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January 22, 2014

Mr. Joseph Colaccino
Branch Chief, Policy Branch
Division of Advanced Reactor and Rulemaking Program
Office of New Reactors
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Response to NRC Request for Additional Information on *Plant Engineering: Guideline for the Acceptance of Commercial-Grade Design and Analysis Computer Programs Used in Nuclear Safety-Related Applications* (EPRI, Palo Alto, CA: 2012. 1025243) and Submittal of Revision 1 of 1025243

Project Number: 689

Dear Mr. Colaccino:

We are pleased to provide a response to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) letter dated February 27, 2013, which requested additional information in order to complete the NRC review of the subject document. Attachment 1 provides direct responses to each of the NRC's questions. These responses led to changes to EPRI 1025243, and Revision 1 is included as Attachment 2. The subject document provides a methodology that can be used to perform safety classification on non-process computer programs, such as design and analysis tools, that are not resident or embedded plant systems, structures and components.

We request endorsement of Revision 1 of EPRI 1025243 in an NRC Regulatory Guide as acceptable guidance for safety classification and methods for acceptance of commercial-grade design and analysis computer programs used in nuclear safety-related applications. In order to enable this guidance to be implemented as soon as practicable, we would appreciate the NRC initiating the regulatory guide endorsement process as quickly as possible. In the meantime, we request that the NRC provide a response to this letter by April 1, 2014, confirming that the guidance is consistent with the staff's views.

Mr. Joseph Colaccino

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If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Marc Nichol (mrn@nei.org; 202-739-8131) or me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RJB", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Russell J. Bell

Attachments

c: Ms. Kerri A. Kavanagh, NRO/DCIP/QVIB, NRC
NRC Document Control Desk