

0001. For additional direction on accessing information and submitting comments, see “Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments” in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Thomas Weaver, telephone: 301–415–2383, email: [Thomas.Weaver@nrc.gov](mailto:Thomas.Weaver@nrc.gov) and Edward O'Donnell, telephone: 301–415–3317 email: [Edward.ODonnell@nrc.gov](mailto:Edward.ODonnell@nrc.gov). Both are staff of the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments**

*A. Obtaining Information*

Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2016–0224 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this action. You may obtain publically-available information related to this action, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Web site:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC–2016–0224.
- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select “ADAMS Public Documents” and then select “Begin Web-based ADAMS Search.” For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, 301–415–4737, or by email to [pdr.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov). The DG is electronically available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML16182A321.
- *NRC's PDR:* You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC's PDR, Room O1–F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

*B. Submitting Comments*

Please include Docket ID NRC–2016–0224 in your comment submission. The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. The NRC posts all comment submissions at <http://www.regulations.gov> as well as enters the comment submissions into ADAMS. The NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove identifying or contact information.

If you are requesting or aggregating comments from other persons for submission to the NRC, then you should

inform those persons not to include identifying or contact information that they do not want to be publicly disclosed in their comment submission. Your request should state that the NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove such information before making the comment submissions available to the public or entering the comment submissions into ADAMS.

**II. Additional Information**

The NRC is issuing for public comment a DG in the NRC's “Regulatory Guide” series. This series was developed to describe and make available to the public information regarding methods that are acceptable to the NRC staff for implementing specific parts of the NRC's regulations, techniques that the staff uses in evaluating specific issues or postulated events, and data that the staff needs in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

The DG, entitled “Restart of a Nuclear Power Plant Shut Down by a Seismic Event,” is a proposed revised guide temporarily identified by its task number, DG–1337. The proposed revision of RG 1.167 describes methods acceptable to the NRC staff that can be used to demonstrate that a nuclear power plant is safe for restarting after a shutdown caused by a seismic event. It incorporates lessons learned following the shutdown of nuclear power plants due to earthquake ground shaking and post-earthquake evaluations since Revision 0 was issued in 1997. They include experience gained through the shutdown and restart process of the North Anna nuclear power plant following the Mineral, Virginia earthquake in 2011. It endorses, with some exceptions, sections of ANS/ANSI–2.23–2016, “Nuclear Power Plant Response to an Earthquake,” that relate to post-shutdown inspections and tests, inspection criteria, documentation, and long-term evaluations. The guidance includes an action level matrix to direct actions based on the earthquake level and observed damage levels at a nuclear power plant.

**III. Backfitting and Issue Finality**

DG–1337 describes methods acceptable to the NRC staff that can be used to demonstrate that a nuclear power plant is safe for restarting after a shutdown caused by a seismic event. Issuance of this DG, if finalized, would not constitute backfitting as defined in 10 CFR 50.109 (the Backfit Rule) and would not otherwise be inconsistent with the issue finality provisions in 10 CFR part 52. As discussed in the

“Implementation” section of this DG, the NRC has no current intention to impose this guide, if finalized, on holders of current operating licenses or combined licenses.

This DG may be applied to applications for operating licenses, combined licenses, early site permits, and certified design rules docketed by the NRC as of the date of issuance of the final regulatory guide, as well as future applications submitted after the issuance of the regulatory guide. Such action would not constitute backfitting as defined in the Backfit Rule or be otherwise inconsistent with the applicable issue finality provision in 10 CFR part 52, inasmuch as such applicants or potential applicants are not within the scope of entities protected by the Backfit Rule or the relevant issue finality provisions in part 52.

Dated: October 28, 2016.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Thomas H. Boyce,**

*Chief, Regulatory Guidance and Generic Issues Branch, Division of Engineering, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.*

[FR Doc. 2016–26524 Filed 11–2–16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590–01–P**

**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**[NRC–2016–0225]**

**Guidance for Electronic Submissions to the NRC**

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is updating and requesting comments on its guidance for electronic submittals to reflect changes in technology by posting the latest version of its “Guidance for Electronic Submissions to the NRC (Revision 8).” This guidance document will provide direction for the electronic transmission and submittal of documents to the NRC.

