

March 5, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: Richard J. Barrett, Chief
Probabilistic Safety Assessment Branch
Division of Systems Safety and Analysis
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: William M. Dean, Chief **/RA/**
Inspection Program Branch
Division of Inspection Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS SELF-ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES

In your January 18, 2001, response to my October 18, 2000, request for support for reactor oversight process self-assessment, you proposed an internal audit plan and recommended that your branch provide a formal report annually with informal interim status reports, as needed. Alan Madison of my staff has met with Jin Chung of your staff to clarify your plans and coordinate them with the needs of the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) self-assessment process. We agree that annual formal reports will be adequate, however, it is our understanding that SPSB will be performing the audit reviews to support development of this report throughout the year and will be able to provide informal interim status reports, as necessary. We further request that IIPB be immediately notified of any identified problems or discrepancies in order to facilitate prompt dialog and resolution with the appropriate regional office.

As indicated in my original memorandum described above, the initial set of data you provide should support analysis of the first full year of initial implementation. Therefore, the first formal report is expected by May 15, 2001. We have determined that a calendar year cycle provides program support advantages and we will be shifting to that schedule during the next cycle. Consequently, the next formal report will be expected by February 15, 2002, and annually thereafter.

Please contact Alan Madison at 301-415-1490 should you have any questions.

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* See previous concurrence.

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