

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RHODE ISLAND ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

Rhode Island Nuclear Science Center

16 Reactor Road

Narragansett, RI 02882-1165

March 25, 2005

Docket No. 50-193

Mr. Daniel Hughes, Project Manager
Non-Power Reactors, Decommissioning and
Environmental Projects Directorate
Division of Reactor Projects-III/IV/V
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Hughes:

This letter concerns revising the Technical Specifications to add an additional member to the Nuclear and Radiation Safety Committee (NRSC). It is proposed that Section 6.0.1 g. be modified as follows:

g. Two qualified representatives from the academic community of the State of Rhode Island.

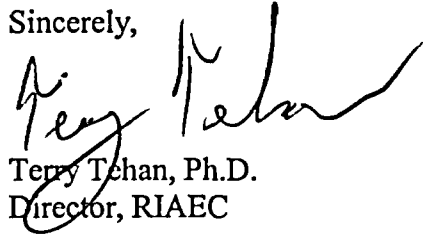
This change was proposed by the NRSC and approved by the Rhode Island Atomic Energy Commission (RIAEC) at its March 23, 2005 meeting. The reason for this change is to provide five external members on the committee to ensure that there are no tie votes and to provide adequate members so that sufficient corporate knowledge exists when there is committee membership turnover.

As a matter of policy, the RIAEC and the University of Rhode Island do not allow the staff to vote on the RIAEC, NRSC or the University Radiation Safety Committee to prevent possible conflicts of interest and to provide good corporate governance by allowing only outside members to vote. The Technical Specifications are currently silent on voting status and it is intended that they remain that way. The RIAEC does allow the RSO and the Assistant Director to vote on the NRSC Sub-committee since this group handles routine matters and reviews. Any significant items such as license amendments or new authorizations must go before the full NRSC. Rhode Island Open government laws ensure that any interested party can attend NRSC and RIAEC meetings so there is access to the NRSC for anyone with a safety concern. Any issues that can not be resolved by the NRSC are forwarded to the RIAEC which has five external members appointed by

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the Governor. This Technical Specification change will provide for better governance and continuity in the NRSC, in addition to making it more similar in structure to its parent body the RIAEC. If there are any questions, please call me at 401-789-9391.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry Tehan", written over the printed name and title.

Terry Tehan, Ph.D.
Director, RIAEC

Copy to: RIAEC
NRSC