

Mr. Mark Ring, Chief
Reactor Project 1
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Division of Reactor Projects
801 Warrenton Road
Lisle, IL 60532-4351

Dear Mr. Ring:

I am writing to invite you to participate in the proceedings of the Pilot Program Evaluation Panel (PPEP) to be held on November 16 and 17, 1999, in Rockville, Maryland. A copy of the Meeting Notice showing the location of the meeting is enclosed.

The NRC established the PPEP as an independent advisory committee under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committees Act (FACA). As an advisory committee under FACA, PPEP provides a mechanism to focus the best resources in diverse fields at a minimum cost to the government, and allows for increased public participation in the processes of the government. The PPEP functions as a management level, cross-disciplinary, expert oversight panel to independently monitor and evaluate whether the new regulatory processes can be successfully and effectively implemented based on the outcome of the pilot effort.

The PPEP meetings are publicly announced, open to public, and appropriate material reviewed by PPEP is placed in the NRC public document room and on the NRC's web page. While the PPEP is comprised of members selected for their applicable expertise, the agency is seeking to extend the base beyond the knowledge, expertise and observations of PPEP members. As a representative of Region III, you are invited to present your views to the panel in areas of interest to your organization. The information provided by you will supplement the experience brought to the panel by its members, and will be considered in any recommendations made by the panel.

The Revised Reactor Oversight Program can be found on the NRC home page on the Internet. To access the program, type <http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/index.html> on the location line, and press **enter** to reach the Revised Reactor Oversight Process web page. Listed on the web page are hyper-links to various background documents that you may wish to review. The PPEP site can be accessed by clicking on Reactor Oversight Process Overview hyper-link. At this site you will find background on the PPEP, including the transcripts of previous PPEP meetings. I ask that you familiarize yourself with the above material for the meeting.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 301-415-1004 or the PPEP Designated Federal Official, Mohan Thadani at 301-415-1476.

Sincerely,

Frank P. Gillespie, Deputy Director
Division of Inspection Program

Management

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: As stated

cc: James T. Wiggins
Bruce Mallett
Geoffrey E. Grant
Kenneth E. Brockman
James Lieberman
Steve Floyd
David Garchow
Masoud Bajestani
George Barnes
James Chase
Gary Wright
David Lochbaum

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