

March 27, 2000

ORGANIZATION: Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI)

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF LICENSE RENEWAL STEERING COMMITTEE
MEETING WITH THE LICENSE RENEWAL WORKING GROUP

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) License Renewal Steering Committee (LRSC) met with the NEI License Renewal Working Group on March 8, 2000, to discuss the status of the license renewal applications and generic license renewal activities. The agenda for the meeting is provided in Attachment 1. Attendees are listed in Attachment 2. Following is a summary of the topics discussed at the meeting:

1. Status of applications

a. Calvert Cliffs

The Commission is currently evaluating the NRC staff's recommendation regarding issuance of the renewed license. There was no additional discussion of Calvert Cliffs application.

b. Oconee

The NRC staff issued the final safety evaluation report on February 3, 2000, ahead of the scheduled February 12 date. The Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards visited the Oconee site on February 23 - 24, 2000, and a public subcommittee meeting was held in the vicinity of the site on February 24, 2000. The full committee met on March 2, 2000, and its report to the Commission regarding issuance of the license was later issued on March 13, 2000. The third inspection was underway at the time of the meeting and was completed on March 3, 2000. Duke Energy submitted its revised supplement to the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report on February 14, 2000, and the staff is currently reviewing it. The staff subsequently met with Duke on March 9, 2000, to discuss the form and content of the renewed license.

c. Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1 (ANO-1)

The ANO-1 license renewal application was received by the NRC on February 1, 2000. By letter dated February 28, the staff notified Entergy Operations, Inc., that it found the application acceptable for docketing and provided a copy of the Federal Notice of indicating the NRC's acceptance of the application and notifying the public of the opportunity for hearing. A review schedule for the application was issued by letter dated March 7.

d. Hatch

The Hatch license renewal application was received on March 1, 2000, and the staff was performing the acceptance review for docketing. The Hatch application is the first renewal application received for which the NRC approved submittal of only one signed paper copy of the application with the additional required copies provided on CD-ROMs.

e. Generic Lessons Learned

The NRC staff and industry agreed on the need to identify efficiencies and lessons learned from the experience gained from past and ongoing application reviews. This topic will be included as a routine agenda topic for future meetings between the LRSC and NEI.

2. License Renewal Interest

Attachment 3 was provided to illustrate the NRC's budget planning assumptions regarding receipt of renewal applications. The NRC's budget and planning process now projects receipt of applications by fiscal year quarter and the moving of an application between quarters or the receipt of an unannounced application has significant impact on the staff's process. The industry was again encouraged to inform the NRC when applications are planned to be submitted.

In response, NEI stated that letters were sent to the chief nuclear operating officers emphasizing the importance of informing the NRC early of their intent to submit a renewal application. Using input from the licensees, NEI plans to compile a list of plants planning to submit renewal applications between now and the year 2010. The names of the applicants will be kept confidential unless the licensee has made a public disclosure. The first version of the list will be sent to the NRC in April 2000 and updated approximately quarterly.

The NRC is also considering the need to formalize and inform the industry of its process for reviewing renewal applications. Questions were raised regarding the order of review if, for example, an unannounced application is received before one where the licensee had informed the NRC of a submittal date. The NRC's intent for order of review is to follow its budgeting and planning process to focus on those applications for which the NRC was notified of submittal dates to allow the applications to be incorporated into the planning process. Applications received that are not in the planning process will be evaluated and handled to the extent practical on a case-by-case basis.

3. Active License Renewal Issues Status

An action from the December 9, 1999, meeting between the LRSC and NEI was to review the unresolved generic license renewal issues to determine which ones will not be addressed by development of the Generic Aging Lessons Learned (GALL) report and license renewal standard review plan (SRP). A summary of the NRC staff's assessment is contained in Attachment 4. The 16 issues not addressed by these reports or ongoing work by NEI, are contained in Attachment 5.

Agreement was reached that the existing inventory of generic renewal issues would be abandoned in lieu of a process for resolving comments on the draft GALL report and the SRP (see discussion under Item 4). Renewal Issues that are close to resolution will be completed. A public meeting will be held between the staff and NEI to discuss the issues not addressed by the GALL report and the SRP.

