

December 12, 2002

LICENSEES: Arizona Public Service Company
Union Electric Company
TXU Electric
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
STP Nuclear Operating Company
Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation

FACILITIES: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station
Callaway Plant
Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station
Diablo Canyon Power Plant
South Texas Project Electric Generating Station
Wolf Creek Generating Station

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF OCTOBER 23, 2002 MEETING WITH THE STRATEGIC
TEAMING AND RESOURCE SHARING (STARS) GROUP TO EXPLORE
VARIOUS LICENSE RENEWAL FILING OPTIONS AND THEIR IMPACT ON
THE NRC STAFF

An open meeting was held between the NRC staff and the Strategic Teaming and Resource Sharing (STARS) group for the licensees for the above facilities. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss several filing options for license renewal for each of the plants. The slides used during the meeting are available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML023120346. An attendance list is attached. Representatives from Union Electric Company and STP Nuclear Operating Company were not in attendance. The group's presenter explained that STARS had begun as a group of single unit plants but had now grown to six stations with eleven operating units. STARS was concerned about the impact of multiple license renewal applications on the NRC workload.

At the time of the meeting, no STARS licensees had actually made the decision to pursue license renewal (LR). The STARS's goal is to develop the programs to be as much alike as possible. In 2002, STARS established the Plant Aging Management (PAM) Library, commenced benchmarking activities, participated in current open license renewal regulatory issues, developed a training package, developed a project plan and implementing procedures for pilot studies and conducted pilot studies on five selected systems, structures or components. These are the specific items described in NUREG-1801, "Generic Aging Lessons Learned (GALL)."

STARS then provided the filing eligibility timeframes for each of the plants represented. The potential filing models were then described, consisting of combined filing, sequential filing, individual filing with STARS topical reports, and individual filing. The combined submittal option would include plant-specific information where applicable. The presenter pointed out that in this case, individual plant exemptions might be necessary. The combined filing would be similar to the working arrangement of the four-loop Technical Specification Group. For this option, STARS considered that there would be a reduced burden on the NRC staff and reduced NRC review fees: (1) six simultaneous environmental assessments and six site-specific inspections will be required, and (2) each plant would make the same submittal to minimize impacts on the entire group.

The NRC staff explained that adherence to GALL will build in efficiencies. STARS will need to quantify, to as great an extent as possible, the deviations from GALL. The NRC staff expressed that license renewal resources are being strained. STARS personnel said that the earliest license renewal application would be submitted in 2005. The staff indicated that 14 or 15 reviews are presently scheduled for 2005. Some discussion took place concerning ways to obtain as much of the total 60 years licensed life available from the license renewal process. The staff explained that new licenses would supercede existing licenses at the time the new licenses are issued, not when the existing license term is over.

Both STARS and the NRC staff were pleased with the exchange of information and felt that the meeting was very worthwhile. The staff thanked STARS and suggested that they return for an update meeting in six to nine months with more details. No regulatory decisions were made.

/RA/

Drew Holland, Project Manager, Section 2
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-275, 50-323, 50-445, 50-446, 50-482, 50-483,
50-498, 50-499, STN 50-528, STN 50-529, and STN 50-530

Attachment: Meeting Attendees

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MEETING WITH STRATEGIC TEAMING AND RESOURCE SHARING GROUP

LICENSE RENEWAL FILING OPTIONS FOR MEMBER PLANTS

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OCTOBER 23, 2002

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