March 8, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO: John T. Larkins, Executive Director

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Sunil Weerakkody, Chief /RA/

Fire Protection Branch

Division of Risk Assessment

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: REGULATORY GUIDE 1.205: "RISK-INFORMED, PERFORMANCE-BASED

FIRE PROTECTION FOR EXISTING LIGHT-WATER NUCLEAR POWER

PLANTS"

On June 2, 2005, Fire Protection Branch (AFPB) briefed the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) on a new Regulatory Guide 1.205, "Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Fire Protection for Existing Light-Water Nuclear Power Plants" and an accompanying document, the Nuclear Energy Institute's (NEI) guide NEI 04-02, "Guidance for Implementing a Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Fire Protection Program Under 10 CFR 50.48(c)." These documents provided guidance for complying with the Commission's requirements for risk-informed, performance-base fire protection programs (10 CFR 50.48(c)). This rule endorses the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard, NFPA 805, "Performance-Based Standard for Fire Protection for Light Water Reactor Electric Generating Stations," 2001 Edition and the regulatory guide provided a qualified endorsement of NEI 04-02.

On June 14, 2005, the ACRS provided a letter with comments on the guidance (ML051650432). AFPB revised the regulatory guide and worked with NEI to revise their implementation guidance, Enclosure 1. On October 6, 2005, AFPB briefed the ACRS on the revised guidance addressing ACRS concerns and requested a delay in final endorsement due to CRGR comment resolution. AFPB has resolved the CRGR comment and revised the regulatory guide, Enclosure 2. AFPB request the ACRS endorse the issuance of the regulatory guide and has requested some time on your April, 2006 meeting agenda to provide a briefing of the relevant changes.

Enclosures: As stated

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