



NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

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August 31, 2007

Mr. Stuart A. Richards
Deputy Director
Division of Inspection and Regional Support
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop 12 D19
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: NEI 07-07, "*Industry Ground Water Protection Initiative – Final Guidance Document*"
(August 2007)

Project Number: 689

Dear Mr. Richards:

On July 31, 2006, the nuclear energy industry implemented a voluntary initiative on ground water protection. The purpose of the initiative is to improve nuclear industry programs for preventing, detecting and responding to inadvertent releases of radioactive substances that may result in low but detectable levels of plant-related materials in ground water. Such releases are well below the NRC's limits to ensure protection of public health and safety and fall outside the scope of specific regulatory requirements.

To support implementation of the initiative, the industry developed an interim guidance document. The industry distributed the interim guidance document to the NRC and other stakeholders at a public meeting on June 21, 2006, and the NRC subsequently published the document on the NRC public web site.

Attached for your information is a copy of NEI 07-07, "*Industry Ground Water Protection Initiative – Final Guidance Document*", dated August 2007, that supersedes and replaces the interim version of the guidance document. This final version reflects the industry's experience and lessons-learned over the past year of implementation and also incorporates the very useful feedback from the NRC staff and other stakeholders received at an NEI public workshop in February 2007.

Mr. Stuart A. Richards
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I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your staff to discuss the final guidance document. In that regard, please feel free to contact me at 202.739.8111; rla@nei.org or George Oliver at 202.739.8116; gxo@nei.org to arrange a public meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ralph Andersen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "R".

Ralph L. Andersen

Enclosure

c: Mr. Roger L. Pedersen, Division of Inspection and Regional Support, NRR, NRC
Mr. David A. Lochbaum, Union of Concerned Scientists
NRC Document Control Desk