June 5, 2002

ORGANIZATION: Nuclear Energy Institute

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MEETING WITH THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE (NEI) REGARDING WHITE PAPER ON REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR POWER REACTORS

On May 7, 2002, the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) presented its white paper NEI 02-02, "Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Regulatory Framework for Power Reactors," dated May 2002. This white paper was formally transmitted to the NRC by letter to the Chairman, dated May 7, 2002. The attendance list and NEI meeting slides are enclosed. The white paper, NEI 02-02 is available in ADAMS under Accession Number, ML021350406.

At the outset of the meeting, NRC provided an overview of ongoing risk-informed, performance-based initiatives. In this overview, Christopher Grimes, Policy and Rulemaking Program Director, described the evolution of regulations under Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) and how the NRC is in the process of risk-informing the regulations. He noted that the staff has developed a plan for improving coherence among risk management activities. The goal of this effort is to develop, with stakeholder involvement, a common set of objectives for all staff activities. The first step in the plan is to develop a framework that starts with the Commission Safety Goals and builds on the Reactor Oversight Program and the existing framework for risk-informing the technical requirements in 10 CFR Part 50. He noted that there are many similarities between the staff's plan and the principles and concepts identified in the NEI white paper.

Following this overview, NEI presented its white paper. This framework introduces a risk-informed regulatory regime that is technology neutral and is structured to be consistent with the reactor oversight process. The NEI proposal calls for the development and issuance of a new Part to Title 10 for power reactors that satisfies current NRC safety goals while providing an opportunity for improving regulatory effectiveness and efficiency. NEI suggested that the regulations could be offered as an alternative to Part 50 for reactors. NEI did not request a formal review of the document but requested that its paper serve as the basis for further public discussion on constructing a new regulatory framework.

/**RA**/

Stephen S. Koenick, Project Manager New Reactor Licensing Project Office Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 689

Enclosures: As stated

cc w/encls: See next page

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*See previous concurrence

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Meeting With the Nuclear Energy Institute May 7, 2002

Attendance List

<u>NRC</u>

Mary Drouin, RES Frank Gillespie, NRR Chris Grimes, NRR Steve West, NRR Farouk Eltawila. RES Jack Strosnider, RES Mark Rubin, NRR Suzanne Black, NRR Jerry Wilson, NRR Stephen Koenick, NRR Terry Reis, NRR Charles Petrone, NRR Alan Rubin, RES Adel A. El-Bassioni, NRR Bob Tjader, NRR John Ridgely, RES Amy Cubbage, NRR Andre Drozd, NRR Eileen Mckenna, NRR Stu Magruder, NRR Scott Newberry, RES Charles Ader, RES John Flack, RES Tom King, RES Anthony Markley, NRR Mike Cheok, NRR

Nuclear Energy Institute

Steve Floyd Al Passwater, Consultant Adrian Heymer

Other Interested Attendees

Susan G. Sterrett, Self Paige Negus, GE Nuclear F. Shahrokhi, Framatome, ANP John Trotter, Self John Lehner, BNL Kathryn M. Sutton, Jay Holbus, Tetratech NVS George A Zinke, Entergy Lane Hay, SERCH Bechtel Jenny Weil, McGraw-Hill Mark Williams, DOE Nuclear Energy Institute

cc: Mr. Ralph Beedle Senior Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer Nuclear Energy Institute Suite 400 1776 I Street, NW Washington, DC 20006-3708

Mr. Steve Floyd, Senior Director Regulatory Reform Engineering Nuclear Energy Institute Suite 400 1776 I Street, NW Washington, DC 20006-3708

Mr. Adrian Heymer, Project Manager Nuclear Energy Institute Suite 400 1776 I Street, NW Washington, DC 20006-3708

Ms. Wenonah Hauter Public Citizen Critical Mass Energy Project 211 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20003

Mr. David Lochbaum Union of Concerned Scientists 1707 H Street, NW Suite 600 Washington, DC 20006-3919

Mr. Paul Gunter Director of the Reactor Watchdog Project Nuclear Information & Resource Service 1424 16th Street, NW, Suite 404 Washington, DC 20036

Mr. James Riccio Greenpeace 702 H Street, NW, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20001

Dr. Edwin Lyman Nuclear Control Institute 1000 Connecticut Avenue, NW Suite 410 Washington, DC 20036 Hugh Jackson, Policy Analyst
Public Citizen's Critical Mass Energy and Environment Program
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Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) Handouts for May 7, 2002, Meeting

The NRC maintains an Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), which provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. The handouts mentioned above may be accessed through the ADAMS system under Accession No. ML021490328. If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the handouts located in ADAMS, contact the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737 or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.