

June 28, 2016

Mr. Russell J. Bell
Senior Director, New Plant Licensing
Nuclear Energy Institute
1201 F. Street, NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20004

SUBJECT: THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION RESPONSE TO THE
SUBMISSION OF THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE PROPOSED
APPROACH TO OFFSITE POWER REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL MODULAR
REACTORS AND OTHER NEW TECHNOLOGIES, DATED MARCH 23, 2016

Dear Mr. Bell:

I am writing in response to your letter dated March 23, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML16158A043). In your letter, you provided the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) paper related to offsite power requirements for small modular reactors (SMRs) and other new technologies for consideration. You also requested a public meeting to discuss the proposed approach and to identify the next steps towards establishing guidance for designs that do not require any offsite supply of power.

The NRC has conducted a preliminary review of the NEI paper and has been engaged with NuScale, LLC, regarding their pending submission of an application for an SMR design certification later this calendar year. We understand the application will include a request for exemption from the offsite power requirement provisions of General Design Criterion 17, "Electric Power Systems," in Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 50. Given this information, the NRC staff determined that the optimum time to conduct a public meeting for pursuing the development of guidance on this matter for future applicants is after its review of the first SMR design and after considering lessons learned during that review. Therefore, the NRC will not pursue any further review or action on this paper.

If you have any questions, please contact Carolyn Lauron at 301-415-2736, or via email at Carolyn.Lauron@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA Deborah Jackson Acting for/

Michael E. Mayfield, Director
Division of Engineering Infrastructure and
Advanced Reactors
Office of New Reactors

Docket No: PROJ0689

cc: See next page

If you have any questions, please contact Carolyn Lauron at 301-415-2736, or via email at Carolyn.Lauron@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Mayfield, Director
Division of Engineering Infrastructure and
Advanced Reactors
Office of New Reactors

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NEI New Reactors Mailing List

(Revised 08/25/2015)

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