

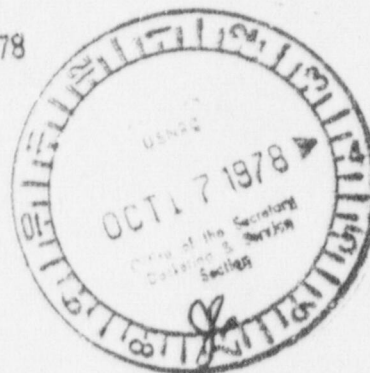


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DOCKET NUMBER PR-50(43FR37473)
PROPOSED RULE

Secretary of the Commission
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555
Attn: Docketing and Service Branch

Dear Sir:

The Department has reviewed the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's proposed regulation [10 CFR 50] published in the Federal Register [43 FR 37473] dated August 23, 1978, subject Appendix E - Emergency Plans for Production and Utilization Facilities, and has the following comment.

We note that on page 37475 of the proposed regulation it is stated that the extent to which emergency planning should encompass areas beyond the Low Population Zone "shall be based on the design features of the facility and the physical characteristics of the environs in the vicinity of the site." It is also stated that "The Commission will be requesting current and operating licensees to examine their emergency plans to determine whether they are in compliance with this proposed rule change." However, the proposed rule or explanatory information provides no guidance as to what design features of nuclear power plants or what physical characteristics of site environs are considered to be critical to a determination of the required areal extent of emergency planning. Further guidance appears to be needed for licensees to conduct an adequate examination of their emergency plans.

We hope this comment will be helpful to you in the preparation of the final regulation.

Sincerely,

Larry E. Meierotto
SECRETARY

DEPUTY ASSISTANT

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