

Anthony R. Pietrangelo SENIOR DIRECTOR, RISK REGULATION NUCLEAR GENERATION

October 29, 2004

Mr. David B. Matthews Director, Regulatory Improvement Programs Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Matthews:

Enclosed for NRC staff review is a revised final draft NEI 00-04, 10 CFR 50.69 SSC Categorization Guideline. This document reflects the following changes from the previous draft transmitted to you on July 8:

- Discussion of the final rule has been added to the introduction;
- The rule language is provided as Appendix A;
- Rule references have been added throughout the document:
- Section 8 has been expanded to provide more detail on the final sensitivity study:
- Section 12, *Periodic Review*, has been restructured to correspond with rule paragraphs and provide additional guidance on monitoring of RISC-3 SSCs;
- Section 9, *IDP review*, particularly Section 9.2, has been rewritten to clarify the IDP considerations, based on pilot plant IDP experience; and
- Section 6, *Defense in Depth Assessment*, has been clarified based on pilot plant IDP experience.

A line-in, line-out version, and a final version are attached. We believe a public meeting should be held at your earliest convenience to discuss these changes further. Our goal remains to achieve NRC endorsement of NEI-00-04, as an acceptable approach for meeting the relevant requirements of 10 CFR 50.69, without exception.

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Please contact Biff Bradley (202)-739-8083, e-mail <u>reb@nei.org</u>, or me, if you have any questions.

Sincerely

Anthony R. Pietrangelo

Enclosures

cc: Ms. Suzanne C. Black

Mr. Timothy A. Reed

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