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Chief, Rules and Directives Branch Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Mail Stop T6-D59 Washington, DC 20555-0001

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STRATEGIC TEAMING AND RESOURCE SHARING (STARS) COMMENTS ON DRAFT REVISION TO NRC INSPECTION MANUAL CHAPTER 9900, "TECHNICAL GUIDANCE," OPERABILITY DETERMINATIONS AND RESOLUTION OF NONCONFORMANCES OF STRUCTURES, SYSTEMS, AND COMPONENTS ("REGULATORY ISSUE SUMMARY 2004-XX") (MC2262)

## Gentlemen:

The Strategic Teaming and Resource Sharing (STARS)<sup>1</sup> nuclear power plants are endorsing the September 30, 2004, comments submitted by the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) on the draft revision to NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 9900, "Technical Guidance," Operability Determinations and Resolution of Nonconformances of Structures, Systems, and Components ("Regulatory Issue Summary 2004-XX"). (See 69FR46599 dated August 3, 2004.)

The STARS plants recognize the effort that went into creating this draft document. We support the project and feel that significant progress has been made. Because of the importance of operability determinations and the resolution of nonconforming conditions, this draft document has received many comments from the industry. The STARS plants have been working through NEI to present our comments to the NRC. We strongly encourage the NRC to continue the dialogue with NEI and other stake holders to resolve these comments and to produce a document that serves the industry and the NRC while avoiding any unintended consequences.

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(Lee = K. Kavanagh (Kak)

C. Petrone (COP)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> STARS is an alliance of six plants (eleven nuclear units) operated by TXU Power, AmerenUE, Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, STP Nuclear Operating Company and Arizona Public Service Company.

The STARS plants appreciate the opportunity to comment on this draft revision to the NRC Inspection Manual. If there are any questions regarding this endorsement of NEI comments, please contact me at 254-897-6887 or email me at <a href="mailto:dwoodla1@txu.com">dwoodla1@txu.com</a>.

Sincerely,

D. R. Woodlan, Chairman

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Integrated Regulatory Affairs Group

**STARS**