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December 17, 2014

MEMORANDUM TO: Brian Thomas, Director
Division of Engineering
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: Edward O'Donnell, Acting Chief */RA/ E. O'Donnell*
Regulatory Guidance and Generic Issues Branch
Division of Engineering
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF PERIODIC REVIEW OF REGULATORY GUIDE
(RG) 1.163

This memorandum documents the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) periodic review of Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.163, Revision 0, "Performance-Based Containment Leak-Test Program." The RG was published in September 1995 and it endorses the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) Topical Report TR 94-01 "Industry Guideline for Implementing Performance Base Option of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J." As discussed in Management Directive 6.6, "Regulatory Guides," the NRC staff reviews RGs approximately every 5 years to ensure that the RGs continue to provide useful guidance. Documentation of the NRC staff review is enclosed.

TR 94-01 was revised by industry several times and the most recent revision, TR 94-01, Revision 3-A (2012) does not contain all the conditions and limitations found in NRC Safety Evaluations of Revision 2 and 3. Based on the results of the periodic review, the staff has concluded its review of RG with a finding of "reviewed with issues identified for future consideration."

Enclosure:
As stated

CONTACT: Edward O'Donnell, RES/DE/RGGIB
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