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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WM DOCKET CONTROL CENTER  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

'85 NOV -5 P.4:26

November 4, 1985

WM Record File

109

WM Project

Docket No.

PDR

LPDR

MEMORANDUM FOR: Those on Attached List

FROM: C. A. Beckwith,  
Office of Resource Management

Distribution:

KEB MJB

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SUBJECT: 36th DOE-NRC MEETING MINUTES

(Return to WM, 623-SS)

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A copy of the minutes of the meeting held on October 16, 1985 are attached for your information. No date was discussed for the next meeting.

C. A. Beckwith  
Office of Resource Management

Attachment:  
As Stated

cc: R. Barber, DOE EH

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PDR WASTE PDR  
WM-1

DOE-NRC COORDINATION MEETING  
October 16, 1985

ATTENDEES

DOE

R. Barber, EH  
F. Witmer, EH  
L. Brinkerhoff, EH  
G. Gardner, RW  
S. Echols, GC  
J. Lehr, DP  
C. Glass, DP  
M. Grunspan, NE  
P. Havenstein, NE  
F. Tooper, NE  
D. Harrison, NE  
T. Schleiter, NE

NRC

T. Rehm, AOEDO  
C. Beckwith, RM  
C. Fitzgerald, RM/D  
J. Tomlin, RES  
J. Vora, RES  
H. Scott, RES  
M. Kaltman, NRR  
D. Loosley, NMSS  
L. Cooper, ADM  
S. Stewart, ADM/DC  
N. Abrams, ELD

WM Record File \_\_\_\_\_

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WM DOCKET CONTROL CENTER

Distribution: \_\_\_\_\_  
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MINUTES

'85 NOV -5 P4:30 36th DOE-NRC COORDINATION MEETING  
October 16, 1985 (to WM, 623-SS)

Agency Lead

Item 4 - Institutional Plans (REOPENED)

DOE-Clafin  
(Witmer)  
NRC-Beckwith  
(Tomlin)

NRC questioned the status of the DOE Institutional Planning process, and the extent that NRC should continue to be involved. NRC has provided quarterly project listings to DOE. Undesignated entries have been useful to the laboratories for short-range planning/guidance.

- Action:
- (1) NRC agreed to provide DOE with copies of NRC's Long Range Planning documents and the annual Research Plan.
  - (2) DOE/ER will continue to provide copies of all draft, interim, and final institutional plans to NRC and contact NRC offices for estimates to be used in the draft institutional plans.

Item 42 - Nuclear Safety, Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 1980 (REOPENED)

DOE-Millunzi  
NRC-Tomlin

This act required DOE to study the need for a national reactor simulator and an academy to train operators, as well as to identify additional areas for nuclear safety research, which, in response to a Congressional request included the review of NRC's research program for need and adequacy.

Status: The original legislation specified a five-year effort, the period of performance for which expired January 1985. DOE informed Congress that the effort has been completed and Congress agreed that no subsequent DOE activity is required. Other actions in this area include an INPO proposal for a national operator training academy.

Action: Item Closed.

Item 45 - Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982

DOE-Gardner  
NRC-Kearney

This act establishes requirements for the disposal of high level commercial nuclear waste.

Status: DOE briefed status on this item: They noted that NRC approved repository siting guidelines were issued December 6, 1984. DOE draft environmental assessments (EAs) were issued December 20, 1984 for nine potentially acceptable first repository sites. Five sites were proposed for nomination, of which, three were recommended for characterization: Deaf Smith, Hanford, and Yucca Mountain. The final EAs are scheduled for release December 1985. DOE is accepting the EPA standards on site criteria and NRC is presently examining these criteria for acceptability.

Action: Continue to coordinate activities.

Item 51 - License Fee Recovery

DOE-Ross  
NRC-Kaltman

The rule requiring NRC to collect full fee recovery has been issued for comment. NRC requires identification of all licensing action costs on future DOE projects on a plant-by-plant, action-by-action basis. After agreement on a final reporting format, the laboratories have implemented this requirement. No problems have developed, and both agencies agree to close this action.

