January 27, 2009

MEMORANDUM TO: Allen L. Hiser, Chief
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SUBJECT: GENERIC ISSUE MANAGEMENT CONTROL SYSTEM REPORT (FY 2009, Q1)

Enclosed please find the Generic Issue Management Control System (GIMCS) report for the first quarter of FY 2009. For your convenience, the following table summarizes the status of the Generic Issues (GIs), and the subsequent paragraphs provide a narrative summary of the current status of these GIs. The enclosure provides the related GIMCS report details.

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Status Summary of Active Generic Issues During Q4 of FY 2008						
GI No.	**Title**	**Current Stage**	**Status**	**Planned Closure**	**Months Open**	**Regulatory Impacts**
163	Multiple Steam Generator Tube Leakage	Regulatory Office Implementation		07/2009	198	NUREG-1430, NUREG-1431, and NUREG-1432; GL 2006-01; PWR Technical Specifications
186	Potential Risk and Consequences of Heavy Load Drops in Nuclear Power Plants	Implementation and Verification	Active	04/2009	116	NUREG-1774; Standard Review Plan (NUREG-0800), Section 9.1.5
189	Susceptibility of Ice Condenser and Mark III Containments to Early Failure from Hydrogen Combustion During a Severe Accident	Regulatory Office Implementation		09/2010	88	Title 10, Sections 50.34 and 50.44, of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR 50.34 and 50.44)
191	Assessment of Debris Accumulation on PWR Sump Performance	Regulatory Office Implementation		07/2010	147	Regulatory Guide 1.82, Rev. 3; NUREG-0800; GL 1985-22; Bulletin 2003-01; GL 2004-02
193	BWR ECCS Suction Concerns	Technical Assessment	Active	03/2011	79	To Be Determined
199	Implications of Updated Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Estimates in Central and Eastern United States for Existing Plants	Safety/Risk Assessment	Active	06/2009	43	To Be Determined

The following three GIs—GI-163, GI-189, and GI-191—have exited the Generic Issues Program. The responsibility for their implementation and verification was transferred to the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) in accordance with SECY-07-0022, "Status Report on Proposed Improvements to the Generic Issues Program," dated January 30, 2007, (ADAMS Accession No. ML063460239). Their status will continue to be tracked and reported in GIMCS until completion by the program office.

Reactor Generic Issues

GI-163, Regulatory Office Implementation, Multiple Steam Generator Tube Leakage (pages 1-3 of the GIMCS report). As of September 30, 2007, all pressurized-water reactor (PWR) licensees have modified their technical specifications in response to NRC Generic Letter 2006-01, "Steam Generator Tube Integrity and Associated Technical Specifications," and in accordance with Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF)-449. The NRC staff has completed its review of the GI and determined that no additional regulatory actions are necessary. Steam Generator Action Plan tasks relevant to resolution of GI-163 have been completed. The staff is coordinating the closure of this GI with a broader Agency review of steam generator issues. Therefore, the staff plans to complete the coordination and document the resolution of this GI, including supporting technical bases, by July 30, 2009.

GI-186, Implementation and Verification, Potential Risk and Consequences of Heavy Load Drops in Nuclear Power Plants (pages 4-7 of the GIMCS report). In April 2008, the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) submitted preliminary guidelines to address reactor vessel head drop consequence analyses and to establish a highly reliable handling system for reactor vessel head lifts. In July 2008, NEI submitted final industry-developed guidelines for the above specified applications and other related applications. On September 5, 2008, the NRC staff issued a safety evaluation endorsing these guidelines, with one exception regarding acceptance criteria for the consequence analysis. The staff also issued supplementary inspection guidance for refueling and other outage activities that addresses implementation of the industry initiative on control of heavy loads posted for inspector use and public review on September 18, 2008. The staff plans to issue a closure memorandum to the Executive Director of Operations (EDO) in April 2009.

GI-189, Regulatory Office Implementation, Susceptibility of Ice Condenser and Mark III Containments to Early Failure from Hydrogen Combustion During a Severe Accident (pages 8-12 of the GIMCS report). In late February and early March 2007, the NRC staff received industry proposals for design modifications that incorporate security insights. On the basis of industry proposals, the staff expects all affected units to complete implementation of proposed modifications by January 2010. The staff expects to close this GI with a memo to the EDO by September 30, 2010.

GI-191, Regulatory Office Implementation, Assessment of Debris Accumulation on PWR Sump Performance (pages 13-19 of the GIMCS report). Planned strainer modifications are now complete at all PWRs. These modifications typically increased strainer size by one to two orders of magnitude. NRC believes these modifications have significantly reduced the risk of strainer clogging. However, most PWRs have asked for and received additional time to complete certain specified corrective actions (most often, testing and analyses). NRC has generally granted such requests based on the modifications and interim measures that have reduced the risk of strainer clogging. An associated issue, which needs to be resolved to close GI-191, regards the potential for debris to bypass the sump strainers and enter the core. In 2008, the NRC staff determined that additional industry-sponsored testing is necessary to support resolution of this issue. The testing, which is nearly complete, will result in submittal of a topical report to the NRC in early 2009. Later in the year, the NRC expects to issue a safety evaluation on the topical report that will provide guidance to licensees regarding use of the industry-developed test results and topical report. Also in 2009, the NRC will review licensee

responses to NRC requests for additional information with a goal of resolving all remaining plant-specific testing and evaluation issues this year. Resolution of these remaining technical issues should support industry-wide issue resolution in mid 2010.

GI-193, Technical Assessment, BWR ECCS Suction Concerns (pages 20-22 of the GIMCS report). The Task Action Plan activities have been clarified and calculations are envisioned to estimate the contribution of the various factors in creating and transporting voids. The NRC staff has asked the Boiling Water Reactor Owners Group to provide additional information to support resolution. The staff expects the Owners Group to review the information request and respond to the staff by January 31, 2009.

GI-199, Safety/Risk Assessment, Implications of Updated Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Estimates in Central and Eastern United States for Existing Plants (pages 23-26 of the GIMCS report). Currently, the NRC staff is collecting and analyzing seismic hazard information from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and other sources and seismic risk information from Individual Plant Examination of External Events analyses. The Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) reported that it had calculated mean seismic hazard results for all nuclear power plant sites in the central and eastern United States. With these results, EPRI is performing an independent evaluation of the implications of changes in seismic hazard estimates. The staff plans to review this information and, if it is acceptable, use this information in the GI-199 Safety/Risk Assessment.

Thus, six reactor GIs remain to be resolved.

Nonreactor Generic Issues

At the end of the reporting period, no nonreactor GIs remain to be resolved.

I will continue to keep you informed of the staff's progress in resolving the remaining reactor GIs and any future GIs as well as any major problems that may surface during their resolution.

Enclosure:
As stated

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Memo to Allen L. Hiser, et al., from Jack W. Foster dated 01/27/09

SUBJECT: GENERIC ISSUE MANAGEMENT CONTROL SYSTEM REPORT (FY 2009, Q1)

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