



NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

**John C. Butler**  
DIRECTOR, SAFETY FOCUSED REGULATION  
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October 9, 2008

Mr. Joseph G. Giitter, Director  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

**Subject:** NEI White Paper "Regulatory Issue Screening Process"

**Project Number: 689**

Dear Mr. Giitter:

NEI introduced the enclosed White Paper, entitled "Regulatory Issue Screening Process," during the Licensing Forum in Alexandria, VA earlier this week. It describes a proposed process for screening plant-specific inspection findings and licensing actions to identify issues that could be addressed and resolved as generic issues. It also recommends the use of some form of mediation to resolve long-term disagreements about issues that do not have a significant safety or risk impact.

NRC staff comments on the paper are requested by December 31, 2008. A concurrent request has been sent to NEI member companies. Comments should be sent to Mike Schoppman of my staff (202.739.8011, [mas@nei.org](mailto:mas@nei.org)).

Mr. Joseph G. Giitter

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The NEI Licensing Action Task Force (LATF) will summarize the comments and report the status of the White Paper at a public meeting with NRC, tentatively scheduled for January 29, 2009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Butler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John C. Butler

Enclosure

c: Mr. Robert A. Nelson, NRC  
Mr. Timothy J. McGinty, NRC  
NRC Document Control Desk