March 14, 2008

Mr. Alexander Marion, Executive Director
Nuclear Operations & Engineering
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708

SUBJECT: REVISION 1 OF THE DIGITAL INSTRUMENTATION AND CONTROL PROJECT PLAN

Dear Mr. Marion:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with Revision 1 of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Digital Instrumentation and Control (DI&C) Project Plan dated March 14, 2008 (Enclosure).

The DI&C Project Plan was initially issued on July 12, 2007 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML071900253). Draft revisions of the project plan were presented at the December 7, 2007 and February 01, 2008 public meetings of the NRC's DI&C Steering Committee. The Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) provided comments on December 21, 2007 and on February 20, 2008.

At the last public meeting of the DI&C Steering Committee, the NEI requested the NRC provide more information on comments to the project plan that were not accepted (ADAMS Accession No. ML080180436). In response to that request, the following is offered:

- The NEI requested that several milestones be added to the project plan for Task Working Group (TWG) 2 for the NRC to provide review/comment on several industry white papers related to long term actions. NRC staff will review and consider industry white papers in the completion of long term actions, but a milestone will not be provided in the project plan since the reviews are not an integral part of completing the long term actions associated with TWG 2.

- The NEI requested that several milestones be added to the project plan for TWG 2 for the NEI to provide a revised white paper after NRC review. As stated above, a milestone will not be provided for the NRC staff review of Industry white papers and therefore, a milestone will not be provided for NEI to submit a revised white paper.

- The NEI requested that milestones be provided in several places in the project plan for updates to the various Interim Staff Guidance (ISG). Revisions of ISG's will be done on a case by case basis depending on the significance of the necessary revisions. Therefore milestones will not be provided for revising ISG's since it is not known which ISG's might be revised.

The principal purpose of the Steering Committee and the Project Plan is to develop interim guidance to ensure the quality and uniformity of staff reviews and to present a well-defined base to evaluate applications to use digital I&C technology. The development of ISGs supports the digital I&C review process by providing timely updated guidance to applicants and staff reviewers, as well as information to stakeholders. Approved ISGs will serve as a bridge and will be used by staff to review digital I&C applications until the ISGs are refined as necessary and incorporated into future revisions of appropriate regulatory documents. The Steering Committee appreciates the continued contributions of industry representatives to develop and refine regulatory guidance supporting the application of digital technology of operating and new nuclear power reactors and fuel cycle facilities.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-1274.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John A. Grobe, Associate Director
Engineering and Safety Systems
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures: As stated
cc w/enclosures: See next page

The principal purpose of the Steering Committee and the Project Plan is to develop interim guidance to ensure the quality and uniformity of staff reviews and to present a well-defined base to evaluate applications to use digital I&C technology. The development of ISGs supports the digital I&C review process by providing timely updated guidance to applicants and staff reviewers, as well as information to stakeholders. Approved ISGs will serve as a bridge and will be used by staff to review digital I&C applications until the ISGs are refined as necessary and incorporated into future revisions of appropriate regulatory documents. The Steering Committee appreciates the continued contributions of industry representatives to develop and refine regulatory guidance supporting the application of digital technology of operating and new nuclear power reactors and fuel cycle facilities.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-1274.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John A. Grobe, Associate Director
Engineering and Safety Systems
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures: As stated
cc w/enclosures: See next page

ADAMS ACCESSION NOS.: Package: ML080450059 Letter: ML080450078
Enclosure 1: ML080220448

OFFICE	DI&C/PM	NRR/DE	NRR/ADES
NAME	JRobinson	PHiland	JGrobe
DATE	03/05/2008	03/05/2008	03/14/2008

LETTER TO NEI: DRAFT REVISION OF DIGITAL INSTRUMENTATION AND CONTROL PROJECT PLAN FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT

DISTRIBUTION

Email
PUBLIC
RidsNrrAdro
RidsNrrAdes
RidsNrrDpr
RidsNrrDprPgcb
RidsOpaMail
RidsNrrDe
RidsOgcMailCenter
RidsAcrsAcnwMailCenter
JGrobe
MMayfield
JGiitter
SMorris
JUhle
RCroteau
JRobinson
MGareri
IJung
MFranovich
WKemper
MMarshall
MJunge
TMcGinty
DJackson
RSydnor
DSantos
SArndt
DHerrmann
PHiland
DZhang
MWaterman
SBailey
NCarte
PLoeser
PRebstock
DRahn
WSchwink

External Email
See Next Page

cc:

Mr. Alexander Marion, Executive Director of
Nuclear Operations
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708
am@nei.org

Mr. James Riley, Director of Engineering
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708
jhr@nei.org

Mr. Gordon Clefton, Senior Project Manager
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708\
gac@nei.org

Mitch Lucas, (TXU)
mlucas3@luminant.com

Rick Libra, (DTE)
Rick.Libra@exeloncorp.com

Amir Shahkarami, (Exelon)
Amir.Shahkarami@exeloncorp.com

Chuck Welty, (EPRI)
cwelty@epri.com