C.IV.8 Generic Issues

The regulations in 10 CFR 52.79 require COL applicants to include in their application a FSAR that provides information sufficient to enable the staff of the NRC to reach a final conclusion on safety matters that must be resolved before issuance of a COL. The list of topics to be addressed within the FSAR includes the proposed resolution of USIs and GSIs as well as insights from operating experience.

C.IV.8.1 Unresolved and Generic Safety Issues

The requirements of 10 CFR 52.79(a)(20) specify that the contents of a COL application must include the proposed technical resolutions of those USIs and medium- and high-priority GSIs that are identified in the version of NUREG-0933, current on the date 6 months before the docket date of the application and that are technically relevant to the design. Applicants for design certification have a similar requirement in 10 CFR 52.47(a)(21) for addressing USIs and GSIs.

Since the inception of the generic issues program in 1976, the NRC has identified and categorized reactor safety issues. The NRC staff has grouped these safety issues, collectively called GSIs, into TMI Action Plan Items, Task Action Plan Items, New Generic Items, Human Factors Issues, and Chernobyl Issues. Appendix B to NUREG-0933 lists generic issues that are applicable to future reactor plants. The applicant should address those items in Appendix B to NUREG-0933 that are designated USI, HIGH, MEDIUM, NOTE 1 (possible resolution identified for evaluation), NOTE 2 (resolution available (documented in NUREG, NRC memorandum, SER, or equivalent)), CONTINUE, and NOTE 6 (new requirements for future plants recommended). The agency resolved those items in Appendix B marked by NOTE 3(a) or I with an effective date for future plants by establishing new regulatory requirements and/or positions (rule, regulatory guide, SRP change, or equivalent). Therefore, if the application addresses these items elsewhere, it need not address them again under the requirements of 10 CFR 52.79(a)(20). Applicants should address those generic issues for which the "Future Plants Effective Date" column includes either no entry or "TBD."

COL applicants referencing a certified design may refer to the technical resolutions for those aspects of GSIs resolved during the design certification. However, a COL applicant should address any and all applicable USIs and medium- and high-priority GSIs identified in NUREG-0933, as discussed above, for the site-specific portions of the facility design that are not included in the referenced certified design. In addition, the COL applicant should address these generic issues insofar as they pertain to operational aspects of the facility. The design control document for the referenced certified design may include operational aspects of the facility as COL information items. Section C.III.4 of this guide provides additional guidance on COL information items.

Applicants for design certification and COLs should review the version of NUREG-0933 and its supplements in effect 6 months prior to the docket date of the application for the generic issues that should be addressed for their specific application. Applicants may access NUREG-0933 and its supplements through the NRC Web page (http://www.nrc.gov).

C.IV.8.2 Operational Experience

The requirements of 10 CFR 52.79(a)(37) specify that COL applicants should provide information necessary to demonstrate how the plant design incorporates operating experience insights. For those plant designs that are based on or are evolutions of plants that have operated in the United States, the applicant may fulfil this requirement by addressing the generic letters and bulletins issued after the most recent revision to the applicable SRP and 6 months before the docket date for the

application. Because the NRC is likely to revise the SRP by individual sections, resulting in sections with differing revision numbers and revision dates, applicants should evaluate whether the agency has revised the most relevant SRP section(s) following issuance of a specific generic letter or bulletin. Applicants for design certification have a similar requirement in 10 CFR 52.47(a)(22).

Regarding the requirement to address comparable international operating experience, the NRC understands that some future applications may be for designs that are not based on or evolutions of plant designs that have operated in the United States. Those applications should address how the plant design incorporates insights from relevant international operating experience.

COL applicants who reference a design certification rule may refer to the applicable design control document to address those operating experience insights (i.e., from generic letters and bulletins or comparable international experience) included in the referenced certified design. However, COL applicants who reference a certified design should address those generic communications that are applicable to the portions of their proposed facility not included in the design certification and that were issued after the most recent update of the applicable SRP section(s). In addition, certified designs may include COL action or information items related to operational experience to address site-specific or operational issues. Section C.III.4 of this guide provides additional guidance on COL information items.