



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

**(FSME-14-035, March, Program, 10 CFR 50)**

March 31, 2014

**STATE LIAISON OFFICERS**

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO 10 CFR PART 50 TO REVISE THE ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA EMERGENCY CORE COOLING SYSTEMS (FSME-14-035)**

**Purpose:** To provide notification of publication of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) proposed regulations on emergency core cooling system performance during loss-of-coolant accidents in the *Federal Register* notice (FRN), 79 FR 16106, on March 24, 2014.

**Background:** The proposed rule is the outcome of two petitions for rulemaking, direction given to the staff by the Commission in 2003, and findings of a 10-year research program which ended in 2008. The proposed rule would revise the Emergency Core Cooling Systems (ECCS) acceptance criteria to reflect recent research findings that indicate the current criteria should be re-evaluated for all fuel cladding materials in all potential conditions. The proposed rule would also expand the applicability of the rule to all current and future cladding materials and fuel designs. The proposed rule would address issues raised in a petition for rulemaking (PRM) regarding crud and oxide deposits and hydrogen content in fuel cladding. Lastly, the proposed rule would provide a risk-informed alternative to evaluate the effects of debris on long-term cooling. The proposed rule is available for public comment through notice in the *Federal Register* and can be accessed at: <https://federalregister.gov/a/2014-05562>. The environmental assessment (EA) is available within the FRN. The conclusion of the EA is the Commission's finding that no significant environmental impact will result from the proposed rule.

**Discussion:** If you have **any comments on the rule and its environmental assessment, please provide them by June 9, 2014**. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC is able to assure consideration only for comments received on or before this date. You can use the following methods to transmit your comments:

- mail written comments to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ' Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff '
- fax comments to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, at: ' 301-415-1101; '

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\*This information request has been approved by OMB 3150-0163, expiration 03/31/2016. The estimated burden per response to comply with this voluntary collection is approximately 8 hours. Send comments regarding the burden estimate to the Records and Information Services Branch (T-5F53), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet e-mail to [infocollects.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:infocollects.resource@nrc.gov), and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202 (3150-0200), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. If a means used to impose an information collection does not display a currently valid OMB control number, the NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, the information collection.

- e-mail comments to: [SECY@nrc.gov](mailto:SECY@nrc.gov); and
- provide comments via the Federal e-rulemaking portal at: <http://www.regulations.gov>.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact the individual named below.

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Sincerely,

***/RA/***

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