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FEB 18 1971

Mr. Edward J. Bauser
Executive Director
Joint Committee on Atomic Energy
Congress of the United States

Dear Mr. Bauser:

Enclosed for the information of the Joint Committee is a copy of a notice of rule making amending the Commission's regulation "Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities," 10 CFR Part 50 to add an Appendix A, General Design Criteria for Nuclear Power Plants. Proposed criteria were published for comment on July 11, 1967. The criteria in the notice of rule making reflect consideration of the comments received on the proposed criteria published for comment and subsequent developments in the technology and in the licensing process.

The criteria establish minimum requirements for the principal design criteria for water-cooled nuclear power plants similar in design and location to plants for which construction permits have previously been issued by the Commission. They also provide guidance to applicants for construction permits for establishing the principal design criteria for other types of nuclear power plants.

The amendment will be effective 90 days after publication in the Federal Register.

Enclosed also is a copy of a public announcement we plan to issue on this matter in the next few days.

Sincerely,

(Signed) H. L. Price

Harold L. Price
Director of Regulation

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Rule Making
2. Public Announcement

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Development of these criteria is part of a longer range Commission program to develop criteria, codes, and standards applicable to nuclear power plants. This includes criteria, codes, and standards that industry is developing with AEC participation. The ultimate goal is the evolution of industry criteria, codes, and standards based on accumulated knowledge and experience in various fields of engineering and industry.

The criteria will become Appendix A to Part 50 of AEC's regulations 90 days after being published in the Federal Register on _____. Interested persons may submit comments to the Secretary of the Commission, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, D. C. 20545, Attention: Chief, Public Proceedings Branch, within 45 days. The comments will be given consideration with the view to possible further amendments. A copy of the proposed "General Design Criteria for Nuclear Power Plants" may be obtained by writing to the Director, Division of Reactor Standards, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, D. C. 20545.