

April 16, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Beckner, Acting Chief
Generic Issues, Environmental, Financial &
Rulemaking Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, NRR

FROM: Joseph A. Golla, Project Manager/**RA**
Generic Issues, Environmental, Financial &
Rulemaking Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, NRR

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF PUBLIC MEETING WITH NUCLEAR ENERGY
INSTITUTE (NEI) TO DISCUSS NEI EFFORTS SUPPORTING 10 CFR
100 "REACTOR SITE CRITERIA" SEISMIC QUALIFICATION ISSUES
RELEVANT TO RIP 50 OPTION 2

On April 5, 2001, NRC met with NEI to discuss the industry's approach for addressing seismic qualification issues for RISC-3 SSCs under RIP50 Option 2. A list of meeting attendees is attached.

NEI described three distinct replacement processes proposed for use under Option 2 for RISC-3 SSCs. They included processes for "identical replacement," "equivalent replacement," and a replacement process that would require a plant change modification package to support it (i.e., same "design function" but the replacement SSC is different in configuration or in other design details).

NEI proposed that current building codes used in industry be utilized, for RISC-3 structures, by commercial nuclear power plant operators who adopt Option 2. It was suggested that industrial consensus standards such as the Uniform Building Code (UBC) and the International Building Code (IBC) be utilized (specifically the IBC 2000 code was suggested and it was indicated that this standard is beyond the design requirements of current balance of plant equipment at nuclear power plants). NEI stated that the requirements set forth by these codes provide an "industrial" level of assurance which is also appropriate to RISC-3 structures at commercial nuclear power plants. For example, these codes cover seismic requirements for hospitals wherein certain equipment must remain functional following an earthquake, not merely remain in place. NEI proposed to use the IBC floor spectra which would be different from the current plant spectra. NRC discussed in detail with NEI some of the actual requirements in these codes that provide functional assurance of equipment during seismic events. Requirements discussed were those concerning acceleration factors, equipment location, and seismic return period.

NEI indicated that the staff provided good feedback regarding the proposed commercial seismic approach and that they would use the feedback to assess how best to move forward with the suggested approach.

Attachment: As stated

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**NRC/NEI RIP 50 Option 2 Meeting
10 CFR 100 Initiatives
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