

Activity 10CFR50.59 Evaluations

1.0 Purpose This guideline provides for the evaluation of programs for 10CFR Part 50.59 safety evaluations of nuclear plant changes, tests, and experiments.

2.0 Scope This guideline outlines a method to review the safety evaluation process required by 10CFR50.59, Changes, Tests, and Experiments. The activities covered include the following:

- The methods established to identify plant changes, tests, and experiments that require safety evaluations.
- The system for identifying changes, tests, and experiments that require a technical specification change and/or an unreviewed safety question analysis.
- The process for conducting unreviewed safety question analysis.
- The procedures for reporting and documenting the results of the safety evaluations.

References

1. 10CFR Part 50.59, "Changes, Tests and Experiments."
2. NRC 37700, "Design, Design Changes, and Modifications."
3. NRC 37701, "Facility Modifications."
4. NRC 37702, "Design Changes and Modifications Program."
5. NRC 37703, "Tests and Experiments Program."

3.0 Guidelines

3.1 In preparation for and during the conduct of this surveillance

- Obtain and review plant technical specifications, implementing procedures, instructions, and drawings governing this activity.
- Prepare a guide or checklist using the selected items from this guideline.
- Review past surveys, audits, surveillances, and other evaluations/assessments.
- Ensure that checklists include, where applicable, actual observations of performance, general plant conditions, radiological work practices, housekeeping, work document controls and use, and safety practices.

Note: Refer to Chapter 1 for specific details on the attributes listed above.

Note: Attachment A depicts an applicability flowchart and Attachment B depicts a USQ analysis.

3.2 Verify that the system for identification of changes/tests/experiments needing safety evaluations is being implemented.

- A. Ascertain if there are Part 50.59 activities in progress. If so, schedule the surveillance so evaluation and/or safety analysis processes can be observed. This should include observation of the onsite review committee approval of a safety evaluation report which has been completed.
- 3.3 Select a sample of recent safety evaluations which includes at least one technical specification change and one determined to be an unreviewed safety question, if available:
 - A. For technical specification changes, verify
 - 1. That a license amendment has been requested or received.
 - 2. That changes were not implemented prior to receipt of the license amendment.
 - B. For changes involving an unreviewed safety question, verify
 - 1. That NRC approval of the SAR changes has been requested or received.
 - 2. That implementation of the change was subsequent to receipt of approval.
- 3.4 Verify transmittal of an annual report to the NRC which contains a brief description of completed changes, tests, and experiments not requiring prior NRC staff approval.

4.0 Other Guidelines for Consideration

- 4.1 See Chapter 1, "General Quality Surveillance Guidance."
- 4.2 See Chapter 6, "Design Controls."
- 4.3 See Chapter 6, "Safety Analysis Control."
- 4.4 See Chapter 11, "Changes to the Safety Analysis Report (SAR)."
- 4.5 See Chapter 11, "Changes to Technical Specifications."
- 4.6 See Chapter 13, "Onsite Review Committee."
- 4.7 See Chapter 14, "Design Change Control."