

January 8, 2004

ORGANIZATIONS: Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), American Electric Power (AEP), Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC), and Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy)

SUBJECT: SUMMARY MEETING BETWEEN THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION STAFF, THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE AND THE THREE PILOT PROGRAM LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICANTS HELD ON DECEMBER 17, 2003

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff met with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and utility representatives on December 17, 2003, to discuss the status, observations, and lessons learned on the new license renewal application review process being piloted at Farley, Units 1 & 2, Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2, and D. C. Cook Units 1 & 2. Attendees at the meeting are listed in the enclosure. A summary of the discussions held at the meeting follows.

Farley Units 1 & 2 (C. Pierce):

- The NRC and the applicant's understood the objectives and expectations of the pilot program. The audit at Farley proceeded efficiently.
- The applicant suggested that the NRC provide guidance concerning its expectations of implementing commitments required under 10 CFR 54.37(b) and tracking the annual updates.
- The applicant suggested that the lessons learned from Farley and ANO should be factored into future audit plans and that the audit plan should be provided to future applicants in advance of the audit.

D. C. Cook Units 1 & 2 (R. Grumbir):

- The applicant expressed a positive response to the staff's audit Units 1 & 2 at D. C. Cook.

NEI (F. Emerson):

- The industry appreciated the level of NRC management attention in implementing the pilot programs at the three pilot plants.
- At the request of the NRC, the NEI agreed to coordinate a workshop on the new license renewal process to be held during (or contemporaneous with) the upcoming regulatory information conference (RIC) planned for March 10-12, 2004.

NRC (F. Gillespie, P.T. Kuo, R. Barrett, et al.)

- The NRC staff and the industry discussed how the pilot audits were progressing, including the quality of the aging management reviews. R. Barrett, DE, NRR, stated that the new process was a major step forward.
- F.Gillespie, DRIP, NRR, stated that in the future NRC will limit the number of audit team members to 10 or less.
- With the audit being conducted at the applicant's site, the staff anticipates that the efficiencies of the process will lead to reduction in the numbers of requests for additional information (RAI).
- After the pilot program, the staff will assess the new LRA review process and the regional LR inspection program to determine whether or not there is any duplication of effort. If so, the staff will adjust the programs or appropriate to eliminate or reduce any duplication.
- The staff will incorporate lessons learned from the pilot programs and past precedents into the next revision of NUREG-1801, "Generic Aging Lessons Learned (GALL) Report," as appropriate.

The next meeting between NRC and NEI to discuss the new LRA process will be scheduled in early 2004.

/RA/

Ram Subbaratnam, Project Manager
License Renewal Section B
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos: 50-315, 50-316, 50-348, 50-364, 50-313

Enclosure: As stated

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Project No. 690

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