October 31, 2002

MEMORANDUM TO: Ashok C. Thadani, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: Farouk Eltawila, Director **/RA/**
Division of Systems Analysis and Regulatory Effectiveness
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: GENERIC ISSUE MANAGEMENT CONTROL SYSTEM REPORT – FOURTH QUARTER FY 2002

The Generic Issue Management Control System (GIMCS) Report for the Fourth Quarter of FY 2002 is attached for your information. The following progress was made during the subject reporting period:

REACTOR GSIs

GSI-156.6.1, Pipe Break Effects on Systems and Components: A draft report was issued by Information Systems Laboratories (ISL) addressing many of the BWROG comments on the INEEL analysis of the GSI. The ISL report has been reviewed by the staff and a revised report is expected in November 2002.

GSI-185, Control of Recriticality Following Small-Break LOCA in PWRs: The technical basis for addressing the natural circulation restart scenario was presented to the ACRS Thermal-Hydraulic Subcommittee on September 9, 2002. The draft technical assessment is scheduled to be discussed with the ACRS in November 2002.

GSI-186, Potential Risk and Consequences of Heavy Load Drops in Nuclear Power Plants: Peer review comments received in August contained the recommendation to include operational data on cranes from the end of 1999 to 2002. This additional crane operational experience will be added to the report. Work on this GSI was slowed by the assignment of the Task Manager to the Davis-Besse Lessons Learned Task Force.

GSI-188, Steam Generator Tube Leaks/Ruptures Concurrent with Containment Bypass: Thermal-hydraulic loads were transferred to Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) for use in estimating the upper bound loads, cycles, and displacements on tube support plates and tubes. ANL completed this work and is currently estimating the amount of crack growth on degraded tubes, using the bounding loads plus the pressure stresses.

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GSI-189, Susceptibility of Ice Condenser Containments to Early Failure from Hydrogen Combustion During a Severe Accident: The staff continues its efforts to complete a technical assessment of the GSI by December 2002, as directed by the Commission, and is scheduled to brief the ACRS on its findings during November 2002.

GSI-193, BWR ECCS Suction Concerns: The background investigation and screening for this issue are currently in progress. Screening is scheduled to be completed by January 2003.

GSI-194, Implications of Updated Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Estimates: The screening evaluation is being finalized for review by a panel that is being convened. Screening is scheduled to be completed by December 2002.

At the end of the reporting period, seven reactor GSIs remained to be resolved (see Table 1), one GSI remained to be reprioritized (see Table 6), and three GSIs remained to be screened (see Table 9).

NON-REACTOR GSIs

NMSS-14, Surety Estimates for Groundwater Restoration at In-Situ Leach Facilities: The scheduled completion of this GSI was delayed seven months due to requests by the NRC contractor (USGS) for additional information from licensees.

No new non-reactor GSIs were identified and, at the end of the reporting period, three non-reactor GSIs remained to be resolved (see Table 14).

I will continue to keep you informed of progress in resolving the remaining unresolved reactor and non-reactor GSIs as well as any major problems that might surface during the course of their resolution.

Attachment: GIMCS Report, October 2002

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Attachment: GIMCS Report, October 2002

cc w/o att.:

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