

June 4, 2002

Ralph E. Beedle
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708

Dear Mr. Beedle:

Your letter of May 7, 2002, transmitted an industry white paper, NEI 02-02, "A Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Regulatory Framework for Power Reactors" which was proposed to facilitate a discussion on a regulatory framework that would be applicable to all types of power reactor technologies.

As you know, the staff has a number of risk-informed, performance-based regulatory initiatives underway within the reactor safety arena. As discussed with your staff during the meeting on May 7, 2002, the issues and information contained in NEI 02-02 will be addressed in our initiative to improve the consistency and coherence of our many risk-informed activities. In doing so, we will seek early industry and public stakeholder involvement to define and plan a strategy to address policy and technical issues. We currently plan to hold a series of public meetings to choose the topics for a workshop in the near future. This meeting will provide the Nuclear Energy Institute additional opportunities to participate.

We appreciate your efforts in this area.

Sincerely,

/RA by Carl J. Paperiello Acting For/

William D. Travers
Executive Director
for Operations

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Regulatory Framework for Power Reactors

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