Nuclear Powerplant Standardization: Light Water Reactors

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Nuclear Powerplant Standardization Light Water Reactors



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Foreword

This assessment responds to a request by the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and endorsed by the Senate Subcommittee on Nuclear Regulation to evaluate the extent to which nuclear powerplants can and should be standardized. The assessment provides the essential background material for a broad understanding of the nuclear industry, its institutions and their relationship to standardization. Items presented in the report include specific examples of the current state of nuclear powerplant standardization, and four different concepts of standardization and their potential impact on safety. These concepts represent a wide range of approaches toward standardization and would entail greatly differing requirements for industry and regulators as well as differing implications for safety.

We are indebted to the participants in the workshop, reviewers of the final report, and numerous other individuals who gave extensively of their time and talents in support of this assessment. Also, the contributions of several contractors, who performed background analyses, are gratefully acknowledged.

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NOTE The reviewers and workshop participants provided advice and comment throughout the assessment, but they do not necessarily approve, disapprove, or endorse the report for which OTA assumes full responsibility

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