

July 1, 2003

Mr. J. A. Gray, Jr., Chairman  
BWR Owners Group  
Entergy Nuclear Northeast  
440 Hamilton Avenue, Mail Stop 12C  
White Plains, NY 10601-5029

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR FEEDBACK ON A PROPOSED PRIORITIZATION AND  
SCHEDULING PROCESS FOR TOPICAL REPORT REVIEWS

Dear Mr. Gray:

We anticipate that in the next several years we will continue to receive more topical reports than we are able to review on the requested schedules. Therefore, as part of our ongoing efforts to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the topical report program, we plan to implement a process to prioritize and schedule the reviews of owners group and vendor topical reports. We would like your comments and suggestions on this plan.

Implementation would require you to prioritize, from 1 to N, each of your topical reports currently under staff review, as well as future submittals. Based on the prioritization provided by all of the program participants, report complexity, available staff resources, and other considerations, we would establish milestone and completion schedules for each topical report we are able to review. These schedules would not be bound by the current 2- and 3-year metrics. Program success would be measured by performance in meeting the established schedules.

In order for this process to be successful, support of the established schedules must be considered as commitments, both by you and us. Schedule revisions would be expected to be rare and well justified.

We would like to have your comments and suggestions by July 31, 2003. You may do this by e-mail to Brian Benney ([bjb@nrc.gov](mailto:bjb@nrc.gov)), or by letter sent to Mr. Benney's attention. After we receive your comments and finalize the process changes, we will consider having a meeting with all the owners group and vendor representatives to discuss the process and its implementation.

J. Gray

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If you have any questions, or need clarification, you can call me (301-415-1395), Steve Dembek (301-415-1455), or Brian Benney (301-415-3764).

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Herbert Berkow, Director  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 691

cc: See next page

J. Gray

- 2 -

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Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Herbert Berkow, Director  
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cc:

Mr. Kenneth Putnam, Vice Chairman  
BWR Owners Group  
Nuclear Management Company  
Duane Arnold Energy Center  
3277 DAEC Road  
Palo, IA 52324

Mr. Lesley A. England  
Reactor Response Group Chairman  
BWR Owners Group  
ENTERGY  
M-ECH-414  
P.O. Box 31995  
Jackson, MS 39286-1995

Mr. H. Lewis Sumner  
Southern Nuclear Company  
40 Inverness Center Parkway  
P.O. Box 1295  
Birmingham, AL 35242

Mr. Carl D. Terry  
Vice President, Nuclear Engineering  
Nine Mile Point - Station  
OPS Building/2nd Floor  
P.O. Box 63  
Lycoming, NY 13093

Mr. Thomas G. Hurst  
GE Nuclear Energy  
M/C 782  
175 Curtner Avenue  
San Jose, CA 95125

Mr. Thomas A. Green  
GE Nuclear Energy  
M/C 782  
175 Curtner Avenue  
San Jose, CA 95125

Mr. James Meister  
Exelon  
Cornerstone II at Cantera  
4300 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555

Mr. William A. Eaton  
ENTERGY  
Grand Gulf Nuclear Station  
P.O. Box 756  
Port Gibson, MS 39150

Mr. Mark Reddeman  
Vice President Engineering  
Point Beach Nuclear Plant  
6610 Nuclear Road  
Two Rivers, WI 54241

Mr. Richard Libra  
DTE Energy  
Fermi 2  
M/C 280 OBA  
6400 North Dixie Highway  
Newport, MI 48166

Mr. James F. Klapproth  
GE Nuclear Energy  
M/C 706  
175 Curtner Avenue  
San Jose, CA 95125