MEMORANDUM TO: J. E. Dyer, Director

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Ashok C. Thadani, Director

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: R. William Borchardt, Deputy Director /RA/

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Jack R. Strosnider, Deputy Director /RA/ Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

James L. Caldwell, Regional Administrator /RA/

Region III

SUBJECT: REACTOR OPERATING EXPERIENCE TASK FORCE REPORT

A task force under the leadership of Charles Ader and consisting of representatives providing NRR, RES, and regional perspectives conducted an independent evaluation of the agency's reactor operating experience program and recommended specific improvements. A Steering Committee consisting of Jack Strosnider, James Caldwell, and Bill Borchardt facilitated Task Force activities, reviewed the Task Force recommendations and discussed implementation of program improvements with the line organization management.

The Task Force completed their report (attachment 1) on November 26, 2003, following review and comment by the applicable line organizations and the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee has reviewed the Task Force report and concluded it should be forwarded to the line organization for implementation. Several recommendations require the development of additional implementation details. As the Steering Committee has discussed with you, we recommend that these implementation details, including schedule and resource estimates, be developed by a coordinated effort of the RES and NRR line organizations currently responsible for the operating experience program. Activities have begun to develop detailed implementation plans to address each of the Task Force recommendations, and these efforts will be coordinated through periodic management meetings and frequent staff level interaction. The first management meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2004, and will be co-chaired by Jack Strosnider and Bill Borchardt. The Task Force report (attachment 1) has been made available to the public with the issuance of this memorandum.

Attachment: As stated

January 9, 2004

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The Task Force report (attachment 1) has been made available to the public with the issuance of this memorandum.

Distribution: J. Caldwell, RIII J. Ibarra

Attachment: As stated J. Strosnider, RES P. Baranowsky

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