4. License Renewal Implementation Guidance Development

NEI explained that they have several hundred comments on the draft GALL report and they offered to prepare those comments in a form that includes a comment, justification, and proposed alternative report language. NEI is close to compiling their comments on the electrical section of the GALL report and will submit the comments in early April 2000. Comments on the structural section will follow with comments on the mechanical section, the largest section, last. It was agreed that the staff would meet with NEI and other interested stakeholders to discuss the industry comments. The staff also agreed to provide NEI with a cut-off date for submitting their comments to support the staff's schedule. Attachment 6 provides the schedule for completing development of license renewal implementation guidance.

The staff is continuing to improve the draft GALL report and complete sections of the updated SRP-LR. In a February 3, 2000, letter to NEI, the staff provided a "template" for preparing the SRP based on a method of referencing the GALL report in a license renewal application. In addition, by a March 6, 2000, letter to NEI, the staff has provided the first 5 sections of the draft SRP-LR for preliminary review and comment by interested stakeholders.

5. Status of Environmental Activities

a. Rulemaking Petition Regarding Severe Accident Mitigation Alternatives (SAMAs)

NEI submitted a petition dated July 13, 1999, to delete the requirement to address SAMAs in the environmental reviews for license renewal. The staff is preparing a draft Commission paper with its recommendations on the disposition of the NEI petition for a rulemaking. The staff's schedule is to resolve the petition within 12 months of publishing the notice of receipt in the Federal Register (64 FR 48117; September 2, 1999). (Note: At the meeting, the schedule was incorrectly stated as 12 months from the receipt of the petition.)

b. License Renewal Supplements to the Standard Review Plan and Regulatory Guide

The final Supplement 1 to NUREG-1555, "Standard Review Plans for Environmental Reviews for Nuclear Power Plants, Operating License Renewal," was issued on February 23, 2000. A notice of availability was subsequently published in the Federal Register on March 14, 2000, (65 FR 13798).

The final Supplement 1 to Regulatory Guide 4.2, "Preparation of Supplemental Environmental Reports for Applications to Renew Nuclear Power Plant Operating Licenses," is currently in the concurrence process. Review by the Committee to Review Generic Requirements is still required. The staff anticipates issuing the final supplement in approximately one month.

6. Resolution of GSI-190 "Fatigue Evaluation of Metal Components for 60-Year Plant Life"

NEI indicated that the industry's concern regarding the need to address environmental effects on fatigue for license renewal remained, in spite of the staff's closure of GSI-190 requiring no generic regulatory action. NEI and the Electric Power Research Institute are reviewing the NRC contractor's report used to resolve the GSI. It was agreed that a technical meeting

between the staff and NEI will be scheduled to discuss this issue further. NEI stated that no action is needed by the LRSC at this time. However, this issue may be raised to the LRSC in the future depending on the outcome of the technical meeting.

/RA/

Stephen T. Hoffman, Senior Project Manager
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 690

Attachments: As stated

cc w/attach: See next page

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AGENDA

NRC LICENSE RENEWAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING WITH THE NEI LICENSE RENEWAL WORKING GROUP MARCH 8, 2000

1. Status of applications
 - a. Calvert Cliffs
 - b. Oconee
 - c. Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1
 - d. Hatch
2. License renewal interest
3. Active license renewal issues status
4. License renewal implementation guidance development
 - Generic Aging Lessons Learned Report, standard review plan, regulatory guide, & industry implementation guideline (NEI 95-10)
5. Status of Environmental Activities
 - a. Rulemaking petition regarding severe accident mitigation alternatives
 - b. License renewal supplements to the standard review plan and regulatory guide

ATTENANCE LIST
 NRC LICENSE RENEWAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
 WITH THE NEI LICENSE RENEWAL WORKING GROUP
 MARCH 8, 2000

