

February 08, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: Stuart A. Richards, Director  
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Robert M. Pulsifer, Project Manager  
Project Directorate I */RA/*  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT MEETING WITH THE BOILING  
WATER REACTOR OWNERS GROUP (BWROG)

On January 19, 2001, the staff met with members of the Boiling Water Reactor Owners Group (BWROG) to discuss various activities affecting both the NRC and BWROG organizations. The agenda subjects discussed are listed in Attachment 1. A list of the meeting attendees and their affiliations is provided as Attachment 2, and a list of action items identified at the meeting is provided as Attachment 3. A copy of the handouts provided by the BWROG for their presentations can be found in ADAMS under the accession number ML010220135.

Mr. Collins, Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR), opened the meeting with a few remarks. Mr. Collins stated that NRR office performance is under review. There has also been open forums to discuss NRC activities. Feedback is important to evaluate our goals. NRR expects a 30 percent efficiency gain in our license renewal reviews over the next several years. License transfers are unpredictable and will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Deregulation studies are ongoing to determine areas which the staff needs to consider. Overall, the industry is performing well.

Members of the BWROG continued the meeting as summarized below:

#### Appendix R

The BWROG acknowledged the receipt of the staff's letter dated December 12, 2000, regarding the closure of the SRV/LPS (safety relief valve/low pressure system) issue. The BWROG also acknowledged receipt of the staff's November 20, 2000, letter regarding the post-fire safe shutdown analysis performed by the BWROG. This effort will be folded into the review by the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) in their risk-informed version guidance document for resolution of the outstanding circuit analysis issues. The BWROG said they will continue to support the NEI effort.

Option 2/Option 3

The BWROG provided a status of their on-going effort with the risk-informed Part 50 Option 2 pilot plant evaluation at Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station. Systems being considered by the BWROG for this review include the standby gas treatment system, low pressure core spray system, and the feedwater system. Technical issues are being resolved through the NEI Risk Applications Task Force of which the BWROG is a participant. When the pilot plant evaluation is complete the BWROG will evaluate the need for an exemption. Upon questioning from the staff, the BWROG did state that in the pilot program they are not only looking for at least a neutral cost benefit but they will also assure safety is maintained. It was requested and the BWROG agreed to come back later this year to update the staff on the status of the program.

The BWROG also discussed their establishment of an Option 3 program committee which will look at risk-informing 10 CFR 50.46 as well as other regulations. The Option 3 program will start with a large break loss-of-coolant accident redefinition as well as identify subsequent program activities as Option 3 initiatives.

Technical Specification (TS) Issues Coordination

The BWROG has established a BWROG TS Issues Coordination Committee to coordinate Revision 2 of NUREG-1433 and 1434, to develop criteria for prioritization of travelers for TS changes, and to develop Consolidated Line Item Improvement Program (CLIP) candidates. The BWROG has proposed six candidates to enter the CLIP process.

PASS, H<sub>2</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> Monitors, and H<sub>2</sub>Recombiners

On November 30, 2000, the BWROG submitted a licensing topical report to eliminate post accident sampling system (PASS) requirements for staff review. The staff has agreed to target completion of its review by May 2001. The BWROG also stated that they will issue a revised BWR core damage assessment procedure and provide a copy to the staff. The staff stated that the BWROG should submit their CLIP package as soon after the safety evaluation approval of the PASS requirements relaxation. The staff questioned whether any local groups or the public will be notified about the PASS removal. The BWROG stated that they will be informed of the change by the licensee through their "change management procedure."

The BWROG is drafting a licensing topical report for declassification to non-safety the H<sub>2</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> monitors and H<sub>2</sub>recombiners for BWRs. This report will be consistent with findings by the NRC from risk-informing 10 CFR 50.44 and is scheduled to be submitted in March 2001.

The staff indicated that once a Staff Requirements Memo (SRM) is received from the Commission regarding SECY 00-198 the staff will coordinate a meeting with the BWROG to discuss the BWROG proposed topical report.

Pipe Break Inside Containment

The BWROG acknowledged receipt of a letter sent to the owners group as well as some individual BWR licensees regarding the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) work concerning Generic Safety Issue (GSI) 156.6.1, "Pipe Break Effects on Systems and

Components Inside Containment," to voluntarily provide some plant specific information. The BWROG stated that they will coordinate this effort with their BWR members with a target completion date of April 2001. The BWROG will be issuing a survey to its members and the staff has asked to review the survey questions to ascertain whether additional clarification would be needed to assure that the information needed by RES is obtained without an additional request. The BWROG stated that they would provide the survey before it is issued to their members for comment by the staff. The staff indicated that a list of Licensee Event Reports presently being used by RES in this study would be provided to the BWROG for their information.

#### TS Instrument Uncertainties

The BWROG discussed their work on instrument uncertainties and to guide its members to manage it to assure that plant safety is maintained. The BWROG said that no additional evaluations are necessary for non-RG 1.105 parameters and there are very few setpoint evaluations needed for RG 1.105 parameters. The BWROG has concluded that there are no safety issues with current implementation of TS instrument uncertainty. The staff will stay in touch with the BWROG as they complete their program on instrument uncertainty.

#### Boiling Water Reactor Vessel Internals Project (BWRVIP)

The BWRVIP participants discussed their key year 2000 activities as well as planned 2001 activities. The staff and the BWRVIP participants discussed the status and some key issues of the integrated surveillance program (ISP). The BWRVIP questioned the one cycle deferral for fluence calculations and the staff stated that further discussion would take place during the next routine BWRVIP conference call on Monday, January 22, 2001. The BWRVIP expects closure of the base program guidelines in early 2001 and to complete the transition into a maintenance mode. The BWRVIP will continue the coordination with the NRC for on-going activities and maintain the executive oversight over the program.

