



NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

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April 19, 2002

Mr. John N. Hannon
Chief, Plant Systems Branch
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Mail Stop O11-A11
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: NEI 02-01, *Condition Assessment Guidelines: Debris Sources Inside PWR Containments*

PROJECT NUMBER: 689

Dear Mr. Hannon:

The Westinghouse Owners Group, Combustion Engineering Owners Group and B&W Owners Group, in conjunction with the NEI PWR Sump Performance Task Force, are jointly supporting activities to develop industry guidance to assist plant operators in performing condition assessments, sump performance evaluations, and any necessary corrective actions to ensure continued ECCS operability. These activities and associated schedule were discussed with you and your staff at a March 28, 2002, meeting.

The first of these guidance documents has been completed and is provided for your information as an enclosure to this letter. NEI 02-01, *Condition Assessment Guidelines: Debris Sources Inside PWR Containments*, provides an approach that utilities can use to gather information on the sources, types and locations of potential debris that may be transported to the containment sump screen following a loss of coolant accident. Information gathered as a result of implementing this guideline will be used in conjunction with follow-on guidance on assessing PWR sump performance. The follow-on evaluation guidance is currently planned to be available by September 2003.

The guideline was distributed to all NEI member companies on April 5, 2002. In our transmittal, we encouraged U. S. member utilities to implement the actions identified in NEI 02-01 at their next scheduled refueling outage beginning in Fall 2002. NEI is also sponsoring a workshop on July 30-31, 2002 in Baltimore, MD to provide PWR sump performance issues and NEI 02-01 implementation.

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As discussed during the March 28 meeting, regular communication between NEI, the PWR Owners Groups and NRC will be necessary to ensure that industry and NRC activities to address GSI-191 are coordinated to the greatest degree possible. We anticipate the next meeting between industry and your staff to occur in May.

Please contact John Butler 202-739-8108, jcb@nei.org, or me if you have any questions on this transmittal.

Sincerely,



Alexander Marion

JCB/maa
Enclosure

c: Mr. Ralph E. Architzel, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mr. John Lehning, III, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mr. John G. Lamb, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission