

November 21, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Patricia K. Holahan, Chief /RA/
Rulemaking and Guidance Branch
Division of Industrial and Medical
Nuclear Safety, NMSS

SUBJECT: PROPOSED RULE TO AMEND 10 CFR 72.214, "LIST OF
APPROVED SPENT FUEL STORAGE CASKS: STANDARDIZED
ADVANCED NUHOMS® -24PT1 ADDITION"

Attached, for your signature, is a proposed rule (Attachment 1) amending U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regulations to add the Standardized Advanced NUHOMS® -24PT1 cask system to the "List of approved spent fuel storage casks." This amendment would allow the holders of power reactor operating licenses to store spent fuel in these approved casks under a general license.

Background: NRC is proposing to approve the Standardized Advanced NUHOMS® -24PT1 cask system for storage of spent fuel under the conditions specified in the proposed Certificate of Compliance (CoC). The cask, when used in accordance with the conditions specified in the CoC and NRC regulations, will meet the requirements of 10 CFR Part 72; thus, adequate protection of public health and safety would be ensured. The cask design is being proposed for listing under 10 CFR 72.214.

The CoC would terminate 20 years after the effective date of the final rule listing the cask in 10 CFR 72.214, unless the cask's CoC is renewed. The certificate contains conditions for use specific for this cask system, addressing issues such as operating procedures, training, and spent fuel specification.

The Commission has approved the simplification of the rulemaking process for CoC rules by agreeing that CoC rules do not need a rulemaking plan. This is another in a series of similar and repetitive rules using the standard language to simplify the CoC rulemaking process.

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Notices: A notice that the Executive Director for Operations has signed the attached Federal Register notice is provided for inclusion in the "Weekly Report to the Commission" (Attachment 2). The "Approved for Publication" and the draft "Environmental Assessment" can be found in, respectively, Attachments 3 and 4 of this paper. The appropriate Congressional committees will be notified.

Resources: No additional resources will be needed to implement this rule.

Coordination: The Offices of Administration and Enforcement concur with this proposed amendment. The Office of the General Counsel has no legal objection. The Office of the Chief Financial Officer has reviewed the proposed rule for resource implications and has no objection.

Attachments:

1. FRN of Proposed Rulemaking
2. "Weekly Report to the Commission"
3. "Approved for Publication"
4. Draft "Environmental Assessment"

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*See previous concurrences.

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