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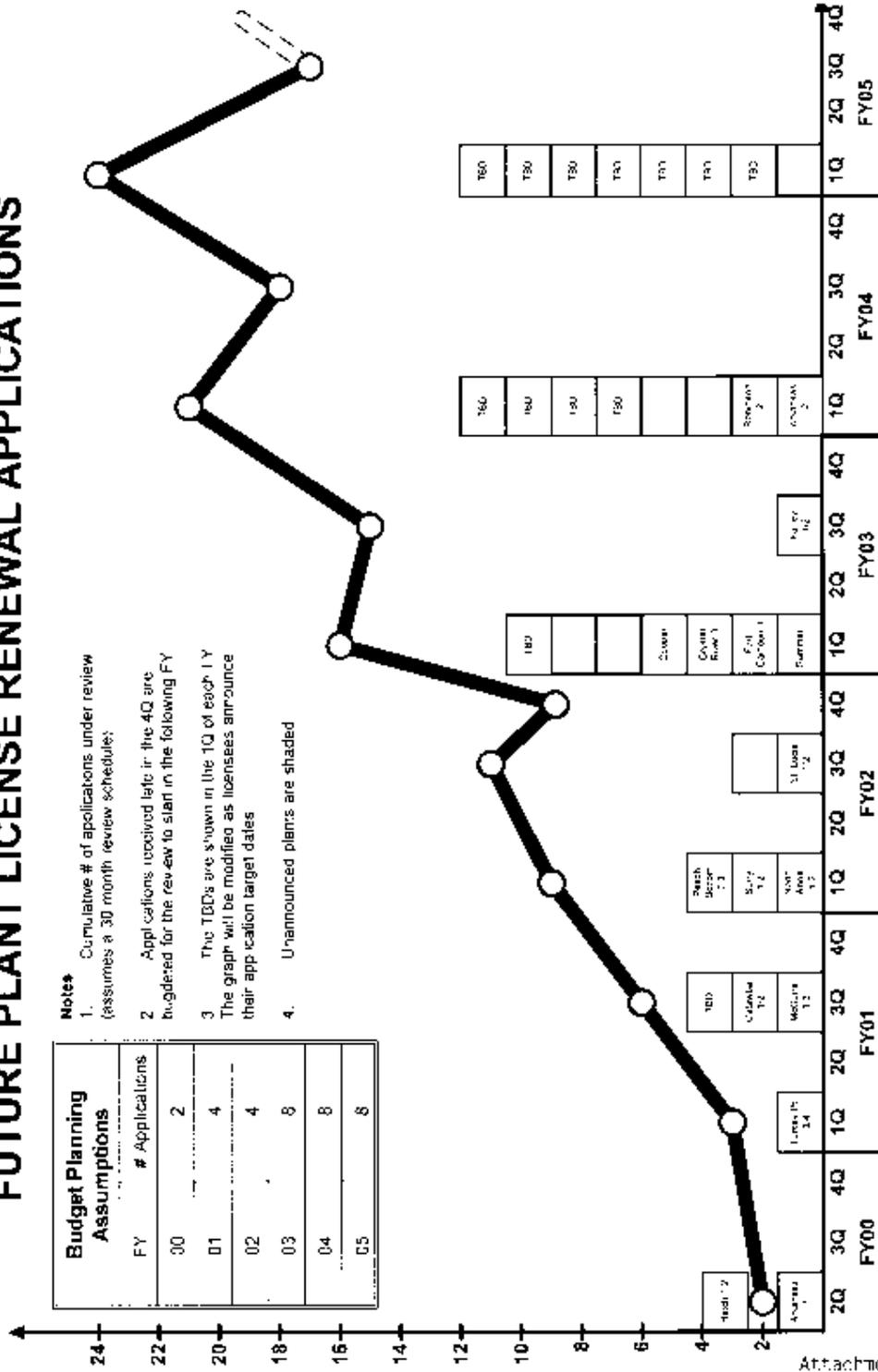
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FUTURE PLANT LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATIONS

