



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 31, 2019

MEMORANDUM TO: Ho K. Nieh, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Raymond V. Furstenau, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

John W. Lubinski, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

FROM: Joseph E. Donoghue, Director **/RA/**
Division of Safety Systems
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: UPDATE TO THE PROJECT PLAN TO PREPARE THE U.S.
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR EFFICIENT AND
EFFECTIVE LICENSING OF ACCIDENT TOLERANT FUELS

The purpose of this memorandum is to transmit the updated Version 1.1 of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Accident Tolerant Fuel (ATF) Project Plan, "Project Plan to Prepare the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to Efficiently and Effectively License Accident Tolerant Fuels" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML18261A414). The plan has been developed by the NRC's cross-office ATF steering committee, chaired by the Division of Safety Systems in the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, and associated working group to prepare the agency for timely licensing of ATF concepts. This revision to the project plan incorporates Appendix A, "Fuel Burnup and Enrichment Extension Preparation Strategy," to align with industry's plans to request higher fuel burnup and enrichment limits along with the deployment of near-term ATF concepts. Because of this addition, the previous Appendix A, "NRC Plans to Develop Analysis Capability," has been shifted to Appendix B. The NRC staff publicized the Appendix A draft content for stakeholder comments on September 3, 2019 and held a public meeting on September 12, 2019 to respond to early feedback and to provide stakeholders an additional forum for discussion. A formal letter from the Nuclear Energy Institute (ADAMS Accession No. ML19270F046), was received on September 27, 2019, capturing industry comments. Responses to the comments have been documented and are also enclosed.

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The steering committee considers the plan to be a living document that will evolve, as needed, as concepts mature and industry plans solidify.

Enclosures:

As stated

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REGULATORY COMMISSION FOR EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE LICENSING
OF ACCIDENT TOLERANT FUELS DATED OCTOBER 31, 2019

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ADAMS Accession Nos:**Package: ML19297F703****Transmittal Memo: ML19298A003****Project Plan: ML19301B166****Comment Resolution: ML19301B814*****via email****NRR-106**

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