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

November 18, 2015

MEMORANDUM TO: Lawrence E. Kokajko, Director
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Brian E. Thomas, Director ***/RA/ B. Thomas***
Division of Engineering
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: GENERIC ISSUE MANAGEMENT CONTROL SYSTEM REPORT FOR FOURTH QUARTER FY2015

Enclosed for your information is the Generic Issue Management Control System (GIMCS) report for fiscal year (FY) 2015, fourth quarter, covering the period from June 1, 2015, through August 31, 2015. The Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) is sending this report of the active Generic Issues (GIs) to the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) since all currently active GIs are being implemented by NRR. This report is also being provided to the GI program counterparts in other regulatory offices for information. In addition, this report is being provided to the Commission, as directed by the Commission in the Staff Requirements Memorandum for COMSECY-13-0009, "Modification or Closure of Action Items in the Commission Tracking System."

A summary of the significant activities for the active GIs that occurred during this reporting period is provided below. A summary description of the activities associated with the active GIs since being screened into the GI program is provided in Enclosure 1. For additional information, a detailed status of all of the activities associated with the active GIs since being screened into the GI program is provided in Enclosure 2.

GI-191, "Assessment of Debris Accumulation on Pressurized-Water Reactor Sump Performance"

- The Pressurized Water Reactor Owners Group submitted an update of report TR-WCAP-17788, "Comprehensive Analysis and Test Program for GSI-191 Closure," on July 17, 2015, that is intended to justify higher fiber limits than are currently approved by the staff. NRC staff anticipates a one-year review time.

- The South Texas Project (STP) is the pilot for Option 2B, a risk informed approach. As a result of interactions with the staff, the licensee submitted a supplement in August 2015 with a new methodology. The staff expects to complete its review of STP's methodology by the spring of 2016.

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GI-193, "Boiling Water Reactor Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS) Suction Concerns"

- The staff in the Division of Systems Analysis in RES completed a two year study on the gases injected into the suppression pool from a blow down of the containment atmosphere through the down comers. The staff produced a technical report and intends to publish it as a NUREG. The technical report will provide a means to assess the vulnerability of ECCS pumps based upon pump strainer location and the ECCS pump start time.

- A new GI review panel has been formed, and is currently working on completing an assessment of the GI. The panel expects the results of the assessment to find that there is no significant safety issue that warrants proceeding further in the GI program.

GI-199, "Implications of Updated Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Estimates in Central and Eastern United States (CEUS) for Existing Plants"

- All licensees have submitted their revised seismic hazard evaluations, approximately half of which have been assessed by the staff. All licensees in the CEUS have submitted an interim seismic evaluation (expedited seismic evaluation process [ESEP]) report, and the staff expects to complete a review of these reports by the end of calendar year 2015. From the ESEP reports, at least 13 licensees have committed to completing limited plant modifications. The NRC staff planned to issue a letter with a revised schedule for 20 sites to complete a seismic risk evaluation by the end of October 2015 (note: after this reporting period, the staff issued the letter [ML15194A015] on October 27, 2015).

GI-204, "Flooding of Nuclear Power Plant Sites Following Upstream Dam Failures"

- Most sites have completed flood hazard reevaluations. Those sites that had flood-causing mechanisms that exceeded the flood levels in their current design basis are required to perform an additional analysis (e.g. focused evaluation or integrated assessment, depending on the hazard) to evaluate the site response to the updated flood hazard. The focused evaluations are due in mid-2017 and the integrated assessments are due by the end of 2018.

Enclosures:
As stated

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- A new generic issue review panel has been formed, and is currently working on completing an assessment of the Generic Issue. The panel expects the results of the assessment to find that there is no significant safety issue that warrants proceeding further in the Generic Issues program.

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