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J. O'Brien

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DEPARTMENT OF NUCLEAR SAFETY



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George H. Ryan
Governor

Thomas W. Ortziger
Director

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January 6, 2000

Mr. David L. Meyer
Chief, Rules and Directives Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Meyer:

This letter is in response to the Federal Register notice of November 24, 1999, concerning Revised Criteria for Post Accident Sampling Systems. The Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety (IDNS) is the State of Illinois agency responsible for analyzing reactor accident events and making protective action recommendations for public protection. The Department appreciates the opportunity to comment on this matter.

IDNS staff reviewed the proposed revised criteria against the Illinois Plan for Radiological Accidents. The purpose was to assess the Post Accident Sampling System's usefulness in making protective action recommendations. Other than a potential usefulness in reconstructing the details of an accident once it is over, we agree with the analysis that it adds little value in protective action decision-making. IDNS sees no reason to object to removing the systems from a licensee's current licensing basis.

Should you have any questions, please contact Gary Wright at 217-785-9851.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Ortziger
Director

TWO:sld

Add:
J. O'Brien



PDR T+E MISC