

**RUSSELL J. BELL**  
*Senior Director, New Plant Licensing*

1201 F Street, NW, Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20004  
P: 202.739.8087  
rjb@nei.org  
nei.org



June 30, 2015

Mr. Michael E. Mayfield  
Director  
Division of Advanced Reactors and Rulemaking  
Office of New Reactors  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

**Subject:** Update on Industry Activities Related to SMR Emergency Planning Zones (EPZs)

**Project Number: 689**

Dear Mr. Mayfield:

Prospective design certification, early site permit, and combined license applicants are in the process of developing the technical basis for SMR-appropriate EPZs based on a proposed methodology put forward by NEI in December 2013 and discussed in public meetings with the NRC. We provided responses to a number of NRC questions concerning the proposed methodology in a letter dated November 19, 2014. That letter also indicated that additional information to more fully respond to some of the NRC's questions is expected to be provided by SMR applicants.

In particular, NuScale Power is preparing to submit a Topical Report, in late 2015, that applies the NEI methodology to establish the technical basis for SMR EPZ size. NuScale plans to address many of the NRC questions that were not fully addressed by the NEI white paper. As such, NRC review of NuScale's Topical Report is an important part of the industry strategy to resolve generic technical issues and obtain NRC feedback on the acceptability of the industry-proposed methodology and criteria for establishing the technical basis for SMR EPZ size.

Although EPZ size is not established as part of design certification, the information contained within NuScale's Topical Report is expected to be used by combined license (COL) applicants incorporating the NuScale design, if certified. We understand that, based on recent responses to the NRC's Regulatory Information Summary (RIS) 2015-07, *Process for Scheduling and Allocating Resources in FY 2017 for the Review of New Licensing Applications for Large Light-Water Reactors and Small Modular Reactors*, there are two COL applications planned for submittal in the 2017/2018 timeframe. NRC review and issuance of a

Mr. Michael E. Mayfield

June 30, 2015

Page 2

safety evaluation on the NuScale Topical Report in 2016 will provide clarity important to submitting a quality COL application on the schedules communicated by prospective applicants in their RIS responses.

We look forward to further interactions related to SMR emergency planning, including NRC staff feedback from review of the NuScale Topical Report. 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 "RJ Bell", is positioned above the printed name.

Russell J. Bell

c: Ms. Deborah A. Jackson, NRO/DARR, NRC  
Mr. Mark E. Tonacci, NRO/DARR/SMRLB, NRC  
Ms. Anna Bradford, NRO/DARR/ARPB, NRC  
Mr. Arlon D. Costa, NRO/ DARR/ARPB, NRC  
NRC Document Control Desk