

April 5, 2006

Mr. Adrian P. Heymer, Director  
New Plant Deployment  
Nuclear Energy Institute  
Suite 400  
1776 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20006-3708

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE FOR REVIEW OF NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE (NEI)  
SUBMITTAL OF ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (EPRI) REPORT  
1009684, "CEUS [CENTRAL AND EASTERN UNITED STATES] GROUND  
MOTION PROJECT FINAL REPORT" (TAC NO. MC9008)

Dear Mr. Heymer:

By letter dated September 22, 2005, NEI submitted for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff review Topical Report (TR) 1009684, "CEUS Ground Motion Project Final Report." The NRC staff has performed an acceptance review of the TR. We have found that the material presented is sufficient to begin our comprehensive review. The NRC staff expects to issue its request for additional information by September 29, 2006, and issue its draft safety evaluation (SE) by April 27, 2007, and estimates that the review will require approximately 300 staff hours including project management time. The review schedule milestones and estimated review costs were discussed and agreed upon in a telephone conference between Cedric Jobe and the NRC staff on March 10, 2006.

In accordance with the letter dated October 27, 2005 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML052920273), the fee branch has waived the Section 170.21 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* fees associated with this TR review.

As agreed upon during the March 2, 2006, telephone conference call between NEI, EPRI, and NRC staff, the report review is prioritized low. The NRC staff will focus its resources on the higher priority seismic and structural reports, which NEI has submitted to the NRC on January 25 and February 7, 2006 (ADAMS Accession Nos. ML060320735 and ML060400266, respectively).

A. Heymer

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NEI and EPRI requested that the NRC staff still review and approve EPRI Report 1009684, but at a lower priority. The NRC staff explained that in the meantime licensees can reference three approved early site permit (ESP) applications as precedents. They are as follows: the North Anna ESP SE (ADAMS Accession No. ML052780512), the Grand Gulf ESP SE (ADAMS Accession No. ML053000009), and the Clinton ESP SE (ADAMS Accession No. ML060470383).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Ho K. Nieh, Deputy Director  
Division of Policy and Rulemaking  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 689

cc:

Steve Floyd, Vice President  
Regulatory Affairs  
Nuclear Energy Institute  
1776 I Street NW  
Suite 400  
Washington DC 20006

A. Heymer

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**NRR-106**

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