

July 18, 2000

Mr. Anthony Pietrangelo
Director, Licensing
Nuclear Generation Division
Nuclear Energy Institute
Suite 400
1776 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-3708

SUBJECT: NRC COMMENTS ON APPENDIX B TO NEI 97-04, "DESIGN BASES
PROGRAM GUIDELINES"

Dear Mr. Pietrangelo:

This letter forwards NRC staff comments on the November 17, 1999, version of Appendix B to NEI 97-04, "Design Bases Program Guidelines." The comments are being provided to you to facilitate discussion at a public meeting on the subject of endorsing the NEI guidelines via a Regulatory Guide scheduled for July 27, 2000.

I believe that the comments are editorial in nature and that they will improve the clarity of the guidance. Enclosure 1 is a redline/strikeout version of the general and specific guidance and Enclosure 2 is a marked up version of the guidance. I look forward to discussing these comments with you, along with the comments you provided on the draft Regulatory Guide in your letter dated June 15, 2000, at the meeting and to reaching closure on this issue.

Sincerely,

/RA/BarryZalcman for

Cynthia A. Carpenter, Chief
Generic Issues, Environmental, Financial
and Rulemaking Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 689

Enclosures: As stated

cc w/encls: See next page

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