

January 18, 2006

Mr. Anthony R. Pietrangelo
Senior Director, Risk Regulation
Nuclear Generation Division
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Pietrangelo:

I am responding to your request of December 6, 2005, that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) extend the public comment period for proposed amendments to 10 CFR Part 50.46, Risk-Informed Changes to Loss-of-Coolant Accident for an additional 30 days. The basis of your request is the fact that the occurrence of two major holidays during the comment period limited the time available to devote to the proposed rule for collecting and coordinating comments from owners group, vendors, and licensees to reflect a broad consensus of industry perspective.

Please be advised that through this letter, the NRC is acknowledging the stakeholders needs for additional time for completing all steps necessary to assemble a set of recommendations which would be of value to the NRC staff, and therefore is extending the comment period by an additional 30 days. The March 8, 2006, date extends the comment period from its earlier expiration date of February 6, 2006. A notice of this extension of the comment period will also be published in the *Federal Register* (enclosed).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Annette L. Vietti-Cook

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice,
regarding Risk-Informed Changes
to Loss-of-Coolant Accident