

December 28, 2000

ORGANIZATION: Nuclear Energy Institute

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF PUBLIC MEETING WITH THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE (NEI) AND THE PUBLIC REGARDING POWER REACTOR DECOMMISSIONING RULEMAKING ISSUES

On November 27, 2000, the NRC staff met with representatives of NEI and members of the public to receive feedback about ongoing NRC efforts to determine the risk posed by permanently shutdown nuclear power plants and the status of NRC efforts to amend its regulations to properly reflect the risk posed by these facilities. The meeting agenda is provided in Enclosure 1. An additional agenda topic associated with a generic issue related to a Maine Yankee security exemption request was requested by NEI at the beginning of the meeting. A list of attendees is provided in Enclosure 2.

NRC began the meeting by stating that the spent fuel pool risk study being prepared by the NRC Technical Working Group had not been finalized and was currently with the Office of the Executive Director for Operations for concurrence prior to being submitted to the Commission. The draft version of the risk study was issued February 2000 (ADAMS Accession No. ML003683371).

NEI then discussed industry concerns associated with the spent fuel pool risk study and the application of the risk study conclusions to the integrated decommissioning rulemaking. NEI first discussed the seismic risk assessment methodology used in the risk study. NEI stated that it had a concern that by using both the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Electric Power Research Institute seismic hazard curves in assessing the seismic risk, the NRC staff would base decisions on the most conservative curve and thus in effect would not determine the "best estimate" risk. The NRC agreed that the purpose of the risk study was to determine the "best estimate" risk; however, the NRC disagreed that either curve was considered more valid. NRC stated that both curves were equally valid, and therefore, both were presented in the risk study. NEI stated that it would have to review the risk study once finalized, and then may suggest that the NRC determine a methodology to combine the two seismic hazard curves to develop one curve.

Next, NEI stated that the ruthenium release during an uncontrollable heatup of the fuel after a loss of water in the spent fuel pool was overestimated in the risk study. NEI believed that the fuel in the spent fuel pool would, under accident conditions, act similar to a "slumped core" and thus limit the amount of oxygen available, resulting in a ruthenium source term similar to that described in NUREG-1465, "Accident Source Terms for Light-Water Nuclear Power Plants." NEI stated that it would provide a letter to the NRC documenting the topic addressed above. The NRC staff stated that it would review the letter as appropriate; however, two ruthenium source terms were considered in the risk study, the NUREG-1465 source term and a higher source term.

NEI then discussed the use of adiabatic heatup in risk study calculations. NEI contended that the use of an adiabatic heatup results in a bounding, conservative analysis and not a "best estimate" risk assessment. The NRC staff noted that the adiabatic heatup was used since a better, defensible analysis was not available. The NRC staff also noted that the heatup

analysis was used only for determination of the timing of the event. NEI requested that the staff ensure the risk study is clear in that the adiabatic heatup was used only for determination of the timing of the event.

Next, NEI discussed a recent issue associated with the process for obtaining NRC approval for substitution of the 10 CFR 73.51 independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) specific license security requirements for the 10 CFR 73.55 general license security requirements at the Maine Yankee ISFSI (NEI handout in ADAMS under Accession No. ML003772839). The NRC staff stated that a review and approval process for this requested transition is currently being developed and the industry would be informed once the process is finalized.

NEI and members of the public were given an opportunity to ask questions and then the meeting was concluded.

/RA/

David J. Wrona, Project Manager
Decommissioning Section
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 689

Enclosures: 1. Agenda
2. Attendees

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TBergman		

ACCESSION NO.: ML003781998

OFFICE	PDIV-D/PM	PDIV-D/LA	PDIV-D/SC
NAME	DWrona	CJamerson	RDudley for MMasnik
DATE	12/13/00	12/13/00	12/19/00

NEI/Public Meeting on Decommissioning Rulemaking

November 27, 2000

Purpose: To receive feedback from interested industry representatives and members of the public about ongoing NRC efforts to determine the risk posed by permanently shutdown nuclear power plants and the status of NRC efforts to amend its regulations to properly reflect the risk posed by these facilities.

