

Anthony R. Pietrangelo DIRECTOR, LICENSING NUCLEAR GENERATION

January 18, 2000

Mr. David B. Matthews Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555

PROJECT NUMBER: 689

Dear Mr. Matthews:

Enclosed for NRC endorsement is NEI 96-07, Revision 1 (Final Draft), *Guidelines for* 10 CFR 50.59 Evaluations. The enclosure reflects consideration of NRC comments on the previous draft discussed in our public meeting on January 6.

We understand that the staff intends to endorse the industry guideline in a draft regulatory guide to be published in the *Federal Register* in February for public comment. Our objective is NRC endorsement of the guidance without exception. Thus we are prepared to discuss with the staff any remaining issues, as needed, to support the current schedule.

If you have any questions concerning final draft NEI 96-07, Revision 1, please contact me at 202-739-8081, or Russ Bell at 202-739-8087.

Sincerely

Anthony R. Pietrangelo

Enclosure

c: Eileen McKenna



