



CHAIRMAN

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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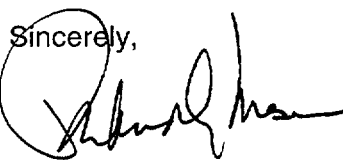
Mr. Joe F. Colvin
President and Chief Executive Officer
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, N.W., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20006-3708

Dear Mr. Colvin:

I am responding to your letter of December 17, 1999, forwarding the Nuclear Energy Institute's (NEI's) comments on SECY-99-256, "Rulemaking Plan for Risk-Informing Special Treatment Regulations." The Commission recently approved the rulemaking plan and the issuance of the advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPR). The ANPR requests public comment on various issues raised by the proposed rulemaking. In addition, the staff is planning on holding a series of public meetings to discuss the key technical issues raised by the proposed rulemaking.

In your letter you requested reconsideration of the proposed schedule for pilot plant activities in support of the rulemaking. I have forwarded your request to the staff and suggest that you submit any other comments you may have on the proposed rulemaking to the staff for consideration.

The Commission looks forward to a continued dialogue with the industry and other stakeholders regarding the risk informing of special treatment requirements. Your continuing comments on this important subject are appreciated.

Sincerely,


Richard A. Meserve

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