

September 11, 2008

MEMORANDUM TO: R. W. Borchardt
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Michael R. Johnson, Director **/RA/**
Office of New Reactors

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION AND
ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS REGARDING NUCLEAR
POWER PLANTS

The purpose of this memorandum is to forward the enclosed, "Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on Environmental Reviews Related to the Issuance of Authorizations to Construct and Operate Nuclear Power Plants," for signature.

NRC staff from the Office of New Reactors and the Office of the General Counsel has reached agreement with staff from the Headquarters Regulatory Community of Practice at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) on this MOU. In addition, the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation was consulted in the development of this MOU. This MOU will supersede the 1975 MOU between the NRC and the Corps.

The Corps has informed us that Mr. John Paul Woodley, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), is prepared to sign the attached MOU on Friday, September 12, 2008. The Council on Environmental Quality and the staff of Senator Inhofe have expressed strong interest in how quickly this MOU can be put in place.

Enclosure:
As stated

CONTACT: Richard L. Emch, NRO/DSER
(301) 415-1590

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