October 21, 2010

MEMORANDUM TO: Robert Daley, Chief
Engineering Branch 3
Division of Reactor Safety
Region III

FROM: MarkHenry Salley, Chief ***/RA/***
Fire Research Branch
Division of Risk Analysis
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: FORMAL INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PHENOMENA IDENTIFICATION AND RANKING TABLE EXPERT PANEL FOR FIRE-INDUCED CIRCUIT FAILURES

The purpose of this memorandum is to officially begin our Phenomena Identification and Ranking Table (PIRT) activity for fire-induced circuit failures as applied to Nuclear Power Plant applications. Our first meeting of the PIRT panel will take place in November 2010 at the U.S. NRC Headquarters Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) Church Street building in Rockville, Maryland. Scheduling of this meeting will be based on the availability of the panel members. Detailed instructions, scheduling information, and directions will be provided shortly from Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), the facilitator for the PIRT meetings.

At our first meeting we will provide details as to how we plan to conduct the PIRT activity. Mano Subudhi from BNL will be moderating panel discussions, and will be supported by James Higgins and Kenneth Sullivan, also of the BNL Staff. Mr. Subudhi will be in contact with you and will provide background information. Because the specific expertise of the panelists does vary, we will also provide a range of background material intended to orient you to the nuclear plant applications of interest. For some panelists the background information will be redundant to their prior knowledge, but we do want to ensure that all participants are provided with the same general foundation upon which the PIRT activity will build.

The PIRT panel will be supported by a number of technical area experts. General background relative to the nuclear plant applications will be provided mainly by members of the NRC staff including, in particular, Gabriel Taylor and myself. Additional support staff may be on hand to answer your questions and to support the panel's deliberations as needed.

CONTACT: MarkHenry Salley, RES/DRA
301-251-7613

The members of the PIRT panel are as follows:

Harold Barrett, U.S. NRC/NRR
Steven Nowlen, Sandia National Laboratories
Robert Daley, U.S. NRC/Region III
Gabriel Taylor, U.S. NRC/RES
Dan Funk, Edan Engineering
Andy Ratchford, Ratchford Diversified Services, LLC
David Crane, Pyrolico Corporation
Thomas Gorman, PPL Susquehanna, LLC

As you can see we have assembled a distinguished panel for this activity and I am looking forward to working with all of you.

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MSubudhi, BNL

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