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* This copy of the minutes/action items from the 'Open'    *
* meeting of the Spring TCCG Meeting (May '87) is only      *
* being distributed to the NRC participants for their       *
* review, prior to general distribution.  Please contact    *
* either myself (586-5616) or Greg Hartkopf (646-6623) by   *
* July 17 if there has been any significant misrepresen-    *
* tation of statements made by NRC representatives at       *
* that meeting.  Since the meeting minutes/action items     *
* are a bit late in their distribution, and as the date     *
* of the 'Summer' meeting has been changed, it is           *
* imperative that the enclosed draft minutes/action items   *
* be reviewed and distributed ASAP!.......Hal Steinberg     *
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TECHNICAL CODE COORDINATING GROUP (TCCG)
MINUTES OF THE SPRING 1987 "PLENARY" MEETING
MAY 21, 1987
WASHINGTON, D.C.

As a result of the discussions during the course of the May 21 TCCG meeting, the following action items were identified. The action item numbers are referenced in the Summary of Discussion to place them in proper context.

Action Item 1 - Transmit a copy of the NRC software glossary and code
                compendium

  Responsible: John Voglewede

  Action: Transmit to Hal Steinberg a copy of the NRC software glossary that
           he referenced and a copy of the NRC code compendium when it becomes
           available.

Action Item 2 - Transmit OCRWM Technical Code Compendium to the NRC

  Responsible: Hal Steinberg

  Action: Transmit to John Voglewede a copy of the OCRWM Technical Code
           Compendium when it is completed and available for distribution.

ATTENDANCE

NAME	ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING	TELEPHONE

NRC

Alan Duncan	NRC-NMSS/HLWM	FTS 427-4685
John Roberts	NRC-NMSS/FCMA	FTS 427-4205
James Schneider	NRC-NMSS/FCMA	(301) 437-4205
Jack Spraul	NRC-NRR/QA	FTS 492-4883
Fritz Sturz	NRC-NMSS/FCMA	FTS 427-4205
John Voglewede	NRC-NMSS/HLWM	FTS 427-4275

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Glen Lane	Council of Energy Resource Tribes	(303) 832-6600

DOE-TCCG

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Jim Creer	Battelle-PNL	FTS 444-5853
Tony Eng	DOE-HQ/OGR	FTS 896-1715
Gregory Hartkopf	WESTON	(202) 646-6600
Dave Langstaff	DOE/RL-STD	FTS 444-1069
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Steve Singal	DOE-HQ/OGR	FTS 896-2878
Doug Smith	SAIC/NNWSI	FTS 575-1721

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

A copy of the meeting announcement and agenda for this plenary meeting is included in Attachment A. The agenda was basically adhered to, the meeting began at about 8:30 a.m. and was adjourned at about 12:00 noon, May 21, 1987.

The meeting began with each participant introducing himself. Hal Steinberg, chairman of the TCCG, then opened the meeting by stating that the purpose of the plenary meeting was to provide a forum for exchange of information between the TCCG, the NRC and interested public groups. Hal Steinberg then opened the discussion to allow any participant to make an opening remark. J. Roberts (NRC) noted that the branch of the NRC which he was representing is primarily involved with at-reactor interim storage licensing and, as a result, they do not directly interact with the DOE/OCRWM program. No other opening remarks were made. Hal Steinberg then presented a review of the TCCG's objectives and activities. Attachment B contains a copy of the overhead slides used for this presentation.

Hal Steinberg noted in his presentation that the objectives and purposes of the TCCG are to provide a mechanism for coordination of technical code 'life-cycle' activities and to make recommendation to OCRWM management regarding these activities. He noted that the TCCG is an advisory group and is not funded to perform major technical code related activities. He reviewed the OCRWM offices and contractors represented in the TCCG and the TCCG's organization. He also reviewed the ongoing and near-term planned activities of the TCCG; namely, the code compendium activities, the technical code distribution center activities, and the software quality assurance (SQA) activities.

Copies of the TCCG distribution list, the code center purpose and functions paper, and the compendium survey questionaire were distributed (included in Attachment C).

Discussion on SQA activities followed Hal Steinberg's presentation. S. Ailes described the need for SQA requirements in OCRWM and the TCCG's role of formulating ideas and raising the awareness for the need for SQA. A question was raised as to the schedule for development of OCRWM SQA requirements. Hal Steinberg answered the question by noting that a Field Test Plan had been drafted that would, as its initial tasks, identify an OCRWM SQA review committee and would utilize that committee to oversee development of a document that would - starting with supplement 2.7 of NQA-2 - draft the SQA requirements for licensing - related OCRWM codes. A second task would be to take an approved SQA requirement document ('Plan') and prepare a set of 'guidelines' to be used by the ORCWM program participant organization in developing or determining whether existing SQA programs are consistent with the 'requirements'. NRC representatives indicated that submission on an OCRWM SQA plan to NRC should be done as soon as possible. They also noted that there is no formal NRC SQA guidance document.

