

April 26, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: Singh S. Bajwa, Director
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Leonard N. Olshan, Project Manager, Section 1 */RA/*
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF APRIL 23, 2001, MEETING WITH NUCLEAR ENERGY
INSTITUTE ON INFORMATION COLLECTION INITIATIVE
(TAC NO. MB1014)

On December 7, 2000, a Federal Register notice was issued which solicited comments on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) proposed information collection initiative (ICI). The purpose of the initiative was to assist the NRC staff in (1) allocating staff resources and (2) measuring how the work that the staff completes contributes to the agency goals of maintaining safety and reducing unnecessary regulatory burden. The information collected could then be used to satisfy the Government Results and Performance Act (GPRA).

Five comments were received, including one from the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), which represents the nuclear power plant industry. NEI stated that the ICI was unnecessary and would likely result in additional burden to the industry. NEI also stated that the information requested would likely be considered sensitive and could harm a licensee in a competitive energy generation market.

Therefore, on April 23, 2001, a representative from the NEI met with the staff of the NRC to discuss the industry's responses to the NRC's request for comment on the ICI and to discuss options for obtaining information needed to satisfy the GPRA. Attached is a list of the meeting attendees. The handout provided by the NRC is available under ADAMS Accession Number ML011140201.

Based on the comments received on the ICI, the staff has decided to explore other means to satisfy the GPRA. The handout outlined two options being considered. In Option 1, the NRC Project Manager would determine in what way the action benefitted the licensee, but would not attempt to quantify that benefit. This option would require no formal assistance from the industry.

In Option 2, the benefit of the action would be quantified as either low, medium or high, based on input from the licensee. The advantage of this option over Option 1 is that Option 2 would result in a more detailed, quantitative report to satisfy the GPRA; the disadvantage is that Option 2 requires input from the industry. The staff stated that the data provided by the licensee would not be used for prioritization of the activity.

S. Bajwa

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NEI expressed concerns that determining the criteria for low, medium or high in Option 2 would be difficult. NEI stated that it would canvas the licensees to determine how many would be willing to provide the information needed in Option 2. The staff stated that it could not go forward with Option 2 without adequate cooperation from the industry.

The staff stated that these options would again be discussed during a May 31, 2001, workshop and that the public would have 30 days after this workshop in which to provide comments.

Project No. 669

Attachment: Attendance List

cc w/att: See next page

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LIST OF ATTENDEES

NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

MEETING TO DISCUSS INFORMATION COLLECTION INITIATIVE

APRIL 23, 2001

NRC

S. Bajwa
C. Craig
L. Olshan

NEI

F. Madden

OTHER

D. Raleigh, Scientech
S. Yim, Foley & Lardner