

B-1867

From: Jeffry Sharkey
To: Beall, James; Croteau, Rick; Gamberoni, Marsha; Hiltz, Thomas; Kavanagh, Kerri; Levin, Alan; McCabe, Brian; Nieh, Ho; Tschiltz, Michael; Uhle, Jennifer
Date: Wed, Mar 27, 2002 3:34 PM
Subject: Re: Fwd: Latest Davis-Besse Communications Plan

Ho/Scott,

We were expecting to see something about the release of the INES rating in the Comm Plan. How does the Comm Plan for the INES rating relate to the overall Comm Plan for Davis Besse (i.e, the attachment to your message)?

Please advise.

Jeff

Background:

The following description of INES is taken from IAEA's public website at:

<http://www.iaea.org/ns/nusafe/news.htm#top>

The International Nuclear Event Scale Information Service (INES) is a fax communication network which receives from and disseminates to INES National Officers the Event Rating Forms (ERFs) that provide authoritative information related to nuclear events.

The Nuclear Events Web-based System (NEWS) provides for electronic entry and dissemination of the nuclear events related information (INES ERFs, press releases by regulators, utilities/NPPs, documents) and includes a discussion forum where users can provide and request information about an event of interest. Established in March 2001 on a one-year trial basis, its objective is to increase the speed with which information becomes available to the nuclear community when an event of interest occurs, and to allow for more flexibility in transmitting this information.

Event Rating Forms are circulated when events are significant for:
Operational safety (INES level 2 and above)
Public and media interest.

Given that there is already public and media interest - - and that there will be considerable interest from the international community, we need to understand the communications plan for disseminating the INES rating.

IAEA provides the following summary of last years' INES reports:

INES is used by 60 countries for facilitating rapid communication to the media and the public regarding the significance of events at all nuclear installations associated with the civil nuclear industry, including events involving the use of radiation sources and the transport of radioactive materials.

Since the last session of the General Conference, 25 events were reported to the International Nuclear Event Scale (INES) information service. One event which involved a fire in a nuclear power plant was reported out of scale since it did not affect the operation of the plant or nuclear safety. Nine events were reported at level 0, 11 at level 1 and 4 were reported at level 2.

Of the level 2 events, one involved the discovery of a lost Ir-192 source. One 'event' was actually several lower level events at a nuclear power plant which were grouped together and rated as level 2 because of the repetitive nature. Another involved recirculation valves at several NPPs in one country, which could have become jammed in emergency core cooling systems and containment spray systems. The other

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level 2 event involved incorrect calculation of an algorithm in overload protection devices for local power distribution at a nuclear power plant. This was rated level 1 but uprated to level 2 because of a common cause failure.

For additional information from IAEA, see pages 6 & 7 of Attachment 4 to the 2001 IAEA General Conference Report, "Measures to Strengthen International Co-Operation in Nuclear, Radiation, Transport and Waste Safety" at:

<http://www.iaea.org/worldatom/About/Policy/GC/GC45/Documents/gc45inf-3.pdf>

CC: Beecher, W.; Bergman, Thomas; Colaccino, Joseph; Morris, Scott; Rosenberg, Stacey; Shea, Joseph