



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

Mr. Geoffrey H. Fettus
Senior Project Attorney
Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc.
40 West 20th Street
New York, NY 10011

Dear Mr. Fettus:

I am responding to the petition for rulemaking (PRM) dated July 26, 2011, that was submitted to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) (NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML11216A239). The petition was docketed on August 4, 2011, as PRM-50-99. You requested the NRC institute a rulemaking proceeding applicable to nuclear facilities licensed under Parts 50, 52, and 100 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* and other applicable regulations, to require licensees to confirm seismic hazards and flooding hazards every 10 years and to address any new and significant information.

The NRC published a notice of docketing in the *Federal Register* (FR) for PRM-50-99 on September 20, 2011 (76 FR 58165). The NRC did not request public comment on PRM-50-99 because the staff had sufficient information to review the PRM, which is described further in the enclosed *Federal Register* notice regarding this petition.

The NRC is denying the petition because the issues raised in the PRM are being addressed through the enhancements of existing NRC processes and the development of associated staff procedures, to ensure that the staff proactively and routinely aggregates and assesses new information related to natural hazards (including, but not limited to, seismic and flooding hazards). The enclosed notice will be published in the FR. Upon publication of the enclosed notice, the NRC will close the docket for PRM-50-99.

You may direct any questions regarding this matter to Solomon Sahle, by calling 301-415-3781 or by e-mailing Solomon.Sahle@nrc.gov, or Joseph Sebrosky, by calling 301-415-1132 or by emailing Joseph.Sebrosky@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

Annette L. Vietti-Cook
Secretary of the Commission

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice

SUBJECT: DENIAL OF PETITION FOR RULEMAKING TO REQUIRE LICENSEES TO CONFIRM SEISMIC HAZARDS AND FLOODING HAZARDS EVERY 10 YEARS AND ADDRESS ANY NEW AND SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION (PRM-50-99; NRC-2011-0189) **DATED:**

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