

August 8, 2002

Mr. Alexander Marion, Director
Engineering
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE REVIEW OF EPRI REPORT TR-1002865, "TOPICAL REPORT
ON REACTIVITY INITIATED ACCIDENT: BASES FOR RIA FUEL AND CORE
COOLABILITY CRITERIA"

Dear Mr. Marion:

The Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) by letter dated April 22, 2002, requested NRC review and endorsement of a set of revised acceptance criteria for application to PWR and BWR reactivity initiated accidents (RIAs). The primary document describing the supporting technical basis is the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) report TR-1002865, "Topical Report on Reactivity Initiated Accident: Bases for RIA Fuel and Core Coolability Criteria." The purpose of this letter is to inform you that NRC has completed its acceptance review of the report. The staff found that the report contains sufficient information for the staff to initiate a technical review. The acceptance review was not intended to determine the technical adequacy of the report.

A meeting with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) Fuels Subcommittee will be scheduled for some time in October 2002. At that time an overview of the proposed acceptance criteria will be presented. We anticipate providing requests for additional information (RAIs) regarding the technical adequacy of the submittal by January 2003. We would propose to meet with the applicant prior to issuance of any formal questions. A preliminary review schedule for this topical is attached.

If there are comments or questions on this matter, please contact me at (301) 415-2832.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Peter C. Wen, Project Manager
Policy and Rulemaking Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No.: 689
Attachment: As stated
cc: See next page

Nuclear Energy Institute

Project No. 689

cc: Mr. John Butler, Senior Project Manager
Nuclear Energy Institute
Suite 400
1776 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-3708

Ms. Rosa Yang
Electric Power Research Institute
3412 Hillview Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304

Mr. Robert Montgomery
ANATECH Corp.
5435 Oberlin Drive
San Diego, CA 92121

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NAME	P Wen	R Caruso	S West
DATE	08/7/02	08/7/02	08/8/02

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Preliminary Review Schedule for the EPRI RIA Criteria

<u>Action</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>
Begin Review with Kickoff meeting	June 6, 2002
Preliminary ACRS Fuels subcommittee meeting	October 2002
Send first round of preliminary RAIs	January 30, 2003
Finalize RAIs	November 2003
Have a draft SER	December 30, 2003
Final ACRS Fuels subcommittee meeting	February 2004
ACRS full committee meeting	March 2004
Sends final SER	June 2004