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August 6, 2009

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7/6/09 74FR 31993 James H. Riley Director Engineering Nuclear Generation Division

Rulemaking and Directives Branch Office of Administration U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555–0001

Subject: REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF COMMENT PERIOD on Draft Regulatory Guides Associated with Welding and Materials Items (DG-1221 through DG-1224).

Project Number: 689

On July 06, 2009, the Federal Register included notices of issuance and availability for public comment for the following four draft regulatory guides.

- DG-1221, "Control of Stainless Steel Weld Cladding of Low-Alloy Steel Components" (74FR31991)
- 2. DG-1222, "Control of Preheat Temperature for Welding of Low-Alloy Steel" (74FR31993)
- 3. DG-1223, "Control of Electroslag Weld Properties" (74FR31999) 74FR31997
- 4. DG-1224, "Control of the Processing and Use of Stainless Steel" (74FR31992)

The notices requested comments on all of these draft regulatory guides by August 31, 2009. NEI and EPRI are collecting and consolidating industry comments on these draft guides, but it has become apparent that it will not be possible to complete a comprehensive review of all of these documents in the time available. The information contained in these draft guides is important to the industry's work on primary system materials and it is important to carefully evaluate the changes proposed. NEI is therefore requesting a 30-day extension of the public comment period on these draft guides until October 1, 2009, to allow adequate time to complete and document our review.

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If you have any comments on this matter, please contact me at 202-739-8137; ihr@nei.org.

Sincerely,

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James H. Riley

c: Mr. Jeffrey Hixon, RES/DE/CIB, NRC Mr. Mekonen M. Bayssie, RES/DE/RGDB, NRC

Mr. Shane Findlan, EPRI