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September 13, 2012

Ms. Amy E. Cubbage  
Chief, Policy Branch  
Division of Advanced Reactors and Rulemaking  
Office of New Reactors  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

**Subject:** Responses to RAIs and Submittal of NEI 11-04, Revision 0, *Nuclear Generation Quality Assurance Program Description*, September 2012

**Project Number: 689**

Dear Ms. Cubbage:

This letter provides NEI 11-04, Revision 0, *Nuclear Generation Quality Assurance Program Description (Based on the Requirements of ASME NQA-1-2008 and NQA-1a-2009 Addenda)*, for NRC review. The industry has developed this guidance generically for use by future early site permit (ESP) and combined license (COL) applicants.

Via Safety Evaluation Report dated July 13, 2010, the NRC previously endorsed NEI 06-14, *Quality Assurance Program Description*, Revision 9, which is based on ASME NQA-1-1994. Through 2010, new plant applicants have used NEI 06-14 as the basis for the plant-specific QAPD included in their COL applications. NEI 11-04 updates the NEI generic QAPD template to reflect the requirements of NQA-1-2008 and the NQA-1a-2009 Addenda, which the NRC endorsed in Regulatory Guide 1.28, Revision 4. NEI 11-04 is being developed for use by future ESP and COL applicants; applicants and licensees that have QAPDs based on NEI 06-14 may, at their option, update their QAPDs based on NEI 11-04. The new document number is intended to distinguish between generic QAPDs that are based on differing versions of NQA-1.

By letter dated February 8, 2012, the NRC requested additional information to complete its review of NEI 11-04. A teleconference was held September 5, 2012 to promote understanding of the NEI responses to the NRC RAIs. As a result, a change was made to the RAI #9 response with a corresponding revision to NEI 11-04.

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Subject to NRC confirmation that all RAIs have now been adequately resolved, we request NRC endorsement via Safety Evaluation Report (SER).

The following documents are attached to assist in this review:

- Attachment 1: NEI 11-04, Revision 0 (Clean)
- Attachment 2: NEI 11-04, Revision 0 (Redline indicating changes to address February 8 RAIs)
- Attachment 3: NEI Responses to NRC Requests for Additional Information

Upon endorsement of NEI 11-04 in an SER, we will incorporate the SER as Appendix 2 and reissue the document as NEI 11-04, Revision 0A. If you have any questions or comments regarding this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Russell J. Bell

Attachments

c: Mr. Timothy J. Frye, NRO/DCIP/CAEB, NRC  
NRC Document Control Desk