

Central File

June 4, 1996

MEMORANDUM TO: Brian W. Sheron, Director  
Division of Engineering  
FROM: <sup>original signed by:</sup> Goutam Bagchi, Branch Chief  
Civil Engineering and Geosciences Branch  
SUBJECT: TRIP REPORT ON NEI WORKSHOP: OBE EXCEEDANCE

A workshop on Operating Basis Earthquake (OBE) exceedance and instrumentation needed for recording earthquake induced ground motion was held on May 8, 1996 at the NEI office at 1776 I Street, NW, Washington, DC. Representatives from 28 utility companies, the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) and the regulatory authority from the republic of Slovenia were in attendance. Goutam Bagchi, Robert Rothman and Roger Kenneally from NRC also participated in presenting the NRC perspective.

NRC presentation concentrated on the essential elements of the new siting rule and its associated changes in 10 CFR Part 50. It was noted that the details of criteria for OBE exceedance, instruments for ground motion recording and post-earthquake plant inspection are included in regulatory guides which in turn endorse appropriate EPRI guidelines with exceptions as necessary. It was also noted that utility companies can voluntarily adopt the positions indicated in the proposed regulatory guidelines associated with the new siting rule as published in the Federal Register Notice (59 FR 52555) dated October 17, 1994.

Presentations by the industry representatives included discussion of two projects on upgrading of seismic instruments and associated plant procedure. It was noted that the cost of upgraded instruments is less than the cost of maintaining old instruments.

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

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