



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 1, 2015

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

FROM: Thomas H. Boyce, Chief **/RA/**  
Regulatory Guidance and Generic Issues Branch  
Division of Engineering  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF PERIODIC REVIEW OF REGULATORY GUIDE  
(RG) 1.61

This memorandum documents the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) periodic review of Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.61, Revision 1, "Damping Values for Seismic Design of Nuclear Power Plants," which was published in March 2007. The RG provides guidance on the damping values that the NRC staff considers acceptable for complying with the agency's regulations and guidance for seismic analysis. 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 staff's review is enclosed.

Based on the results of the periodic review, the staff concludes that a revision to RG 1.61, Revision 1 is warranted. Revision of the RG is underway and issuance for public comment is anticipated in Qtr. 3, FY 2016.

Enclosure: As stated

CONTACT: Edward O'Donnell, Project Manager, RES/DE/RGGIB  
301-251-7455

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**ADAMS Accession No: ML15120A175**

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