

NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC PROPOSES ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE ON INFORMATION REQUIRED IN LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATIONS

The NRC has issued for public comment interim staff guidance covering license renewal applications for boiling water reactors with Mark I containments that have steel drywell shells.

The proposed guidance would require applicants to include a specific aging management program to address potential corrosion in inaccessible areas of the drywell shell, an important safety-related structural component. Concrete in close proximity to the shell makes visual inspection difficult in those areas. The drywell shell issue has already been addressed for reactors' initial 40-year licenses and for relevant plants that have received a renewed license for an additional 20 years of operation. The proposed guidance will clearly identify the information that must be submitted for NRC staff to evaluate future license renewal applications.

Comments should be submitted within 30 days of the proposed guidance's publication in the *Federal Register*, expected shortly. Comments received after that date will be considered if practical. Comments may be submitted to: Chief Rules and Directives Branch, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C., 20555-0001. Comments can be hand-delivered to: 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Md., between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on Federal workdays, or sent via e-mail to LNT@nrc.gov. The proposed guidance will be available through the NRC's electronic document database, ADAMS, by entering accession number ML061120003 at this address: http://adamswebsearch.nrc.gov/dologin.htm. For further information on the proposed guidance, contact Linh Tran, telephone 301-415-4103 or e-mail LNT@nrc.gov.

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