Action: Item Closed.

Item 53 - Changes to 10 CFR Part 20

DOE-Vallario  
NRC-Tomlin

NRC has proposed changes to 10 CFR Part 20 which recommends a 50 year dose commitment extrapolated from the current exposure rate, but makes an exception for long-lived radionuclides such as plutonium and uranium.

DOE stated that these changes will severely impact DOE programs and recommend against using the dose commitment approach.

EPA solicited guidance to set worker exposure standards. These standards are now ready to be issued - which DOE endorses.

Status: The final NRC proposed rule has yet to be published for public comment.

Action: Awaiting Commission decision.

Item 57 - Changes to 10 CFR 140

DOE-Vallario  
NRC-Saltzman

Changes to the criteria for classification of extraordinary nuclear occurrences are being proposed by NRC. This issue affects Price-Anderson issues in which DOE has a vital interest. DOE has expressed their concerns in writing and believe that this action may necessitate changes to the DOE rules as well.

Status: The pros and cons of both agencies positions were discussed at prior meetings and joint meetings were held. DOE responded during the public comment period and objected to the proposed changes. This issue is coupled with extention/replacement and is presently being examined by Congress.

Action: No action is needed at the present time. DOE and NRC will keep each other current on status.

Item 59 - NRC Fuel Coordination:

DOE - Witmer  
NRC - Van Houten

With passage of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act DOE assumed responsibility for the long-term storage of high level commercial waste. A problem that remains is "DOE-owned, NRC-sponsored" fuel elements used in the research projects of NRC which must eventually be disposed of. The disposition, expense, and control of these items need a satisfactory resolution.

History: NRC inventoried the various fuel elements involved. At a meeting on February 6, 1985, DOE/CH and NRC requested assistance from DOE/DP in facilitating the temporary storage of the NRC fuel at DP sites. At that time DP stated they could not authorize such transfer until their relationship with the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste (RW) was better defined.

On June 20, 1985, DOE held a subsequent meeting to discuss the options. CH was selected as the lead coordinator for these activities. The fuel of immediate concern - batches at Chalk River and Battelle Columbus was focused upon. DP requested a better characterization of the spent fuel at Battelle to determine the preferred storage site. (This information was provided DP on October 7, 1985.)

Status: At the coordination meeting NRC stressed that charges of approximately \$3,000.00 per month are accruing for the material at Battelle Columbus. (DOE is also accruing similar charges for DOE waste with this contractor.) DP stated that Savannah River could not process; nor could DP store spent reactor fuel of commercial origin at their DP sites at Savannah River, INEL and Hanford. Therefore, DP could not accept the material. This answer was unacceptable to NRC, who feels DOE has made no real progress in the resolution of the issue. It was noted, however, that DOE is in the process of completing transfer of the NRC spent fuel at Chalk River to the Canadian Government. This represents about one-third of the total NRC spent fuel inventory.

Action: A joint NRC-DOE meeting was agreed to for November 6, 1985 (three weeks) to allow time for DP and other DOE offices to reexamine their current positions and develop a solution to the impasse. In this regard, ID is surveying INEL for a suitable location to store the Battelle Columbus waste.

The issue of charges, fees, etc., will be examined separately once the storage siting problem is resolved.

Item 60 - Research-in-Progress Data Base

DOE - Witmer  
NRC - Beckwith

DOE is compiling a computer accessible and searchable listing of all research work in progress at the National laboratories. The Oak Ridge Technical Information Center (TIC) requested NRC projects be included in this inventory. Direct integration into DOE's Research-in-Progress data base is anticipated, with NRC requesting access to this DOE system file.

Action: NRC is to provide computer information via PC access to TIC once RES has reviewed and updated their current project file and are comfortable with it. Estimate: January 1986.

