NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

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Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Submittal of NEI 07-03, *"Generic FSAR Template Guidance for Radiation Protection Program Description"*

Project Number: 689

This letter provides NEI 07-03, *"Generic FSAR Template Guidance for Radiation Protection Program Description"*, for NRC review and endorsement in accordance with 10 CFR 50.4. The industry has developed this guidance generically for use by all combined license (COL) applicants. Development of this generic Radiation Protection Program description will assure a consistent approach to the preparation of COL applications in this area that is in accordance with the NRC requirements and guidance. Such an approach will reduce industry and NRC resource burden associated with the development, review, and approval of COL applications. Only a single staff review is required and this may be accomplished in advance of actual COL applications.

As we have discussed in public meetings, we have undertaken development of this and other generic operational program descriptions to provide further guidance to COL applicants on implementing NRC guidance in RG 1.206 (DG-1145) that calls for operational programs to be "fully described" in the FSAR. In these public meetings, the staff recognized the value and standardization benefits of such guidance and strongly encouraged this approach, which is consistent with the NRC's design centered review concept.

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The technical report meets the requirements described in the NRC (NRR) Office Instruction, LIC-500, which contains criteria for submitting reports for NRC review and approval. Specifically, the report:

1. Deals with the specific safety-related subject regarding a required operational program that requires a safety assessment by the NRC staff.
2. Will be incorporated or referenced in subsequent-COL applications.
3. Contains complete and detailed information on (i.e., "fully describes") the Radiation Protection Program.
4. Will increase the effectiveness and efficiency of NRC review and approval of COL applications that reference the template.

The industry and the NRC place a high priority on standardization of COL applications and reviews that will enable COL applications to be developed and reviewed in a more efficient and productive manner. NEI 07-03 reflects discussion at several public meetings, and we are prepared to discuss the guidance further to help facilitate the staff's review.

A public meeting has been scheduled with New Reactor Office Health Physics Branch staff for May 10, 2007, to discuss new plant regulatory issues in the areas of radiation protection and low-level radioactive waste. We would like to use this meeting as a means of receiving comments from NRC staff regarding the technical report. We will follow up with NRC staff to discuss adding this topic to the public meeting agenda.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Ralph Andersen at 202-739-8111; rla@nei.org.

Sincerely,

Adrian P. Heymer

Enclosure

c: Mr. David B. Mathews, NRC, w/o enclosure
Mr. Thomas A. Bergman, NRC, w/enclosure
Ms. Joelle L. Starefos, NRC, w/enclosure
Mr. Timothy J. Frye, NRC, w/enclosure