

June 28, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: Gary Holahan, Director, Division of Systems Safety and Analysis
Jack Strosnider, Director, Division of Engineering
Bruce Boger, Director, Division of Inspection Program Management
David Matthews, Director, Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
John Zwolinski, Director, Division of Licensing Program Management
Jacqueline Silber, Director, Program Management, Policy Development
and Analysis Staff

FROM: Jon Johnson, Associate Director/**RA**
for Inspection and Programs

Brian Sheron, Associate Director/**RA/JZwolinski for**
for Project Licensing and Technical Analysis

SUBJECT: PROGRAM COORDINATION WITHIN THE OFFICE OF NRR FOR
RISK-INFORMED ACTIVITIES

The Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research has the overall agency responsibility for the risk-informed regulation implementation plan (RIRIP). The Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation has a large number of risk-informed initiatives underway or planned. These activities include licensing, rulemaking and oversight functions. While many of these initiatives are separately tracked (by WITS, the Tasking Memorandum, RIRIP and the Director's Quarterly Status Report), the relationship, cohesiveness and relative priorities of these initiatives, within a comprehensive strategy, could benefit from improved coordination within NRR. To improve the coordination and integration of these activities, the Generic Issues, Environmental, Financial and Rulemaking Branch (RGEB), in the Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs has been identified as a central focal point for coordination and integration of risk-informed activities within NRR. RGEB has assigned this new responsibility to Eileen McKenna (EMM, 415-2189) of the Generic Issues and Regulatory Improvements Section in RGEB. The lead responsibility for technical review of NRR risk-informed activities remains in the Division of Systems Safety and Analysis (DSSA)/Probabilistic Safety Assessment Branch (SPSB). In this coordination role, Ms. McKenna will:

1. Serve as office point of contact and coordinator for all risk-informed activities. The extent of involvement will vary depending upon the nature of the activity and its status (for example, there will be greater involvement in activities under development, with no active involvement in activities that are already in the implementation phase (e.g., Revised Reactor Oversight Program (RROP)).
2. Coordinate NRR's efforts with other offices to develop a strategy for risk-informed activities. The strategy would then provide the framework for the RIRIP for NRR.

3. Assess existing activities to identify opportunities to improve consistency among the approaches to different activities. Make recommendations for adjustments to NRR management as appropriate.
4. Integrate elements of communication plans for individual risk-informed activities within the Office of NRR to support the RIRIP and overall agency communications plan.
5. Assist in coordinating risk-informed activities with RES, NMSS, and other offices as appropriate.

The responsibilities within the NRR divisions for completion of various initiatives are not affected by the creation of this coordination function. Any recommended adjustments to plans, schedules or resources arising from the coordination review will be resolved through the normal line organizations and leadership teams using established processes.

Please take steps to ensure that the information flow includes Ms. McKenna in her function as the program coordinator in the areas noted above. Specifically, to enable Ms. McKenna to perform this function, please add her to distribution for incoming and outgoing correspondence, as well as for notifications (by email or other means) of upcoming meetings. In addition, please send her information copies of inter-office and external correspondence and taskings as well as inter-office products during concurrence reviews.

cc: S. Collins/R. Zimmerman
NRR Deputy Division Directors
NRR Branch Chiefs/Project Directors

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