

July 13, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO: Farouk Eltawila, Director
Division of Risk Assessment & Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: Patrick W. Baranowsky, Deputy Director /RA/
Operating Experience Risk Analysis
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: GENERIC ISSUE MANAGEMENT CONTROL SYSTEM (GIMCS)
REPORT – THIRD QUARTER FY 2006

The GIMCS Report for the Third Quarter of FY 2006 is enclosed for your information. The following is a summary of the significant progress that was made in resolving open generic safety issues (GSIs) during the reporting period.

REACTOR GSIs

GSI-156.6.1, Pipe Break Effects on Systems and Components: The Division of Fuel, Engineering & Radiological Research in the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) continued to review plant design drawings which would negate the need for plant walkdowns. In a parallel effort, RES continued to seek the support of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) in arranging plant visits, in the event that they are deemed necessary to resolve the issue.

GSI-163, Multiple Steam Generator Tube Leakage: The staff and the industry have reached agreement on new generic requirements for maintaining steam generator (SG) tube integrity. The industry submitted, and the staff has approved, a generic template, referred to as Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF)- 449, for these requirements. In response to Generic Letter (GL) 2006-01, "Steam Generator Tube Integrity and Associated Technical Specifications," issued on January 20, 2006, PWR licensees have submitted license amendment applications to change their Technical Specifications in accordance with TSTF-449. These new Technical Specifications are performance based, and will improve the effectiveness of regulatory requirements in maintaining SG tube integrity since they are more directly focused on tube integrity than the earlier, more prescriptive requirements.

GSI-191, Assessment of Debris Accumulation on PWR Sump Performance: The staff completed testing and analysis associated with the initial phase of the chemical effects research in May 2006. Additionally, in June 2006, the staff completed containment material

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head loss testing, and the development of a head loss correlation model which was calibrated and validated using the testing program data.

GSI-196, Boral Degradation: The Oak Ridge National Laboratory continued to review the draft RES technical assessment of this issue and is now expected to complete their work by the end of July 2006, instead of the end of May 2006 as previously planned.

GSI-197, Iodine Spiking Criteria: The initial screening of this issue was approved by the RES Director on May 8, 2006. The issue was closed after it was determined that it did not represent a new safety concern.

At the end of the reporting period, ten reactor GSIs remained to be resolved: four GSIs that were transferred from RES to NRR for regulation and guidance development (see Table 1), three GSIs that are undergoing technical assessment in RES (see Table 1), and three GSIs that are in various stages of initial screening in RES (see Table 9).

NON-REACTOR GSIs

NMSS-16, Adequacy of 0.05 Weight Percent Limit in 10 CFR 40: Closure of this GSI has been deemed to be of low priority and, as result, was delayed from June 2006 to July 2006.

At the end of the reporting period, three non-reactor GSIs remained to be resolved (see Table 14).

I will continue to keep you informed of progress in resolving the remaining unresolved reactor and non-reactor GSIs as well as any major problems that might surface during the course of their resolution.

Enclosure: GIMCS Report, July 2006

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cc w/encl.:

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