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February 8, 2016

Ms. Stacey Rosenberg
Chief, PRA Licensing Branch
Division of Risk Analysis
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Industry Documents Supporting Probabilistic Risk Assessment (PRA) Technical Adequacy Process Improvements

Project Number: 689

Dear Ms. Rosenberg:

On behalf of the nuclear energy industry, the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI)¹ is pleased to submit for your consideration two draft documents supporting Probabilistic Risk Assessment (PRA) technical adequacy process improvements. The first document, NEI 16-04, *New PRA Method Evaluation Process Guidelines*, describes a new process for making PRA methods available for use in PRAs supporting risk-informed licensing applications. The second document is a draft appendix detailing an approach to confirming closure of peer review Facts and Observations (F&Os), which will be added to NEI's peer review guidance documents (NEI 05-04, *Process for Performing Internal Events PRA Peer Reviews*, NEI 07-12, *Fire Probabilistic Risk Assessment [FPRA] Peer Review Process Guidelines*, and NEI 12-13, *External Hazards PRA Peer Review Process Guidelines*). These documents are both attached to this letter.

These documents mark an important step to implementing the Risk Informed Steering Committee's working group recommendations to improve the efficiency of the evaluation of PRA technical adequacy in risk-informed licensing applications. We look forward to working with the NRC to continue to implement these

¹ NEI is the organization responsible for establishing unified nuclear industry policy on matters affecting the nuclear energy industry, including the regulatory aspects of generic operational and technical issues. NEI's members include all utilities licensed to operate commercial nuclear power plants in the United States, nuclear plant designers, major architect/engineering firms, fuel fabrication facilities, materials licensees, and other organizations and individuals involved in the nuclear energy industry.

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recommendations. In particular, we plan to conduct a pilot of NEI 16-04, in cooperation with the NRC, to ensure that the document achieves the goals of the working group recommendations.

If you have any questions about these documents, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Victoria Anderson".

Victoria Anderson

Attachments

c: Mr. Joseph G. Giitter, NRR/DRA, NRC
Mr. Richard P. Correia, RES/DRA, NRC
Ms. Mary T. Drouin, RES/DRA/PRB, NRC
Mr. Donald G. Harrison, NRO/DSRA, NRC
NRC Document Control Desk