

December 20, 2002

MEMORANDUM TO: William H. Ruland, Director
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Alan Wang, Project Manager, Section 2 /RA/
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 20, 2002, WITH
BOILING WATER REACTOR OWNERS GROUP (BWROG)
REGARDING OPTION 3 - LOSS-OF-COOLANT ACCIDENT-LOSS OF
OFFSITE POWER (LOCA-LOOP) REQUIREMENT

The NRC participated in a public meeting on November 20, 2002, with the BWROG and other interested stakeholders on potential changes to the LOCA-LOOP requirement in General Design Criterion (GDC) 35. The purposes of the meeting, which was requested by the BWROG, were to: (1) allow the BWROG to share its perspectives with regard to moving forward with rulemaking on changes to the LOCA-LOOP requirement for large LOCAs, as well as share the results of a safety case developed by the BWROG, and (2) enter into a dialogue with the staff regarding its plans for possible rulemaking on the LOCA-LOOP requirement.

The BWROG indicated that they have made a substantial investment in supporting possible changes to the LOCA-LOOP requirement, but needed to see some commitment from the staff before they could justify additional BWROG support for this effort. The staff indicated that work is proceeding on possible changes to the LOCA-LOOP requirement. However, the staff also noted that due to budget constraints, and due to the fact that work on the regulatory coherence effort could result in identification of additional candidates for risk-informing, some prioritization would need to be done with respect to proposed risk-informed initiatives.

The BWROG stated that they wanted a defined path. The staff stated that we felt that there are three possible paths: (1) a rule change, (2) a generic exemption, and (3) a plant-specific amendment request. The staff stated the BWROG needed to define its goals and how they will be justified. One possible method to this would be to develop a framework for a licensing topical report. A general process agreed to by the staff and the BWROG includes: (1) the BWROG will supply a detailed table of contents for a topical report on the large LOCA-LOOP safety case based on a "virtual" pilot plant by January 2003, (2) the staff would review the table of contents and give feedback with regard to types of resources and schedules that the staff could apply, (3) the BWROG would submit the full topical report, and (4) upon NRC review and approval of the topical report, individual licensees could make plant-specific submittals.

The BWROG requested whether a fee waiver could be possible for the lead plant. The staff stated we would look into that potential. The meeting closed with Jack Gray, Chairman of the BWROG noting that the effort could lead to several potential cost-savings while being risk neutral.

An attendance list is provided in the attachment. The slides used during the meeting are available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML023380639.

Project No. 691

Attachment: Meeting Attendees

cc w/att: See next page

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MEETING ATTENDEES

MEETING WITH THE BOILING WATER REACTORS OWNERS GROUP (BWROG)

NOVEMBER 20, 2002

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P. Kokolakis, Entergy
T. Browning, NMC
B. Tsai, Exelon
P. Heck, TVA
L. Bugoci, DTE/PSA Supervisor

GENERAL ELECTRIC

R. Hill
R. Wachowiak

OTHER

N. Chapman, SERCH/Bechtel
A. Heyine, NEI
J. Gaetner, EPRI
D. Raleigh, LIS/Scientech

NRC

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G. Thomas
J. Lazevnick
S. Dinsmore
S. Dembek
S. West
C. Grimes
S. Lee
A. Kuritzky
A. Wang
M. Rubin
G. Kelly