



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

March 22, 2018

MEMORANDUM TO: Eric Bowman, Acting Chief
Beyond-Design-Basis Management Branch
Division of Licensing Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Gregory T. Bowman, Chief **/RA/**
ROP Assessment Branch
Division of Inspection and Regional Support
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: ADEQUACY OF IMPLEMENTATION OF VOLUNTARY INDUSTRY
INITIATIVE ON SAFETY CULTURE

In the staff requirements memorandum to SECY-13-0132, "Staff Requirements—SECY-13-0132—U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Staff Recommendation for the Disposition of Recommendation 1 of the Near-Term Task Force Report," dated May 19, 2014, the Commission approved a proposal to evaluate the current status of the implementation of the most risk-significant Type 2 voluntary industry initiatives (VIIs) and to verify that these voluntary initiatives are being adequately implemented. The Commission further directed the staff to provide the Commission with the results of this verification process and any recommended improvements, if warranted, for its review and approval.

Subsequently, in a Commissioners' Assistants note dated August 27, 2014, the staff identified that most Type 2 VIIs were being adequately implemented without the need for additional regulatory action. However, the staff identified two VIIs that needed further review. At the time, the staff informed the Commission that an ongoing working group on substantive cross-cutting issues was addressing one of those initiatives, "safety culture," and that further assessment of this VII was needed in light of that activity. The staff committed to providing the Commission with the results of its evaluation of that VII, in addition to a VII on low-power/shutdown risk, by June 30, 2018.

The enclosure provides the staff's evaluation of the safety culture VII. Based on the results of its evaluation, the staff has determined that the current process for monitoring and assessing safety culture at nuclear power plants, including the industry's implementation of Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) 09-07, "Fostering a Strong Nuclear Safety Culture," is effective. The staff will continue to monitor performance using the Reactor Oversight Process and will inform the Commission if future performance trends in this area warrant reconsideration of that conclusion.

Enclosure:
Safety Culture Initiative

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SAFETY CULTURE DATED: March 22, 2018

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