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September 11, 2014

Mr. Jack R. Davis
Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: National SAFER Response Center Operational Status

Project Number: 689

Dear Mr. Davis:

On behalf of the nuclear industry, the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) is providing the attached National SAFER Response Center white paper for your use in your audit of this portion of the mitigating strategies capabilities. The first group of the nation's nuclear facilities will soon be required to be in compliance with EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events" dated March 12, 2012. As a part of this effort, licensees will be relying on the National SAFER Response Centers.

The white paper provides the programmatic aspects and implementation plans for the SAFER program to be in conformance with the applicable portions of NEI 12-06, "Diverse and Flexible Coping Strategies (FLEX) Implementation Guide, Revision 0," dated August 2012. The National SAFER Response Centers will also maintain on file an operational checklist annotating the specific criteria that will be validated for each individual licensee to support an operational status. Following satisfactory completion of the NRC audit and completion of the operational checklist, the SAFER team will declare the National SAFER Response Centers in Memphis and Phoenix operational for each applicable licensee facility.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph E. Pollock".

Joseph Pollock