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PROGRAM FOR RESOLUTION OF GENERIC MISUES RELATED TO NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

Bepart to Congress

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with the reporting requirements of Section 216 of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, as amended, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has published and issued a report to Congress entitled "NRC Program for the Resolution of Generic Issues Related to Nuclear Power Plants." The release date is January 1, 1978.

The Energy Reorganization Act of

The Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 was amended by Pub. L. 95-209 on December 12, 1977, to include a new section 218 as follows:

UNRESOLVED SAPETY ISSUES PLAN

SEC. 210. The Commission shall develop a plan providing for specification and analysis of unresolved safety issues relating to nuclear reactors and shall take such action as may be necessary to implement corrective measures with respect to such issues. Such plan shall be submitted to the Congress on or before January 1, 1978, and progress reports shall be included in the annual report of the Commission thereafter.

In October 1976, the Commission directed the NRC staff to develop the generic issues program described in the report, and development and implementation of the program has proceeded over the past year. The NRC program, as developed by the staff, is considerably broader than the "Unresolved Safety Issues Plan" required by section 210. It includes plans for the resolution of generic environmental issues, for the development of improvements in the reactor licensing process, and for consideration of less conservative design criteria or operating limitations in areas where present requirements may be unnecessivily restrictive or costly.

The NRC program described in the report provides for the identification of generic issues, the assignment of priorities, the development of detailed Task Action Plans, projections of dollar and manpower costs, or tinuous high level management oversight of task progress, and public dissemination of information related to the tasks as they progress. The report indicates that the program is expected to be fully operational by the end of February 1978 and that six of the highest priority (Category A), generic tasks are currently scheduled for completion in fiscal year 1978. One of the

Category A tasks was completed in December 1977.

Interested persons may review the report at the NRC's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street NW., Washington, D.C. The report, designated NUREG-0410, may be purchased from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Va. 22161, at \$14.50 a copy on or about January 17, 1978