Budget Planning Assumptions	
FY	# Applications
00	2
01	4
02	4
03	8
04	8
05	8

Notes

- Cumulative # of applications under review (assumes a 30 month review schedule)
- Applications received late in the 4Q are budgeted for the review to start in the following FY
- The TBD's are shown in the 1Q of each FY. The graph will be modified as licensees announce their application target dates
- Unannounced plants are shaded



Application Submittals as Budgeted

Last Updated: March 6, 2000

STATUS OF GENERIC LICENSE RENEWAL ISSUES

Total License Renewal Issues	Total	106
	Issues Deleted	5
	Issues Resolved	11
	Open Issues	90
Open Issues	Total	90
	Issues Addressed by GALL and SRP	37
	Issues Addressed by SRP	12
	Issues Addressed by NEI	25
	Other Issues	16

LICENSE RENEWAL ISSUES

Issue #	Title	Category	NEI Input	NRC Action	NEI Response	Resolution
98-0005	APPLICABLE AGING EFFECTS	3				
98-0007	RISK INFORMED LICENSE RENEWAL	3				
98-0008	COMPONENT LISTS	2				
98-0009	FSAR CONTENT	2		12/31/1999 M	01/31/2000	02/29/2000 M
98-0028	FAILURE OF METAL COMPONENTS	2		08/06/1999 C	11/01/1999 M 11/30/1999 M	12/31/1999 M
98-0049	AGING MANAGEMENT OF INACCESSIBLE AREAS OF CONTAINMENT	3	11/04/1998 C	01/31/2000 M	02/29/2000	03/31/2000
98-0057	CREDITING MAINTENANCE RULE PROGRAM FOR MONITORING STRUCTURAL AGING	3	03/26/1999 C	11/06/1999 M 02/29/2000 M	03/31/2000	04/30/2000
98-0070	HANDLING OF TASKS AND ASSOCIATED SCHEDULES	3				
98-0079	ABNORMAL EVENTS CONTRIBUTION TO AGING EFFECTS	3				
98-0080	LEAKAGE FROM BOLTED CONNECTION, AN ABNORMAL EVENTS / ARDM FOR AGING.	3				
98-0082	HYPOTHETICAL FAILURES/CASCADING SUPPORT SYSTEMS IN SCOPING	2		08/06/1999 C 02/29/2000 M	03/31/2000	04/30/2000
98-0087	EVALUATION OF CONTAINMENT TEMPERATURE PROGRAM	3	10/13/1999 C	04/30/2000 T	05/31/2000 T	06/30/2000
98-0088	GENERAL INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSE RENEWAL.	3				

Monday, March 06, 2000

Issue #	Title	Category	NEI Input	NRC Action	NEI Response	Resolution
98-0084	TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION INFORMATION	3				
98-0103	NEUTRON EMBRITTLEMENT OF REACTOR VESSEL INTERNALS	2		10/27/1999 M 12/31/1999 M	01/31/2000	02/29/2000 M
99-0105	HEAT EXCHANGERS HEAT TRANSFER FUNCTION	3		10/21/1999 C 11/19/1999 C	12/31/1999 M	01/31/2000 M

Issues with scheduled action dates were on the Active Issues list. While subject matter of these issues may be addressed in the GALL Report and SRP, specific resolutions have yet to be determined.

*C = Complete
T = Target
M = Missed*

SCHEDULE

- 10/99 ✓ Meeting with NEI to plan initial workshop
- 12/99 ✓ Workshop on GALL and SRP outline
- 3/00 NEI provide aging/program information input to GALL
- 6/00 NEI provide revised NEI 95-10
- 8/00 Issue draft GALL, SRP, and RG/NEI 95-10 for public comment
- 9/00 Public meeting and workshop to gather public comments
- 10/00 NEI revise NEI 95-10
- 11/00 Commission briefing on public comments on draft GALL, SRP, and RG/NEI 95-10
- 2/01 ACRS meeting on GALL, SRP, and RG/NEI 95-10
- 3/01 Commission approval of GALL and SRP
- 4/01 NEI comments on need for rulemaking
- 5/01 Public meeting to discuss need for rulemaking
- 7/01 Staff recommendation to Commission on rulemaking