

October 17, 2008

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

SUBJECT: STATUS OF CORRECTIVE ACTIONS PERTAINING TO POST-FIRE
OPERATOR MANUAL ACTIONS

Dear Mr. Marion:

During our discussions regarding post-fire operator manual actions, the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) has indicated that numerous licensees are in the process of implementing corrective actions to address circumstances where operator manual actions are relied upon in lieu of the protection required by 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R, Section III.G. However, these discussions have lacked specificity regarding the scope and number of planned plant modifications, license amendment requests, and exemptions that are expected to be submitted by licensees that have not committed to adopt 10 CFR 50.48(c) – National Fire Protection Association Standard (NFPA) 805.

We request that NEI provide specific information in this area. We are interested in knowing the number of licensees, by both number of reactors and sites, which plan to provide exemption requests, license amendment requests, and implement plant modifications. For those licensees who plan to rely on exemptions, we are interested in knowing how many of these exemptions have received NRC technical approval (i.e., approved via the safety evaluation report published by the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation) and, as such, require resubmittal for NRC approval under the exemption process. Also we would like to know how many are new and thus would require full NRC technical review.

This information will be used by the NRC staff to plan for resources beyond March 6, 2009, when the enforcement discretion expires. Since the sole purpose of this information request is for planning for resources, NRC does not need specific licensee names.

A. Marion

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This information will be useful to the NRC in improving our efficiency and effectiveness. We would like to have this information by the end of November 2008. If you have any questions, or want to discuss this issue further, please contact Daniel Frumkin, at 301-415-2280.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

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

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ADAMS ACCESSION NO.: ML082550559 Letter:

OFFICE	NRR/DRA/AFPB	NRR/DRA	NRR/ADES
NAME	DFrumkin	MCunningham	JGrobe
DATE	9/25/2008	10/07/2008	10/17/2008

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LETTER TO NEI: POST-FIRE OPERATOR MANUAL ACTIONS EXEMPTION SUBMITTAL
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