

October 3, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: Cynthia A. Carpenter, Chief
Generic Issues, Environmental, Financial &
Rulemaking Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, NRR

FROM: Joseph L. Birmingham, Project Manager/RA/
Generic Issues, Environmental, Financial &
Rulemaking Branch
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, NRR

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2000, MEETING WITH NUCLEAR
ENERGY INSTITUTE (NEI) TO DISCUSS DRAFT REGULATORY GUIDE
(DG) DG-1097 AND IMPLEMENTING GUIDANCE FOR NFPA 805

On September 21, 2000, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff met with representatives of NEI and industry to discuss industry comments on draft regulatory guide DG-1097, "Fire Protection for Operating Nuclear Power Plants," and proposed implementing guidance for the proposed National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard NFPA 805, "Standard on Performance-Based Fire Protection for Light Water Reactor Electric Generation Plants." Those attending the meeting are listed in Attachment 1. The slides used by NRC are in Attachment 2. The slides used by NEI are in Attachment 3.

The meeting began with introductions and a brief summary of recent work on the two documents. Fred Emerson, NEI, presented industry's comments on DG-1097. The comments were primarily concerns for the wording of the implementation section of the draft guide and the resolution of previously submitted comments. NEI was concerned that the wording in the implementation section could imply that licensees must submit new alternate methods or be evaluated against the guidance in the regulatory guide. NEI also felt that the previously submitted comments did not appear to have been considered.

The NRC explained that the wording used in the implementation section is standard but agreed to consider alternate wording if NEI would provide examples where other wording had been used in regulatory guides. NEI agreed to provide suggested wording.

Regarding the previously submitted industry comments on DG-1097 and its precursor DG-1094, Ed Connell, NRC, provided a slide that showed how the comments were dispositioned by group. Of the 314 total comments, NRC staff agreed with 27, disagreed with 82, and is considering 84. Another 107 comments were on Backfit/Implementation and 14 comments did not propose any change to the document. NEI asked if NRC could provide a listing of how the comments were dispositioned and NRC agreed to provide its resolution of comments in the CD-ROM to be issued following completion of the active guide.

The group then discussed the implementation of NFPA 805. Ed Connell pointed out that there were still several possible outcomes for the standard. The standard could be approved and be

scheduled for issuance in March 2001, it could be sent back to the standards committee for revision which would result in some delay, or it could be not approved in which case the committee may start over. The latter outcome could result in a delay of two years or longer. If the standard is not approved, a possible option would be for the NRC or NEI to develop a standard. NEI agreed with these possibilities and indicated that industry supports completion and implementation of the standard.

Fred Emerson presented other issues that industry believes need to be addressed as part of completing NFPA 805. The issues include a better understanding of the risk-informed and performance-based aspects of the standard, a common understanding of the issues that NRC and industry have with the standard, whether performance-based approaches are permitted, and the Appendix B circuit analysis.

Mr. Emerson stated NEI had accepted the NRC offer to develop implementing guidance for NFPA 805. To accomplish development of the guidance the following are important: industry needs to understand NRC expectations for the implementing guidance, industry should propose topics for inclusion in the guidance, and NRC and industry should agree on topics, schedule, and guidelines for the development of the guidance.

Other issues discussed were, use of the standard as a replacement for the existing plant licensing basis, use of tools from the standard within the current licensing basis, the role of fire probabilistic safety analyses, fire modeling issues, enforcement issues, and code of record issues.

NRC staff stated that they expect it will require three cycles of drafts and reviews to develop the guidance. Each cycle would require approximately six weeks to complete with an acceptable draft finished in April 2001. The NRC would then begin internal reviews and solicitation of public comment. Depending on the amount of public comment, additional solicitation of public comment may be needed. The staff expects the standard to evoke interest both from the public and from internal review. Another issue to be addressed is the framework for licensees to change their licensing basis and adopt NFPA 805. Additional details are in Attachment 2.

Based upon the discussion of the work to be done and the schedule for the vote on the NFPA standard, the group agreed to meet again in early December 2000.

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NAME	JBirmingham:sw	EConnell	EWeiss	SWest
DATE	09/28/00	09/28/00	09/28/00	10/02/00

**Attendees for September 21, 2000, Meeting
Draft Regulatory Guide DG-1097 and NFPA Draft Standard NFPA 805**

NAME	ORGANIZATION
F. Emerson	NEI
D. Modeen	NEI
J. Ertman	NMC/Duane Arnold
F. Garrett	APS/ Palo Verde
B. Thomas	PSEG Nuclear
D. Shumaker	PSEG Nuclear
E. Forrest	LIS
S. Chingo	ComEd
K. Bohlander	PNNL
D. Brandes	Duke Power
C. Pragman	PECO Energy
R. Rispoli	Entergy
S. Trubatch	Hopkins & Sutter
A. Wyche	SERCH Licensing/Bechtel
E. Connell	NRC/NRR/DSSA/SPLB
E. Weiss	NRC/NRR/DSSA/SPLB
J. Birmingham	NRC/NRR/DRIP/RGEB

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DOCUMENT NAME: SUMMARY OF MTG WITH NEI TO DISCUSS DRAFT RG DG-1097 AND IMPLEMENTING GUIDANCE FOR NFPA 805
 ORIGINATOR: Joe Birmingham
 SECRETARY: Sue Wiens (x1282) (MS 11F1)

●●● ROUTING LIST ●●●

	NAME	DATE
1.	J. Birmingham	
2.	E. Connell	
3.	E. Weiss	
4.	S. West	

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