

October 10,2000

MEMORANDUM TO: Cynthia A. Carpenter, Chief
Generic Issues, Environmental, Financial
and Rulemaking Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, NRR

FROM: Joseph L. Birmingham, Project Manager/**RA**
Generic Issues, Environmental, Financial
and Rulemaking Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, NRR

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MEETING BETWEEN THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION (NRC) STAFF AND THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE
(NEI) ON FIRE TEST PROTOCOLS

On October 3, 2000, NRC staff met with members of NEI to discuss preliminary comments on fire test protocols proposed by NEI and industry for fire-induced circuit failures cable testing. The fire test proposal had been supplied to NRC, September 15, 2000, and NRC preliminary comments on the plan were provided to NEI on October 3, 2000. Both the test plan and the comments are available in NRC's document management system ADAMS. A list of those attending the meeting is attached.

The meeting was a working meeting to identify potential improvements or deficiencies in the fire test plan. The NRC had given NEI 34 comments and the group discussed each of the NRC comments. In general, the comments proposed additions to or changes in the way the test would be conducted. Most of the NRC suggestions concerned the number, type, and location of cables to be tested; the positioning of the heat/flame source; the number and type of monitoring instruments; and the positioning of the cable trays and conduit being tested. NEI agreed to consider the comments but asked that NRC prioritize them so that, given budget and test facility constraints, they could try to incorporate the most important changes into the test. NRC agreed to provide NEI a prioritization for the comments.

NEI concluded the meeting saying that they would develop a revised test plan taking the various budgetary and facility constraints and the NRC prioritization of the comments into consideration.

Project No. 689
cc: See list

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Attendees at Fire Test Protocol Meeting October 3, 2000

| Name | Organization |
|----------------|---------------------|
| Fred Emerson | NEI |
| Gary Vine | EPRI |
| Tom Gorman | PPL Corp |
| Woody Walker | Entergy |
| Donald Ferraro | Winston & Strawn |
| Ed Connell | NRC\DSSA\SPLB |
| Mark Salley | NRC\DSSA\SPLB |
| Nathan Siu | NRC\RES\PRAB |
| Joe Birmingham | NRC\DRIP\RGEB |
| Steve Nowlen | Sandia |
| Frank Wyant | Sandia |