

January 13, 2005

Dr. Mario V. Bonaca, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC, 20555-0001

SUBJECT: INTERIM LETTER – REGULATORY STRUCTURE FOR NEW PLANT
LICENSING: TECHNOLOGY-NEUTRAL FRAMEWORK

Dear Dr. Bonaca:

Thank you for your letter of December 9, 2004, regarding the staff's effort on "Regulatory Structure for New Plant Licensing: Technology-Neutral Framework." In SECY-05-0006, "Second Status Paper on the Staff's Proposed Regulatory Structure for New Plant Licensing and Update on Policy Issues Related to New Plant Licensing", dated January 7, 2005, we indicated our intent to complete the development of this technology-neutral framework. We agree that this is a long-term effort and that there are difficult technical and policy issues that are being addressed. We also agree that this work has the potential to provide a more efficient and more coherent regulatory system. We look forward to continued discussion and interaction with the Committee on this effort.

Sincerely,

/RA/
Luis A. Reyes
Executive Director
for Operations

cc: Chairman Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
SECY

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* See previous concurrence

OFFICE	*RES/PRAB	*RES/PRAB	*RES/DRAA	*TechEd
NAME	Drouin	Lew	Ader/ Cunningham	Garrity
DATE	1/4/05	1/4/05	1/4/05	1/4/05

OFFICE	RES	EDO
NAME	Paperiello/Craig	Reyes
DATE	1/10/05	1/13/05

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP				Date	
TO: (Name, office symbol, room #, building, agency/post)				Initials	Date
1. Drouin					
2. Lew					
3. Ader/Cunningham					
4. Garrity					
5. Paperiello/Craig					
6. Virgilio					
7. Merschoff					
8. Reyes					
9.					
10.					
	Action		File		Note and Return
	Approval		For Clearance		Per Conversation
	As Requested		For Correction		Prepare Reply
	Circulate		For Your Information		See Me
	Comment		Investigate	X	Concurrence/Signature
	Coordination		Justify		
REMARKS					
FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)				Room # - Bldg.	
Patty Nielsen				T-10E50	
				Phone # 415-6189	