

June 4, 2010

MEMORANDUM TO: Thomas Hiltz, Chief
Advanced Fuel Cycle, Enrichment,
and Uranium Conversion Branch
Special Projects and Technical
Support Directorate
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

FROM: Jeannette Arce, Project Manager **/RA/**
Advanced Fuel Cycle, Enrichment,
and Uranium Conversion Branch
Special Projects and Technical
Support Directorate
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MAY 13, 2010, MEETING WITH THE NUCLEAR
ENERGY INSTITUTE ON SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL
REPROCESSING

On May 13, 2010, a Category 2 meeting was held between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and representatives of the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) at NRC Headquarters, Rockville, Maryland. Enclosed is the meeting summary. The summary contains no proprietary or classified information.

Enclosure: As stated

cc: Rodney McCullum, NEI

CONTACT: Jeannette Arce, NMSS/FCSS
(301) 492-3411

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Summary of NRC and NEI Public Meeting on Spent Nuclear Fuel Reprocessing

DATE: May 13, 2010

PLACE: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
Rockville, MD

ATTENDEES: See Attachment 1

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss NRC's ongoing activities related to revising the regulatory framework for licensing and regulating spent nuclear fuel reprocessing facilities. The meeting agenda is in Attachment 2.

DISCUSSION:

Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) representatives presented information concerning industry perspectives on the development of reprocessing regulations. Discussions were focused on several of the regulatory gaps identified in SECY-09-0081, titled "Update on Reprocessing Regulatory Framework – Summary of Gap Analysis," May 28, 2009. NEI representatives provided recommendations concerning regulatory gaps 3, 5, 8 and 9, HLW/WIR Definition, Risk Considerations, Risk Informing Part 73 and Part 74, and Baseline Design Criteria, respectively. Meeting handouts are available electronically in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML101400539. During the meeting, the NEI representatives stated the need for a technology-neutral regulatory infrastructure that is risk informed and performance based—and accommodates potential advanced separation technologies.

The NRC staff presented information about regulatory gap 5, Risk Considerations for a Production Facility Licensed under 10 CFR Part 70 and regulatory gap 9, General Design Criteria and Baseline Design Criteria. The NRC staff indicated that if rulemaking is supported and appropriate resources are made available, a final rule could be completed in 2015. In addition, the NRC staff mentioned initial plans for public outreach meetings later this year to inform the development of the regulatory basis. The NEI representatives indicated their continued support of NRC's efforts to revise the regulatory framework.

Members of the public were in attendance. A member of the public who was unable to attend emailed their comment to the NRC prior to the meeting (Attachment 3). Before adjourning the meeting, members of the public had an opportunity to make comments and ask NRC representatives questions.

Attachments:

1. Meeting Attendees
2. Meeting Agenda
3. Email - Input on Reprocessing Regulatory Framework