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March 6, 2014

MEMORANDUM TO: Michael J. Case, Director
Division of Engineering
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: Thomas H. Boyce, Chief **/RA/**
Regulatory Guidance and Generic Issues Branch
Division of Engineering
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF PERIODIC REVIEW OF REGULATORY GUIDE
(RG) 1.6

This memorandum documents the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) periodic review of regulatory guide (RG) 1.6, "Independence Between Redundant Standby (Onsite) Power Sources and Between Their Distribution Systems (Safety Guide 6)." As discussed in Management Directive 6.6, "Regulatory Guides," the NRC staff reviews RGs approximately every 5 years to ensure that the RGs continue to provide useful guidance. Documentation of the NRC staff review is enclosed.

Based on the results of periodic review, the NRC staff has determined that no revisions are needed at this time. There are no known technical or regulatory issues with RG 1.6. The RG contains high-level guidance that explains and expands on the requirements in General Design Criteria (GDC) 17, "Electric Power Systems." The RG provides examples of acceptable independence between redundant standby power sources and redundant distribution systems. The examples and regulatory positions in the RG are still applicable and suitable for nuclear power plants being designed or evaluated today. The RG contains no references nor does it endorse any externally developed standards or other guidance documents. The scope of RG 1.6 is limited to independence of standby power sources and Class 1E distributions systems.

The current revision of the RG dates to 1971, which means Section A "Introduction," Section B "Discussion," and Section D "implementation" are not in accordance with the current format for RGs. However, there are no technical issues with the guidance and its language is clear.

The NRC staff has completed its 2014 periodic review of RG 1.6 and determined that no revisions are needed at this time.

Enclosure: Periodic Review of RG 1.6

CONTACTS: Kenn Miller, RES/DE/ICEEB
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