**DATES:** Submit comments by December 5, 2016. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the Commission is able to ensure consideration only for comments received before this date.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comment by any of the following methods (unless this document describes a different method for submitting comments on a specific subject):

- *Federal Rulemaking Web site:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search

for Docket ID NRC–2016–0225. Address questions about NRC dockets to Carol Gallagher; telephone: 301–415–3463; email: [Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov](mailto:Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov). For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.

- *Mail comments to:* Cindy Bladey, Office of Administration, Mail Stop: OWFN–12–H08, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001.

For additional direction on accessing information and submitting comments, see “Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments” in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Marianne Narick, Office of the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington DC 20555–0001; telephone: 301–415–2175; email: [Marianne.Narick@nrc.gov](mailto:Marianne.Narick@nrc.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### **I. Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments**

##### *A. Obtaining Information*

Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2016–0225 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly-available information related to this action by the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Web site:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC–2016–0225.

- *NRC’s Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly-available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select “ADAMS Public Documents” and then select “Begin Web-based ADAMS Search.” For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC’s Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, 301–415–4737, or by email to [pdr.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov). The ADAMS accession number for each document referenced (if it is available in ADAMS) is provided the first time that it is mentioned in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section. Revision 8 of the Electronic Guidance is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML16293A712.

- *NRC’s PDR:* You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC’s PDR, Room O1–F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

##### *B. Submitting Comments*

Please include Docket ID NRC–2016–0225 in the subject line of your comment submission, in order to ensure that the NRC is able to make your comment submission available to the public in this docket.

The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. The NRC posts all comment submissions at <http://www.regulations.gov> as well as entering the comment submissions into ADAMS. The NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove identifying or contact information.

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#### **II. Background**

The NRC eSubmittal Guidance offers direction on how to submit documents electronically to the NRC. It is intended for licensees, applicants, external entities (including Federal, State, and local governments), vendors, participants in adjudicatory proceedings, and members of the public who need to submit documents to the Agency.

This document is an update to the NRC eSubmittal Guidance Version 6.1 found on the NRC intranet at <http://www.nrc.gov/site-help/electronic-sub-ref-mat.html>. Significant changes to the document that are of interest to stakeholders are that the flow of information makes it more user-friendly for submitters, and NRC guidance is more closely aligned with the National Archives and Records Administration requirements.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 27th day of October 2016.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Cynthia Rheame,**

*Director, IT/IM Portfolio Management and Planning Division, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2016–26562 Filed 11–2–16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590–01–P**

#### **OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

#### **Submittal of Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Action Plan for National Ocean Council Certification**

**AGENCY:** Office of Science and Technology Policy National Ocean Council, Council on Environmental Quality; Department of Agriculture; Department of Commerce; Department of Defense; Department of Energy; Environmental Protection Agency; Department of Homeland Security; Department of the Interior; Department of Transportation; and Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The National Ocean Council notifies the public that the Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Action Plan was approved for submittal to the National Ocean Council by the Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body and submitted to the National Ocean Council for certification, as required by Executive Order 13547. The National Ocean Council will certify, or not certify, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Action Plan as consistent with the National Ocean Policy, Final Recommendations of the Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force, and the Marine Planning Handbook no sooner than 30 days from the publication of this Notice. The Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Action Plan can be found on the National Ocean Council’s Web site at: [https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/MidARegionalOceanActionPlan\\_November2016.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/MidARegionalOceanActionPlan_November2016.pdf).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Deerin S. Babb-Brott, Director, National Ocean Council, 202–456–4444.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Background**

##### *National Ocean Policy*

Executive Order 13547, Stewardship of the Ocean, Our Coasts, and the Great Lakes, signed July 19, 2010, established the National Ocean Policy to protect, maintain, and restore the health and biodiversity of the ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes ecosystems and resources; enhance the sustainability of the ocean and coastal economies and provide for adaptive management; increase our scientific understanding and awareness of changing environmental conditions; and support preservation of navigational rights and freedoms, in accordance with customary international law, which are essential for conservation of marine resources, sustaining the global economy and promoting national