

March 20, 2001

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

FROM: L. Raynard Wharton, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning /RA/  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 15, 2000, WITH THE  
WESTINGHOUSE OWNERS GROUP (WOG) AND SENIOR  
MANAGEMENT FROM THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR  
REGULATION (NRR)

On November 15, 2000, representatives of the Westinghouse Owners Group (WOG) met with senior management and staff from NRR. The purpose of the semi-annual senior management meeting (SMM) was to encourage communication between NRR management and the WOG, discuss current issues, and to provide status of current and emerging NRR/WOG activities. The attachment contains the list of meeting attendees. Copies of the slides used during the meeting are available under ADAMS accession number ML003770896. Copies of the slides used for the presentation on the work planning center are available under ADAMS accession number ML003770892.

The meeting began with introductions of the meeting attendees. The WOG then stated the purpose and provided an overview of the agenda items. They presented an organizational chart of the WOG Steering Committee which included the new Executive Committee and a restructured Executive Advisory Committee.

Sam Collins, Director, NRR, gave opening remarks regarding the value of WOG feedback and how it relates to the NRC strategic plan and more specifically to NRR performance goals. He discussed the accountability of the office with regard to quality products, timeliness and work resources.

The WOG continued with discussions of the new large break loss-of-coolant accident (LBLOCA) working group and the 3 million dollar budgeted project through 2002. The project has been approved for three years and expects to yield a review guideline or NEI provision that is made into a industry coordinated effort. The staff provided comments on the NRC focus for the LBLOCA.

The next agenda item was risk informed technical specifications (RITS). The WOG discussed its industry initiatives; extending time for a missed surveillance, allowing mode change when not meeting LCOs, and risk-informed allowed outage times (AOTs).

The next issue discussed was the risk-informed ATWS model. A question was raised regarding the focus. Rich Barrett discussed Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.174, "An Approach for Using Probabilistic Risk Assessment in Risk-Informed Decisions on Plant-Specific Changes to the Licensing Basis," and its intended scope. There was further discussion of some of the challenges and the how risk insights incorporate defense in depth. The staff action was to plan an internal meeting at the management level to determine process and policy issues prior to the proposed topical report scheduled for submittal during the second quarter 2001.

The next item of discussion was probabilistic safety assessment (PSA) peer review status. The WOG stated that the NEI guidance document would be issued soon. There have been some minor changes made to the document, based on staff comments, but nothing major. The staff questioned whether WOG had developed subtier criteria. The WOG is developing a more defined subtier document and it will make a submittal to NEI. There was further discussion of how the results were documented and how it could be incorporated into the corrective action area.

The next discussion item was license renewal implementation. The WOG discussed the staff response to a fee waiver request and the status of WOG license renewal generic technical report reviews. One draft safety evaluation report was still being developed, two final safety evaluation reports (FSER) had been issued and two FSER were close to issuance. There was also discussion of the status of the break opening time (BOT) topical report review and the proposed topical report on reactor coolant pressure (RCP) seal model. The WOG raised questions regarding the fee waiver request process. The staff took as an action item to provide status of requests for fee waiver.

The next discussion item was ASME code cases and how code meeting expectations could be closer integrated with the staff endorsements or approvals. The staff explained that it is a process issue, that a number of code cases have been included in a rulemaking package, but have not yet been issued for public comment. NRR staff stated that we need to look at the process and determine what we can do to meet everyone's expectations with regards to efficiency and timeliness of code endorsements.

The next agenda item was Information Notice (IN) 95-03, Supplement 2, "Loss of Reactor Coolant Inventory and Potential Loss of Emergency Mitigation Functions While in a Shutdown Condition." The WOG stated that they had issued abnormal response recommendations to its members. The staff stated that they were pleased with the WOG's process addressing this issue.

The next item was a discussion of the review status of WOG WCAP submittals and WOG projected submittals. Tables listing the WOG WCAPs were enclosed with the briefing slides.

The final agenda item was voluntary industry initiatives. There was discussion of the NEI task force on control room habitability and the draft document NEI 99-03. There was also discussion of cracking in the reactor coolant system (RCS) piping. The WOG stated they had offered assistance to the Regions and that they would be a focal point for information from WOG member utilities. They also stated that they had funded an independent review group to stay abreast of the issue. However, it was not funded as a WOG issue yet because there are still some questions as whether the issue is generic. Another initiative relates to a *Federal Register*

notice requesting comments on the collection of information on license amendments. The WOG also expressed need for more open communication regarding long term alignments with industry as deregulation continues and more consolidations occur.

The action items that resulted from the meeting were:

- (1) The staff will conduct an internal meeting to determine process and policy issues prior to the proposed ATWS topical report submittal.
- (2) The staff will more closely follow the fee waiver review process and track waiver requests.
- (3) The staff will look at the ASME Code Case endorsement process and determine what changes can effect a more timely and efficient process.
- (4) The WOG will send a WOG 2000 RCP Seal Leakage model implementation guide to Jerry Wermiel, SRXB for information.

At the conclusion of the formal WOG/SMM meeting, the WOG representatives reconvened in the Work Planning Center for a tour of the center and a presentation provided by Jacqueline Silber, Director of the Program Management, Policy Development and Analysis Staff.

Project No. 694

Attachment: List of Attendees

cc w/encl: See next page

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**Meeting Notice: ML003765652      Package: ML010790035**  
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Westinghouse Owners Group

Project No. 694

cc:

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MEETING WITH WESTINGHOUSE OWNERS GROUP

MEETING ATTENDEES

SENIOR MANAGEMENT MEETING

NOVEMBER 15, 2000

**WESTINGHOUSE**

R. Etling  
S. Binger

**NRC**

S. Collins  
J. Strosnider  
M. Banerjee  
S. Dembek  
S. Bloom  
M. Drouin  
M. Marshall  
R. Elliott  
R. Barrett  
J. Davis  
N. Gilles  
J. Wermeil  
D. Harrison  
E. Benner  
R. Wharton

**OTHER**

R. Newton, NMC  
T. Herman, Ameren/UE  
W. Harrison, STP Nuclear Operating Company  
M. Dingler, Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation  
D. Foundberry, Public Service Electric & Gas Nuclear  
B. Bryan, Tennessee Valley Authority  
N. Chapman, SERCH/Bectel  
L. Helfer, Hopkins & Sutter