Outcome:

- Industry and public stakeholders will provide their comments on the above topics to the NRC

Process:

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1. Introductions and review of purpose/agenda | 5 min |
| 2. NEI discussion of industry concerns | |
| a. Seismic risk assessment methodology used in TWG report (NEI) | 20 min |
| - NRC/public stakeholder comments/questions | 5 min |
| b. Impact of seismic risk on integrated decommissioning rulemaking (NEI) | 20min |
| - NRC/public stakeholder comments/questions | 5 min |
| c. Methodology for assessing spent fuel pool risk over time | 20 min |
| - NRC/public stakeholder comments/questions | 5 min |
| 3. Summary of commitments / Adjourn | 10 min |

DECOMMISSIONING RULEMAKING MEETING

November 27, 2000

NRC Headquarters

Rockville, MD

ATTENDEES

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
Brian Sheron	NRC/NRR
John Zwolinski	NRC/NRR/DLPM
Gary M. Holahan	NRC/NRR/DSSA
Stuart Richards	NRC/NRR/DLPM
Richard Dudley	NRC/NRR/DLPM
William Huffman	NRC/NRR/DLPM
Mike Ripley	NRC/NRR/DLPM
David Wrona	NRC/NRR/DLPM
Goutam Bagchi	NRC/NRR/DE
Anthony Markley	NRC/NRR/DRIP
Dan Barss	NRC/NRR/DIPM
Glenn Tracy	NRC/NRR/IOLB
Bob Skelton	NRC/NRR/IOLB
Noel Dudley	NRC/ACRS
Joe Shea	NRC/OEDO
Tom King	NRC/RES
Farouk Eltawila	NRC/RES/DSARE
Larry Camper	NRC/NMSS/DCB
Stewart Brown	NRC/NMSS/DWM/DCB
Sue Perez	FEMA/REP
Mike Callahan	GSI
Carey W. Flemming	Winston & Strawn
Altheia Wyche	SERCH Licensing/Bechtel
Jenny Weil	McGraw-Hill
Lynette Hendricks	NEI
Alan Nelson	NEI
Mike Meisner	MYAPC

cc:

Mr. Ralph Beedle
Senior Vice President
and Chief Nuclear Officer
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708

Mr. Alex Marion, Director
Programs
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708

Mr. David Modeen, Director
Engineering
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708

Mr. Anthony Pietrangelo, Director
Licensing
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708

Mr. Jim Davis, Director
Operations
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708

Ms. Lynnette Hendricks, Director
Plant Support
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708

Mr. H. A. Sepp, Manager
Regulatory and Licensing Engineering
Westinghouse Electric Company
P.O. Box 355
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0355

Mr. Charles B. Brinkman, Director
Washington Operations
ABB-Combustion Engineering, Inc.
12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Suite 330
Rockville, MD 20852

Mr. Michael Meisner
Maine Yankee Atomic Power Co.
321 Old Ferry Road
Wiscasset, ME 04578-4922

Mr. Paul Blanch
Energy Consultant
135 Hyde Road
West Hartford, CT 06117

New England Coalition on Nuclear
Pollution
P. O. Box 545
Brattleboro, VT 05302

Mr. Ray Shadis
Friends of the Coast
P. O. Box 98
Edgecomb, ME 04556

Mr. David Lochbaum
Nuclear Safety Engineer
Union of Concerned Scientists
1707 H Street, NW, Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20006

Mr. Paul Gunter
Nuclear Information Resource Service
1424 16th St. NW, Suite 404
Washington, DC 20036

Mr. Peter James Atherton
P.O. Box 2337
Washington, DC 20013

Mr. H. G. Brack
Center for Biological Monitoring
P.O. Box 144
Hull's Cove, ME 04644

Ms. Deborah B. Katz
Citizen's Awareness Network
P. O. Box 3023
Charlemont, MA 01339-3023

Mr. Robert Holden
National Congress of American Indians
Suite 200
1301 Connecticut Ave, NW
Washington DC, 20036