#### Loose Parts Monitoring

The NRC staff stated that the safety evaluation on its review of the BWROG topical report for loose parts monitoring is on schedule to be issued by January 31, 2001.

#### RCIC, Loss of Safety Function

The reporting criteria of 10 CFR 50.72 and 10 CFR 50.73 has not been clear nor has the reporting by licensees been consistent for a reactor core isolation cooling system (RCIC) loss of safety function. The staff is presently completing its review of the issue and plans to issue a generic communication in a couple of months to clarify the reporting requirements for RCIC.

#### Fluence Calculations

The status of the review of the General Electric (GE) topical report regarding reactor pressure vessel fast neutron fluence evaluations was briefly discussed. The staff indicated that the last response to the staff's requests for additional information was received from GE on January 18, 2001, and that our cursory review showed that the required information appears to be there. If

no additional information is required, the staff indicated that the safety evaluation could be issued on schedule by February 28, 2001.

#### Control Room Habitability

The staff addressed the need for licensees to meet their design bases (which may include GDC-19 for newer plants) regarding control room habitability. It has been noted that several licensees have conducted tests which have shown non-conformance with design basis for control room inleakage. The staff is looking at three issues: (1) acceptable methods on testing, (2) level of regulatory control (i.e., TS or Technical Requirements Manual), and (3) how to treat current licensing basis.

#### Work Planning Center

A discussion and tour of the Work Planning Center was provided to the BWROG. At the end of the meeting, the staff reviewed the action items from the meeting.

Upon closing Mr. Sheron, Associate Director for Project Licensing and Technical Analysis, requested that when the staff issues letters to licensees requesting an estimate of the number of licensing actions that they project will be sent to the NRC to give it their best effort. The staff uses this information for budget estimates in establishing resources needed to complete this work.

Project No. 691

Attachments: 1. Agenda  
2. List of Attendees  
3. Action Items

cc w/atts: See next page

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**ADAMS ACCESSION NO.: ML010390440**

**ADAMS PACKAGE NO: ML010390443**

**MEETING NOTICE: ML010050010**

Publicly Available       Non-Publicly Available       Sensitive       Non-Sensitive

OFFICE	PDI-2/PM	PDIV-2/LA	DSSA/DD	DE/DD
NAME	RPulsifer	EPeyton	TCollins	RWessman
DATE	1/31/01	1/30/01	2/01/01	02/03/01

OFFICE	DRIP/DD	PDIV-2/SC
NAME	SNewberry	SDembek
DATE	2/5/01	2/7/01

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**10:00 Discussion and Tour of Work Planning Center**

**11:00 BWR VIP**

Status of open submittals.

**BWRVIP**

**Loose Parts Monitoring**

Discuss status of submittal and planning resolution of RAI issues.

**BWROG/NRC**

**RCIC, Loss of Safety Function**

NRC status regarding review of BWROG submittal.

**NRC**

**Fluence Calculations**

NRC status regarding review of GE LTR.

**NRC**

**Control Room Habitability**

NRC status of staff activities for control room habitability.

**NRC**

LIST OF MEETING ATTENDEES

BWROG MEETING WITH NRC

JANUARY 19, 2001

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AFFILIATION</u>
Eric R. Jebsen	Exelon/Quad Cities
Richard E. Ciemiewkz	Exelon Nuclear
George Jones	PPL/Susquehanna
Lenis Sumner	Southern Nuclear
J. A. Gray, Jr	Entergy Nuclear
Robin Dyle	SNC/BWRVIP
Gouglas Coleman	Energy Northwest/BWROG
Tom Hurst	GE
Jim Klapproth	GE
Tom Green	GE/BWROG
Carl Terry	NMPC/BWROG
James Keally	BWROG
Leslie Collins	Westinghouse
Deann Releigh	LIS
Robert Pulsifer	NRC/NRR
John Hannon	NRC/NRR
Jared Wermiel	NRC/NRR
Brian Sheron	NRC/NRR
Samuel Collins	NRC/NRR
Vern Hodge	NRC/NRR
Cindi Carpenter	NRC/NRR
Stuart Rubin	NRC/NRR
Michael Snodderly	NRC/NRR
Alan Kuritzky	NRC/NRR
Richard Wessman	NRC/NRR
Stephen Dembek	NRC/NRR
Edward Connea	NRC/NRR
William Reckley	NRC/NRR
Richard Barrett	NRC/NRR

### **ACTION ITEMS FROM 01/19/01 MEETING**

1. Arrange a meeting between the NRC and BWROG in early 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2001 for an up-date on Option 2. (Kenny/Pulsifer)
2. BWROG to participate at the February 21 workshop. (Kenny/Pulsifer)
3. After the SRM is received regarding risk-informing 10 CFR 50.44 contact the BWROG to discuss topical report submittal options. (Pulsifer)
4. BWROG to provide the staff a copy of the pipe break survey prior to issuance for comment with a requested reply date. (Kenny)
5. The staff is to provide the BWROG a copy of the latest Licensee Event Report list being used by RES in their pipe break effort. (S. Rubin-completed 1/19/01)
6. The staff will address fluence cycle deferral during 1/22/01 call with the BWRVIP to determine whether a meeting is required. (Carpenter - completed, a potential meeting will be held if necessary after a second round of questions regarding the GE topical has been issued and reviewed.)