

From: Robert Palla
To: Mark Rubin > MR
Date: 4/15/04 3:28PM
Subject: Comments on SNL Vulnerability Analysis

Mark - I've reviewed the uncertainty analysis writeup in the latest version of the SNL report. It is not an uncertainty analysis but rather a discussion of how various areas that involve significant uncertainty have been treated in the study (so as to provide a best-estimate rather than a conservatively biased result). While it would be unreasonable to expect a traditional quantitative assessment, I was expecting something more/better in the way of a qualitative assessment. Although I may be somewhat optimistic, I think it would be possible to provide at least: (1) a characterization of how improved treatment in various areas of the analysis would impact results (e.g., large, medium or small/no impact, and in what direction - improve or worsen the results), and (2) a ranking of the uncertainty areas in terms of which ones are most or least important. I had 4 major comments re: how the uncertainty information might be better presented in this regard. Without some further effort to sort and rank the uncertainties, the discussion reads like an endless list of uncertainties and areas for possible future work, and the reader has no sense as to which of the areas have the greatest impact. My comments are noted on the document on the pages with yellow flags. It is in the top drawer of the safe. Bob

CC: Glenn Kelly

AP