

June 29, 2017

Mr. Benjamin G. Beasley, Chief  
Environmental Review and Project Management  
Branch  
Division of License Renewal  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Mr. Kevin Hsueh, Chief  
Radiation Protection and Consequences Branch  
Division of Risk Assessment  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

**Subject:** NRC Review and Endorsement of NEI 17-04, *Model SLR New and Significant Assessment Approach for SAMA, Revision 0*

**Project Number: 689**

Dear Mr. Beasley and Mr. Hsueh:

The purpose of this letter is to request the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's endorsement of NEI 17-04, "Model SLR New and Significant Assessment Approach for SAMA," which is attached. NEI 17-04 is a model approach for assessing the significance of new information of which the applicant for renewal of a nuclear power reactor operating license or extension of a combined license is aware that relates to either (1) the severe accident mitigation design alternatives (SAMDA) analysis or severe accident mitigation alternatives (SAMA) analysis documented in the NRC's final environmental statement (FES, FSEIS, or EA) that supported issuance pursuant to 10 CFR Part 50 (or Part 54) of the reactor's initial (or renewed) operating license or (2) the SAMDA analysis documented in the NRC's final environmental statement (FES, FSEIS, or EA) that supported issuance pursuant to 10 CFR Part 52 of the reactor's combined license and the design certification incorporated therein by reference, if any. Subsequent license renewal (SLR) applicants are required to perform the assessment for which this document provides guidance and include results in the applicant's environmental report.

By letter to Mr. James G. Danna dated July 25, 2016, the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) requested comments from the NRC staff on the "Draft Model SLR New and Significant Assessment Approach for SAMA." That submittal followed a public meeting with the NRC staff on May 19, 2016 at which NEI's proposed approach for evaluating new information regarding SAMAs had been discussed. On September 13, 2016, the NRC staff provided written comments, after which several discussions were held to clarify the

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comments. Based on those exchanges, NEI understands that the NRC endorsement of NEI 17-04 would be through issuance of interim staff guidance (ISG) and subsequent incorporation into a revision to RG 4.2, Supplement 1.

In a separate letter to Ms. Maureen E. Wylie dated June 29, 2017, NEI has requested that the NRC's review and use of NEI 17-04, and any future submissions of this guidance document, be granted a fee waiver pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 170.11.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy L. Ranek".

Nancy L. Ranek

Enclosure: NEI 17-04, *Model SLR New and Significant Assessment Approach for SAMA, Revision 0*

c: Maureen E. Wylie, NRC Chief Financial Officer  
Jeffrey J. Rikhoff, NRR/DLR/RERP  
Nancy Martinez, NRR/DLR/RERP  
Jerry Dozier, NRR/DRA/ARCB