

November 3, 2004

Mr. James E. Dyer
Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop O5E7
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

SUBJECT: Materials Degradation Matrix

Dear Mr. Dyer:

The Industry has adopted an initiative on materials management and issued NEI 03-08, "Guideline for the Management of Materials Issues," May 2003. This initiative and the associated guidance document establish policy, direction, oversight, and support for industry programs involving the management of material issues. One of the first activities completed under the Initiative was the development of a Strategic Plan that assesses the known materials issues confronting the industry and establishes short and long term priorities for resolving them. A copy of our Strategic Plan was sent to you in March of 2004.

Another significant milestone was recently achieved with the development of a Materials Degradation Matrix (DM). The purpose of the DM is to address materials degradation in a top down fashion, ensuring that all potential degradation that may affect materials used in our primary systems are identified. Revision 0 of the DM is attached for your information. We would welcome any input that your materials experts may have on the content of the enclosed DM.

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