

August 27, 2009

Dr. Mario V. Bonaca, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: DRAFT TEMPLATE NEI 08-08, "GENERIC FSAR TEMPLATE GUIDANCE FOR LIFE CYCLE MINIMIZATION OF CONTAMINATION," AND DRAFT DC/COL-INTERIM STAFF GUIDANCE-06

Dear Dr. Bonaca:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I would like to thank you for your letter dated July 22, 2009, which provided the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards' (ACRS or Committee) views on the draft template NEI 08-08, Revision 1, "Generic FSAR Template Guidance for Life Cycle Minimization of Contamination," and draft Interim Staff Guidance (ISG) Design Certification/Combined Operating License (DC/COL)-ISG-06. Your letter was in response to discussions with the NRC staff and the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) during the 564th meeting of the ACRS, held July 8-10, 2009, and recommended that NEI 08-08 should not be endorsed and DC/COL-ISG-06 should not be issued as final until a satisfactory definition of the term "radiologically significant" is developed.

NRC staff, along with industry, has developed a satisfactory definition of the term "radiologically significant." As defined in NEI 08-08, Revision 2, dated August 2009:

"Radiologically Significant: The "significance" threshold is the unexpected radiological conditions resulting from spills, leaks, unplanned releases or the identification of radioactive materials in unexpected locations that could have an adverse impact on license termination under Subpart E of 10 CFR Part 20 (Reference 10)."

M. Bonaca

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The NRC staff expects to issue the final DC/COL-ISG-06 within a month and release the Safety Evaluation Report endorsing NEI 08-08, Revision 2, within 2 months of the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA Martin J. Virgilio Acting For/

R. W. Borchardt
Executive Director
for Operations

cc: Chairman Jaczko
Commissioner Klein
Commissioner Svinicki
SECY

M. Bonaca

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