Frederick P. "Ted" Schiffley, II
BWROG Chairman
Tel: (630) 657-3897
Fax: (630) 657-4328
frederick.schiffley@exeloncorp.com

BWR OWNERS' GROUP

c/o GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy, P.O. Box 780, 3901 Castle Hayne Road, M/C A-70, Wilmington, NC 28402 USA

BWROG-13049
September 6, 2013

Project Number 691

Mr. Joe Golla
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: Request for RCIC Feasibility Study and RCIC Durability Study (TA 375)

ENCLOSURES: None

Dear Mr. Golla:

As part of the continuing dialogue between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and nuclear plant licensees in responding to the Commission's Order EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events," and its associated Requests for Additional Information (RAIs), the Boiling Water Reactors Owners' Group (BWROG) is providing the following information related to extending Reactor Core Isolation Cooling (RCIC) system operation during extreme conditions.

The BWROG prepared two documents to evaluate RCIC operation under extreme conditions similar to those documented in NUREG/CR-5313 and experienced at the Fukushima Daiichi Units 2 and 3, following the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11, 2011.

The two BWROG reports were generated for different purposes. The purpose of the 2011 feasibility study, "RCIC System Operation in Prolonged Station Blackout – Feasibility Study," was to perform a qualitative evaluation of the RCIC turbine and pump for operation in a prolonged Station Blackout (prolonged SBO) of greater than eight hours, conditions similar to those experienced at Fukushima Daiichi Units 2 and 3. The other report, "RCIC Pump and Turbine Durability Evaluation – Pinch Point Study", provided an engineering basis for operation at a high temperature. The latter report does not account for the reduction in performance or design function that is acceptable for operation of RCIC in a Beyond Design Basis (BDB) response to an extended loss of all AC power (ELAP) event, which provides margin above what is stated in the Durability Study.

A151
D044
NRR

The BWROG is following its process and requesting authorization to release these documents to the NRC. In the meantime, these reports are available on at least one utility's reference portal for FLEX references. The NRC can begin reviewing the contents of these documents by use of the portal while the BWROG processes the NRC's request for this information.

The BWROG is looking forward to continued discussions with the Staff regarding these matters. We hope you find this information useful. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Terri Farthing, BWROG Project Manager (910-819-5040.)

Regards,

Frederick P. "Ted" Schiffley, II
Chairman
BWR Owners' Group

cc: K.A. McCall – BWROG Program Manager
L.P. Hill – BWROG Vice-Chair
T.V. Farthing – BWROG Project Manager
T.M. Parker – Xcel Energy
M.R. Johnson, EDO, NRC
Jennifer Uhle, NRR, NRC
R.M. Taylor, NRR/JLD, NRC
Raj Auluck, NRR/JLD, NRC
Jessica Kratchman, NRC