

April 23, 2015

MEMORANDUM TO: Brian E. Thomas, Director  
Division of Engineering  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: Richard P. Correia, Director /RA/  
Division of Risk Analysis  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF PERIODIC REVIEW OF REGULATORY GUIDE  
(RG) 1.178

This memorandum documents the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) periodic review of regulatory guide (RG) 1.178, "An Approach for Plant-Specific Risk-Informed Decisionmaking for Inservice Inspection of Piping." The RG, published in September, 2003, describes guidance on acceptable approaches to meeting the existing Section XI requirements for the scope and frequency of inspection of inservice inspection of piping programs. As discussed in Management Directive 6.6, "Regulatory Guides," the NRC staff reviews RGs approximately every 5 years to ensure that the RGs continue to provide useful guidance. Documentation of the NRC staff review is enclosed.

Based on the results of the periodic review, the staff concludes that a revision to RG 1.178, Revision 1, is not currently warranted. However, the staff plans to develop a draft guide of RG 1.178 in conjunction with the development of the draft guide of RG 1.174, as directed in SRM-SECY-11-0014. The schedule for developing a draft guide for RG 1.174 is dependent on work currently being performed by the NRC's Risk Management Regulatory Framework (RMRF) working group, as directed by the commission in SRM-SECY-13-0132. In this staff requirements memorandum (SRM), the RMRF working group was directed to develop a Commission Paper that, in part, preserves the insights contained in Enclosure 3 of SECY-13-0132, "Defense-in-Depth Observations and Detailed History," and includes a description of the interrelationships of several on-going activities, including the staff efforts to address the defense-in-depth direction in SRM-SECY-11-0014. As such, the schedule for updating RG 1.174 and RG1.178 will be developed following the Commission's issuance of an SRM in response to the RMRF Commission Paper. It is currently estimated that the Commission SRM on the RMRF Commission Paper would be issued in the second quarter of CY2016.

Enclosure:  
As stated

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