



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

September 14, 2015

Mr. Joseph E. Pollock, Vice President  
Nuclear Operations  
Nuclear Energy Institute  
1201 F Street NW, Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. Pollock:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has considered a request from the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), on behalf of the nuclear industry, to endorse the NEI white paper HCVS-WP-04, "Missile Evaluation for HCVS Components 30 Feet Above Grade," Revision 0, dated August 18, 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15231A491). The purpose of the white paper is to supplement guidance provided in NEI 13-02, "Industry Guidance for Compliance with Order EA-13-109" (ADAMS Accession No. ML15113B318), regarding reliable hardened containment vent systems (HCVS) capable of performing under severe accident conditions at boiling water reactors with Mark I and Mark II containments.

The NRC staff finds that HCVS-WP-04 provides a reasonable approach to evaluating the threat posed to selected portions of the HCVS by wind-borne missiles. The white paper relies on a risk-informed approach, including defense-in-depth measures to restore containment venting through the HCVS in the extremely unlikely circumstance of a missile impact to selected portions of the HCVS during a beyond-design-basis external event. Licensees may reference the generic assessment in HCVS-WP-04 in their overall integrated plans (OIPs) related to Order EA-13-109 and the containment venting portions of Order EA-12-049, "Mitigating Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events." The approach taken and evaluation provided in HCVS-WP-04 may not be appropriate for resolving issues for safety-related equipment or applications beyond the limited scope of the white paper.

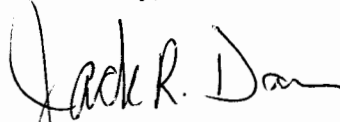
When referencing the white paper, licensees should describe in their OIPs how the generic evaluation in HCVS-WP-04 has been used for their facility and confirm that site-specific considerations identified in the white paper have been addressed. For portions of the HCVS systems not bounded by the generic evaluation in the white paper, the OIPs from individual licensees should provide additional discussion for the affected portions of the HCVS system and describe the protection provided against wind-borne missiles, an evaluation of why such protection is not needed, or any alternative measures that will be undertaken.

J. Pollock

- 2 -

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Rajender Auluck of my staff at (301) 415-1025 or via email at [Rajender.Auluck@nrc.gov](mailto:Rajender.Auluck@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jack R. Davis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jack R. Davis, Director  
Japan Lessons-Learned Division  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

J. Pollock

- 2 -

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Rajender Auluck of my staff at (301) 415-1025 or via email at [Rajender.Auluck@nrc.gov](mailto:Rajender.Auluck@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Jack R. Davis, Director  
Japan Lessons-Learned Division  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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