

May 14, 2015

Mr. Michael D. Tschiltz
Director, Risk Assessment
Nuclear Energy Institute
1201 F St., NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20004-1218

SUBJECT: REVISION OF INTERIM TECHNICAL GUIDANCE ON FIRE IGNITION FREQUENCIES
AND NON-SUPPRESSION PROBABILITIES

Dear Mr. Tschiltz:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (NRC-RES) and the Electrical Power Research Institute (EPRI) completed technical guidance on Fire Ignition Frequencies and Non-Suppression Probabilities using the updated fire events database in January 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15016A069). This new interim guidance supersedes the earlier issuance of interim guidance from September 2009 (ADAMS Accession No. ML092190457). Enclosed is a copy of the revised interim guidance (ADAMS Accession No. ML15134A046).

At the time the previous interim guidance was issued, NRC-RES and EPRI had initiated a program to update the EPRI 1011989 / NUREG/CR-6850 fire events database, to be inclusive through year 2008, as well as to establish a process for subsequent periodic updating. However, the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation staff had not yet completed a confirmatory analysis of the proposed revised ignition frequencies. The previous interim guidance indicates that upon successful completion of the update of the fire events database, "NRC-RES and EPRI should jointly revise EPRI 1011989 / NUREG/CR-6850, to establish new frequencies for the fire bin ignition categories..." The revised interim technical guidance serves as an NRC staff position on fire ignition frequencies and non-suppression frequencies until EPRI 1011989 / NUREG/CR-6850 is revised to include this guidance.

We welcome further dialogue to enhance analytical methods for use in fire PRA regulatory applications. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Stacey Rosenberg at (301) 415-2357.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Joseph G. Gitter, Director
Division of Risk Assessment
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Enclosure:
Revised Interim Technical
Guidance

Mr. Michael D. Tschiltz
Director, Risk Assessment
Nuclear Energy Institute
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