

October 6, 2000

Mr. Ralph E. Beedle, Senior Vice President
and Chief Nuclear Officer
Nuclear Generation
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street N.W., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20006-3708

Dear Mr. Beedle:

I am responding to your letter of August 28, 2000, in which you requested further review, including a public workshop, on proposed changes to the Fitness-For-Duty rule (10 CFR Part 26). As you know, the Fitness-For-Duty rule is currently before the Commission, after having been made available for public comment. Approximately 1100 public comments were received, including comments from the Nuclear Energy Institute. The comments were helpful in preparing the proposed final rule.

In its evaluation of the final rule package submitted by the staff, the Commission will consider whether additional opportunities for public comment and interaction are appropriate before adoption of the final rule. The statement of considerations and the regulatory analysis will be made available when the final rule is published.

Thank you for your insights regarding this rulemaking effort.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard A. Meserve