March 28, 2007

MEMORANDUM TO: Brian W. Sheron, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: John D. Monninger, Chairman */RA/*
Reactor Generic Issue Review Panel
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF INITIAL SCREENING OF GENERIC ISSUE 201, "SMALL-BREAK LOSS-OF-COOLANT ACCIDENT WITH LOSS OF OFFSITE POWER"

In accordance with Management Directive (MD) 6.4, "Generic Issues Program," the Generic Issue Screening Panel has completed the initial screening of Generic Issue (GI) 201, "Small-break loss-of-coolant accident (SBLOCA) with loss of offsite power (LOOP)." GI-201 addresses concerns regarding the possibility of an SBLOCA event where the refueling water storage tank (RWST) is depleted and the emergency core cooling system (ECCS) is aligned in high-pressure injection (HPI) mode. In such a case the low-pressure injection (LPI) pumps would provide suction head to the HPI pumps. If a LOOP subsequently occurs, the HPI pumps may be sequenced onto the emergency diesel generators (EDG) prior to the sequencing of the LPI pumps – possibly causing pump damage due to restart of the HPI pumps without adequate suction head. (See Enclosure 1).

Based on the screening investigation of GI-201, the panel recommends dropping this GI from further pursuit. The panel's conclusion is based on the negligible calculated increase in core-damage frequency (CDF) of 4E-08 associated with the "SBLOCA with LOOP" issue. In fact, the CDF calculation contains conservatism since the plant used for the computation has several conditions not present at most plants – in effect making the 4E-08 CDF estimate bounding.

A summary of the panel's results and comments is included (Enclosure 2). The Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) will maintain the screening results of this GI for future records in the Generic Issue Management Control System (GIMCS), and will publish the results in the next Supplement to NUREG-0933, "A Prioritization of Generic Safety Issues." I request your approval of the panel's recommendation so that RES can proceed as required by MD 6.4.

Enclosures:
1. GI-201 Screening Evaluation
2. GI-201 Panel Results and Comments

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