

March 16, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: Edward T. Baker III, Agency Allegations Advisor
Guy P. Caputo, Director, OI
Francis J. Congel, Director, OE
Ashok C. Thadani, Director, RES
John A. Zwolinski, Director, DLPM, NRR

FROM: Bruce A. Boger, Director */RA by W.M. Dean for /*
Division of Inspection Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INPUT TO THE UPCOMING END-OF-CYCLE
PLANT ASSESSMENT REVIEWS

The purpose of this memorandum is to ensure your awareness of the upcoming End-of-Cycle (EOC) review meetings and to explain the expectations for your participation and support of these meetings.

EOC review meetings provide a comprehensive assessment of licensee performance and represent the first yearly assessment of all plants under the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP). The assessment period for this review is April 2, 2000 through March 31, 2001. The EOC reviews will be performed in accordance with IMC 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program." Activities will include a review of performance indicators and inspection findings, a review of agency and licensee actions associated with any safety significant performance indicators or inspection findings, a discussion of insights into cross-cutting issues (problem identification and resolution, human performance, and safety-conscious working environment), and a review of inspection plans through May 31, 2002.

The EOC review meetings for all 103 reactor plant units will be conducted via video teleconference between the regional and headquarters offices from April 30 - May 10, 2001. The EOC meetings will be conducted in accordance with the following schedule:

- April 30 - May 2, 2001: Region II plants
- May 1 - 2, 2001: Region III plants
- May 7 - 8, 2001: Region IV plants
- May 8 - 10, 2001: Region I plants

The EOC Review Meeting will be chaired by the Regional Administrator or his designee. The regional Division Directors and Branch Chiefs will present the results of the annual review to the Regional Administrator (or designee). Other participants will include DRP and DRS Branch Chiefs, applicable regional and resident inspectors, and a representative from the Inspection Program Branch (IIPB). You are requested to provide senior representatives from your office for participation in these meetings if there are pertinent issues that should be factored into the performance assessment or inspection planning of a particular plant.

In order to support those plant performance discussions warranting your involvement, you are requested to provide any significant or unique information so that the regional offices may incorporate this into their individual plant discussions. Your input should include any significant historical trends in enforcement actions, allegations, harassment and intimidation, reviews of ASP events, system reliability studies, initiating events, or other significant insights. You are requested to provide senior representatives from your office for participation in the End-of-Cycle meetings if there are pertinent issues that should be factored into the performance or inspection planning of a particular plant. The role of your office representative(s) during the EOC review meetings should be: 1) to share any significant insights into licensee performance over the course of the annual assessment period, and 2) to provide clarifying or ancillary remarks regarding ongoing or current issues under your cognizance that should be factored into the region's inspection planning. This includes input from DLPM on plants that may be impacted by future licensing actions.

For your information, immediately upon conclusion of the EOC meetings, the regions will conduct an End-of-Cycle Summary meeting. This meeting provides the opportunity for the regional office to summarize the results of the EOC meeting for the Director of NRR (or designee). The regional staff will discuss the results of the EOC review for those plants whose performance over the past twelve months has been in the degraded cornerstone column, multiple/repetitive degraded cornerstone column, or unacceptable performance column of the NRC's Action Matrix. Thus far, based on this criteria, Indian Point 2, Millstone Unit 2, Farley Unit 1, Kewaunee, Quad Cities Unit 2, Prairie Island Unit 2, and Callaway will be discussed at the End-of-Cycle Summary meeting. The regional staff will also present the results for those plants that the regional office considers to have current substantive cross-cutting issues that would be included in the annual assessment letter. Your attendance at the EOC Summary Meeting, while not required, is welcome.

The location and agenda for these meetings will be forwarded to you as they become available so that your representative(s) may attend those plant discussions in which you wish to participate. Please provide your input to the regional DRP Directors by April 20, 2001. If you have any questions, please call Bob Pascarelli (415-1245) or Michael Johnson (415-1241) of my staff.

cc: S. Collins, Director, NRR
R. Borchardt, ADIP, NRR
A. R. Blough, Director, DRP, Region I
J. Crlenjak, Deputy Director, DRP, Region I
L. Plisco, Director, DRP, Region II
V. McCree, Deputy Director, DRP, Region II
G. Grant, Director, DRP, Region III
S. Reynolds, Deputy Director, DRP, Region III
K. Brockman, Director, DRP, Region IV
E. Collins, Deputy Director, DRP, Region IV

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* See previous concurrence.

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