June 15, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO: John T. Larkins, Executive Director
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards/
Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste

FROM: Farouk Eltawilla, Director ***/RA/***
Division of Risk Assessment and Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

E. William Brach, Director ***/RA/***
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

SUBJECT: ACNW REVIEW OF THE DRAFT FINAL REPORT "A PILOT PROBABILISTIC RISK ASSESSMENT OF A DRY CASK STORAGE SYSTEM AT A NUCLEAR POWER PLANT"

The Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) and Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) is pleased to brief the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) on the probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) report on Dry Cask Storage System. This is a joint report developed by both RES and Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS), to develop and apply a methodology for performing a pilot probabilistic risk assessment of a dry cask storage system at a nuclear power plant site. To facilitate the ACNW review process we are providing you a copy of the final draft report.

This report documents the pilot PRA which is for a specific dry cask system (Holtec International HI-STORM 100) at a specific boiling-water reactor (BWR) site. The methodology developed can serve as a guide for performing similar PRAs in the future. The pilot study can provide guidance for assessing the risk to the public and identifying the dominant contributors to risk. The study covers various phases of the dry cask storage process, beginning with loading fuel from the spent fuel pool, preparing the cask for storage and transferring it outside the reactor building, moving the cask from the reactor building to the storage pad, and storing the cask on the storage pad. The methodology developed for this pilot PRA covers initiating events that can affect the specific plant site. Methodology was not developed for initiating events such as floods, tsunamis, and volcanic activity that can not affect the specific plant site.

The report can be shared with the public and will be presented to the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste for information on July 20, 2006.

Enclosure:
As stated

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Package: ML061590544
Enclosure: ML061670344

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NAME	AMalliakos		Rjenkins w/ comment		JMonninger		MCunningham		EBrach		FEltawila	
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