Hal Steinberg then reviewed a number of ongoing OCRWM technical code activities, such as the ORIGEN2 'assessment' project, in which the TCCG is not directly involved. NRC representatives asked whether the TCCG reviewed the SQA for these ongoing OCRWM activities. Hal Steinberg noted that the ongoing OCRWM activities included intercode comparisons and assessmsents of validation and verification status, benchmarking, and user workshop type activities on previously developed codes and as such, SQA does not directly apply.

Discussion then turned to benchmarking of codes and the issue that "real" data is not always available to perform benchmarking, and often "real" data is very time consuming to develop. The discussion concluded in the general recognition that when "real" data for benchmarking is not available, the need for and importance of rigorous SQA is clearly evident, and will play an important role in the NRC's review.

John Voglewede (NRC) gave a presentation next (handout in Attachment D). He first reviewed the relevant organizational structures of OCRWM and NRC. He then presented a review of code related activities in his area of the NRC. Among other items, he reviewed the NRC code center activities and a recent NRC survey of internal codes. He pointed out that the NRC survey differs from the ongoing OCRWM code survey in that their survey was NRC-wide (versus just OCRWM). The status of the NRC survey is that data analysis is nearly completed and validation of the data is underway. Completion of a draft report is currrently planned for September 1987 and copies could be made available to the TCCG at that time (Action Item No. 1) Hal Steinberg also agreed to send copies of the OCRWM Technical Code Compendium to interested NRC representatives when it is completed (Action Item No. 2). John Voglewede noted that Ms. Malinda Maloy is the NRC contact for NQA-1 and NQA-2 questions, Ms. Karen Van Duser is the NRC contact for code survey activities inquiries, and Alan Duncan is the NRC contact for high-level waste QA issues.

John Roberts (NRC) followed John Voglewede with a presentation of technical code activities in his area. He discussed the code development activities at Las Alamos Labs and PNL on FIRAC (fire accident model) and EXPAC (chemical explosion model).

General discussion followed on the issue of OCRWM using codes that have been previously accepted by NRC, such as ORIGEN2. The NRC representatives pointed out that while there is a significant amount of data available that validates ORIGEN2 for near-term predictions, use of ORIGEN2 for very long-term repository related predictions, where data to validate the model is not available, may be problematic. It was also pointed out that the largest concerns that the NRC will have will be with new codes that they have not previously seen or used and which predict very long-term effects. An example mentioned was models that predict ground-water travel time over tens of thousands of years.

Another issue discussed was the use of peer review to validate codes. John Voglewede (NRC) indicated that peer review is not a substitute for data validation and/or quality QA procedures. He noted that the NRC does consider peer review a necessary and important part of the overall validation of a code.

Open discussion followed on the general subject of acceptance of codes by NRC and when, during the evaluation of a code, should documentation process begin. Questions also centered on the value of documentation of the historical development of a code versus showing the final validated code with final documentation. No firm resolution of these questions was established other than that the more complete the documentation and the earlier it starts in the evaluation, the better off it is from a licensing viewpoint. Hal Steinberg summarized the discussion by stating that it is best to show the NRC, early in the code development process the SQA plan and the software specifications.

Hal Steinberg raised the issue of developing a consistent glossary (of terminology). NRC representatives indicated that they have developed a technical code glossary for NUREG's and that it could be made available to the TCCG (Action Item No. 1).

Hal Steinberg noted that the discussions during the meeting were very useful and the open exchange of information between the NRC and TCCG should benefit all the parties. He then indicated that draft minutes from the meeting would be made available to each active participant so they could review the statements for accuracy.

The agenda was then opened up to outside parties attending the meeting to discuss any items of interest or to make any comments. Sami Andrea (EWA/YAIN) indicated that his comments will be made available to the TCCG.

Tentative plans for the next TCCG meeting were made for August 26-27, 1987 in Idaho Falls, Idaho with the morning of the 27th as the plenary meeting and a tour of the Idaho/EG&G facility planned for the afternoon of the 27th.

The plenary meeting was then adjourned.

List of Attachments

A. Announcement letter and agenda

B. Hal Steinberg's Presentation on the Objectives and Activities of the TCCG.

C. TCCG Distribution List; Code Center Purpose and Functions paper; Code Compendium Survey Questionaire.

D. Presentation by J. Voglewede (NRC).

TCCG DISTRIBUTION LIST (Con't.)

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