a limited set of critical data from each plant for display at the NRC Operations Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

All of these elements of the emergency support facilities (the SPDS, TSC, EOF, and NDL) are interrelated and should be designed as an integrated system. The separate elements have some common and overlapping functions and all require information and data on the past or current status of the core, the plant, and the actual or potential release of radioactivity. The means of acquiring, processing, transmitting, and displaying this information and data is a major portion of the functional criteria that affects the design and integration of the individual elements. Therefore, the functional criteria for all elements have been provided in one document.

The staff also proposed the following implementation schedule. All licensees and applicants would submit to the NRC, by January 1, 1981, or prior to issuance of an operating license, whichever is later, a description of the design of the emergency response facilities; a schedule for the design, installation and construction of the facilities and proposed Technical Specifications for the Limiting Condition of Operation and Surveillance of these facilities. These emergency response facilities would be operational, but not necessarily meet the design criteria for associated instrumentation, by April 1, 1982, or prior to issuance of an operating license, whichever is later. The design

criteria for associated instrumentation is specified in the proposed Revision 2 to Regulatory Guide 1.97, "Instrumentation for Light-Water-Cooled Nuclear Power Plants to Assess Plant and Environs Conditions During and Following an Accident." The emergency response facilities would meet the design criteria of Revision 2 to Regulatory Guide 1.97 as specified for the guide. The currently proposed implementation schedule for Revision 2 to Regulatory Guide 1.97 is that it will be applied to all plants issued operating licenses after June 1982 and to all other plants by June 1, 1983.

Dated at Bethesda, Md., this 11th day of August 1980.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

William J. Dircks,

Acting Executive Director for Operations.

[FR Doc. 80-24947 Filed 8-14-80; 8:45 am]

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10 CFR Part 50

Functional Criteria for Emergency Response Facilities; Workshops

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of workshops for review of proposed functional criteria for emergency response facilities.

SUMMARY: The NRC staff is developing guidance for an acceptable method for providing the emergency response facilities needed to implement the plans for coping with emergencies that are required by paragraph 50.34 and Appendix E of 10 CFR Part 50. The proposed functional criteria of the four elements of the emergency response facilities, the Safety Parameter Display (SPDS), the Technical Support Center (TSC), the Emergency Operations Facility (EOF), and the Nuclear Data Link (NDL) are contained in the document NUREG-0696, "Functional Criteria for Emergency Response Facilities." The staff is now soliciting public comment on these functional criteria and the schedule for their implementation and will hold three workshops to present, explain, and discuss the proposed criteria (For the solicitation of public comment, see another notice document published elsewhere in this issue).

DATES: August 19—Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. August 20—Chicago, Illinois. August 22—Atlanta, Georgia.

ADDRESSES: The workshops will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the following locations:

August 19—The Sheraton-Valley Forge, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

August 20—O'Hare Hilton, O'Hare Airport, Chicago, Illinois.

August 22—The Stadium Hotel, 450 Capitol Ave., SE., Atlanta, Georgia.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Warren Minners, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555 (Phone: 301/492-7581).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Agenda for Emergency Response Facility Workshop.

Introduction

Purpose and scope of the meeting
Background and basis for proposed criteria

Presentation of Proposed Emergency Response Facilities

Safety Parameter Display
Technical Support Center
Nuclear Data Link

Discussion, Questions and Comments

Location and habitability of the TSC and EOF
Reliability, surveillance and limiting conditions of operation
Separation and independence of data acquisition system Role of the NDL
Individual statements or comments by participants and public
Concluding Statement by NRC

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland this 6th day of August 1980.

Roger J. Mattson,

Director, Division of Safety Technology, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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AGENCY PUBLICATION ON ASSIGNED DAYS OF THE WEEK

The following agencies have agreed to publish all documents on two assigned days of the week (Monday/Thursday or Tuesday/Friday). This is a voluntary program. (See OFR NOTICE 41 FR 32914, August 6, 1976.)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
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DOT/SLSDC	HHS/FDA		DOT/SLSDC	HHS/FDA
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CSA			CSA	

Documents normally scheduled for publication on a day that will be a Federal holiday will be published the next work day following the holiday.

Comments on this program are still invited. Comments should be submitted to the Day-of-the-Week Program Coordinator, Office of

the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Service, General Services Administration, Washington, D.C. 20408

Rules Going Into Effect Today
ENERGY DEPARTMENT

Economic Regulatory Administration—

- 47671 7-16-80 / Mandatory petroleum allocation level for mail hauling; assignments and adjustments to firms

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

- 46409 7-10-80 / Stations on land in the maritime services and Alaska—public fixed stations and stations on shipboard in the maritime services; amending the Commission's rules to implement the provisions of Chapter 4 of the 1974 safety convention pertaining to radio equipment required on compulsorily fitted vessels

Rules Going Into Effect Saturday, August 16, 1980
INTERIOR DEPARTMENT

Fish and Wildlife Service—

- 47352 7-14-80 / Endangered and threatened wildlife and plants; endangered status for the black rhinoceros

List of Public Laws

Note: No public bills which have become law were received by the Office of the Federal Register for inclusion in today's List of Public Laws.

Last Listing August 14, 1980

