

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

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II. Further Information

The NRC is issuing for public comment a draft guide in the NRC's "Regulatory Guide" series. This series was developed to describe and make available to the public such information as 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 problems or postulated accidents, and data that the staff needs in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

The draft regulatory guide entitled "Verification, Validation, Reviews, and Audits for Digital Computer Software used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants" is temporarily identified by its task number, DG-1267. The DG-1267 is proposed Revision 2 of RG 1.168, "Verification, Validation, Reviews, and Audits for Digital Computer Software used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants" dated February 2004.

This RG endorses with clarifications and exceptions, the consensus practices for complying with NRC regulations promoting the development of, and compliance with, software verification and validation reviews and audits described in IEEE Std. 1012-2004, "IEEE Standard for Software Verification and Validation" and IEEE Std. 1028-2008, "IEEE Standard for Software Reviews and Audits." These 2 IEEE standards describe methods acceptable to the NRC staff for use in complying with the NRC's regulations with respect to software verification and auditing of digital computer software used in the safety systems of nuclear power plants. In particular, the methods are consistent with part 50 of Title 10

of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), "Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities," Appendix A, "General Design Criteria for Nuclear Power Plants," General Design Criterion 1, "Quality Standards and Records," which requires, in part, that a quality assurance program be established and implemented to provide adequate assurance that systems and components important to safety will satisfactorily perform their safety functions.

This draft regulatory guide is part of a series of 6 complimentary guides addressing the issue of digital software in power plant applications. The following is a complete list of all 6 of the DGs:

- DG-1267 is proposed revision 2 of RG 1.168, "Verification, Validation, Reviews, and Audits for Digital Computer Software used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants." DG-1267 is available under ADAMS at Accession Number ML103160431.

- DG-1206 is proposed revision 1 of RG 1.169, "Configuration Management Plans for Digital Computer Software used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants." DG-1206 is available in ADAMS under Accession Number ML103200044.

- DG-1207 is proposed revision 1 of RG 1.170, "Software Unit Testing for Digital Computer Software Used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants." DG-1207 is available in ADAMS under Accession Number ML083370243.

- DG-1208 is proposed revision 1 of RG 1.171, "Software Unit Testing for Digital Computer Software used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants." DG-1208 is available in ADAMS under Accession Number ML103120751.

- DG-1209 is proposed revision 1 of RG 1.172, "Software Requirement Specifications for Digital Computer Software and Complex Electronics used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants." DG-1209 is available in ADAMS under Accession Number ML103080963.

- DG-1210 is proposed revision 1 of RG 1.173, "Developing Software Life-Cycle Processes for Digital Computer Software used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants." DG-1267 is available in ADAMS under Accession Number ML103120727.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of August 2012.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Thomas H. Boyce,

*Chief, Regulatory Guide Development Branch,
Division of Engineering, Office of Nuclear
Regulatory Research.*

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[NRC-2012-0195]

Developing Software Life Cycle Processes for Digital Computer Software Used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Draft regulatory guide; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the Commission) is issuing for public comment draft regulatory guide (DG), DG-1210, "Developing Software Life Cycle Processes for Digital Computer Software used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants." The DG-1210 is proposed Revision 1 of RG 1.173, dated September 1997. This revision endorses, with clarifications, the enhanced consensus practices for developing software life-cycle processes for digital computers used in safety systems of nuclear power plants described in the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) Standard 1074-2006, "IEEE Standard for Developing a Software Project Life Cycle Process," issued 2006.

DATES: Submit comments by November 23, 2012. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC is able to ensure consideration only for comments received on or before this date. Although a time limit is given, comments and suggestions in connection with items for inclusion in guides currently being developed or improvements in all published guides are encouraged at any time.

ADDRESSES: You may access information and comment submissions related to this document, which the NRC possesses and are publicly available, by searching on <http://www.regulations.gov> under Docket ID NRC-2012-0195. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Web Site:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2012-0195. Address questions about NRC dockets to Carol Gallagher; telephone: 301-492-3668; email: Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov.

- *Mail comments to:* Cindy Bladey, Chief, Rules, Announcements, and Directives Branch (RADB), Office of Administration, Mail Stop: TWB-05-B01M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

- *Fax comments to:* RADB at 301-492-3446.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karl Sturzebecher, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone: 301-251-7494 or email Karl.Sturzebecher@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Accessing Information and Submitting Comments

A. Accessing Information

Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2012-0195 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may access information related to this document, which the NRC possesses and are publicly available, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Web Site:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2012-0195.

- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may access publicly available documents online in the NRC Library 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. The draft regulatory guide is available electronically under ADAMS Accession Number ML103120727. The regulatory analysis may be found in ADAMS under Accession Number ML103120737.

Regulatory guides are not copyrighted, and NRC approval is not required to reproduce them.

- *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-2012-0195 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.

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This RG endorses IEEE Std. 1074-2006, “IEEE Standard for Developing a Software Project Life Cycle Process” issued in 1987 with the exceptions stated in the regulatory positions. IEEE Std. 1074-2006 describes methods acceptable to the NRC staff for use in complying with the NRC's regulations with respect to software testing for digital computer software used in the safety systems of nuclear power plants. In particular, the methods are consistent with part 50 of Title 10, of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), “Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities,” Appendix A,

“General Design Criteria for Nuclear Power Plants,” General Design Criterion 1, “Quality Standards and Records,” which requires, in part, that a quality assurance program be established and implemented to provide adequate assurance that systems and components important to safety will satisfactorily perform their safety functions.

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Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of August 2012.

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Thomas H. Boyce,
*Chief, Regulatory Guide Development Branch,
Division of Engineering, Office of Nuclear
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