

April 30, 2003

MEMORANDUM TO: Ashok C. Thadani, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: Farouk Eltawila, Director **/RA/** by Farouk Eltawila
Division of Systems Analysis and Regulatory Effectiveness
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: GENERIC ISSUE MANAGEMENT CONTROL SYSTEM
REPORT – SECOND QUARTER FY 2003

The Generic Issue Management Control System (GIMCS) Report for the Second Quarter of FY 2003 is attached for your information. Significant progress was made during the reporting period on the following generic safety issues (GSIs):

REACTOR GSIs

GSI-80, Pipe Break Effects on CRD Hydraulic Lines in the Drywells of BWR Mark 1 and II Containments: Approval to pursue a technical assessment of this issue was granted by the RES Director on February 14, 2003.

GSI-156.6.1, Pipe Break Effects on Systems and Components: The latest assessment of the GSI was conducted by Information Systems Laboratories (ISL) who reviewed the previous INEEL and BWROG evaluations of pipe break effects on systems and components inside containment. The ISL report did not provide a clear approach to resolving the GSI. DSARE staff will brief the RES Division Directors in early May on the latest contractor findings and their implications on resolving the issue. Management advice and decision on the approach to resolving the GSI will then be integrated into the Task Action Plan.

GSI-186, Potential Risk and Consequences of Heavy Load Drops in Nuclear Power Plants: Completion of a report on the potential risk and consequences of heavy load drops in nuclear power plants was delayed to address NRR comments on updates to the RES report. This report will be included in the final screening recommendation submitted to the RES Director.

GSI-189, Susceptibility of Ice Condenser Containments to Early Failure from Hydrogen Combustion During a Severe Accident: Proposed regulatory actions have been drafted by NRR and are undergoing staff review.

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GSI-194, Implications of Updated Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Estimates: The screening panel met on January 28, 2003, to determine whether the issue will require technical assessment. The panel's final report is scheduled to be issued in May 2003.

GSI-195, Hydrogen Combustion Events in Foreign BWR Piping: This new issue was identified on March 13, 2003, and addresses the safety concern for combustible gas mixtures accumulating in piping high points. The issue is scheduled to be screened by August 2003.

At the end of the reporting period, eight reactor GSIs remained to be resolved, including three GSIs that were transferred from RES to NRR for regulation and guidance development (see Table 1). Four GSIs remained to be screened (see Table 9).

NON-REACTOR GSIs

No new non-reactor GSIs were identified and, at the end of the reporting period, three non-reactor GSIs remained to be resolved (see Table 14).

I will continue to keep you informed of progress in resolving the remaining unresolved reactor and non-reactor GSIs as well as any major problems that might surface during the course of their resolution.

Attachment: GIMCS Report, April 2003

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Attachment: GIMCS Report, April 2003

cc w/o att.:

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