

FEB 13 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: William J. Dircks
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Robert B. Minogue, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: CONTROL OF NRC RULEMAKING: RES REVIEW OF ONGOING
RES SPONSORED RULEMAKING

Based on our review of the ongoing RES sponsored rulemaking to amend 10 CFR 50.55a, Codes and Standards, RES recommends that NRC continue periodic amendments to the rule to update the reference to editions and addenda of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Code (ASME Code). It is recommended that the current proposed revision be issued by the EDO for public comment. Upon suitable consideration of public comments received, the revision then should be issued as an effective rule by the EDO. This recommendation in draft form has been coordinated with NRR and IE.

The basis for our recommendations is as follows:

- o This section of the regulations references Section III, "Rules for the Construction of Nuclear Power Plant Components," and Section XI, "Rules for Inservice Inspection of Nuclear Power Plant Components," of the ASME Code. ASME procedures provide that editions of the ASME Code be revised every three years and that addenda to the editions be issued on a semiannual basis.
- o Incorporating by reference the latest edition and addenda of the ASME Code will save applicants, licensees and the NRC staff both time and effort by providing uniform detailed criteria against which the staff can review any single submission.
- o It has been a continuing policy of the Commission to update this section of the regulations to keep the references current.

8503040546 XA

FEB 18 1985

The complete RES review package has been sent to OEDO (Attention: DEDROGR) and to the Directors of NRR and IE.

DF Ross
f.v. Robert B. Minogue, Director
 Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

DISTRIBUTION

R B Minogue
 D F Ross
 F Gillespie
 G A Arlotto
 RES Central Files
 Circ/Chron
 Branch r/f
 J Richardson
 G Millman ←

See previous concurrences

MSEB:RES	MSEB:DET:C	D:DIR	CHMN:RTTB	DD:RES	D:RES
G Millman:sp	J Richardson	G A Arlotto	Gillespie	Ross	Minogue
1/22/85	1/22/85	1/ /85	1/ /85	1/ /85	2/13/85
W Dircks					