DOE is to determine the degree of access it will afford NRC once the entire Research-in-Progress data base is completed. The outlook is for full access by NRC, just as to any DOE office

Item 62 - Quarterly Lab Cost Forecasts

DOE - Ross  
NRC - Monaco

NRC noted that required 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarter costs projections by the laboratories are needed, but the format had not been standardized. On October 2, 1984 DOE recommended the use of the BNL format to the other laboratories. This format was preferred by NRC. The other laboratories have since complied.

Action: Item Closed.

Item 63 - ACRS Consultant Billings

DOE - Witmer  
NRC - Newsom

ACRS representative noted various laboratories are not providing requested data on names, dates, and purpose of consultant services billed to NRC. This supplementary data is necessary to close-out billings and is consistent with MC 1102.

Status: DOE reiterated this requirement to its field offices on April 12, 1985, and the labs have since complied.

Action: Item Closed.

New Items:

A. Mutual Applicability of Select NRC/DOE Data Bases

Both NRC and DOE and their contractors are developing a number of specialized computerized data bases related to the safe design, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of nuclear reactors and facilities. Such information has potential applicability to both organizations. Select data bases are already in common usage; e.g., the personnel security clearance system (see prior Item 56). Coupled with the growing number of data bases, the use of personal computers is becoming more common throughout both organizations.

It was suggested by DOE that a joint technical working group be established to survey the present data bases and investigate the potential utility to the sister agency including difficulties with hardware/software access and compatibility.

Status: The group discussed this item briefly. DOE/NE stated they are contacting the NRC EDO office directly on this subject. Therefore, the task force dropped further action on this item; but noted there is broad interest by other DOE offices besides NE on pursuing this issue.

Action: No task force action assigned this proposed item at the present time. The NRC DEDO and RM have agreed to work directly with DOE/NE. A copy of the NRC "CDN Strategic Data Plan" was provided NE for review. Current system descriptions will also be provided to DOE. DOE will indicate the systems/data of interest for further investigation.

b. Nuclear Plant Aging/Life Extension:

DOE-Witmer  
NRC-Vora  
(Tomlin)

NRC is developing a generic methodology to characterize aging phenomena in nuclear plants. DOE/EPRI are studying ways to extend the useful life of reactors, support, and safety systems. DOE has performance and monitoring data for extended life operation and has a strong incentive to further extend the service life of operating facilities. In this regard, methods and maintenance practices identified to control risk under NRC's nuclear plant aging research program are expected to be useful to DOE. It is desirable to establish a joint working group on this subject to facilitate information exchange and cooperative efforts.

Status: The NRC Project Manager on Aging Studies presented a brief description of the present NRC program and noted support of the idea of joint exchange of information.

Action: Agree a meeting of interested parties to follow-up the suggestion should occur in the near future.  
Item #64 was assigned this action.

DOE-NRC  
CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

1. Foreign Nationals (Item 2)

NRC update listing of current and projected foreign national assignments every six months.

2. DOE Nuclear Safety Evaluations (Item 6)

DOE provide an advance listing of requested safety reviews to be performed by NRC on an annual basis for NRC planning purposes.

3. NRC and DOE Program Updates - Current and Budget Year (Item 7)

Revised list of NRC programs and projects are to be provided DOE on a quarterly basis. Both agencies are to provide the other with current budget information and submittals as produced during each budget cycle.

4. NRC Evaluation of Laboratories (Item 18)

Evaluations, per agreed upon formats and appraisal factors are provided to DOE upon request. (PNL and ANL are being evaluated for 1985.)

5. Safeguards Area (Item 31)

Joint meetings of a user group are being held to insure coordination.

6. NRC Rulemaking (Item 41)

NRC is to advise DOE of proposed changes as early as possible which are relevant to DOE. This may occur prior to formal Federal Register publication.

7. End-of-Year Funding Changes (Item 43)

Close monitoring by NRC RM and DOE EH should be continued in future fiscal years to insure proper funding of laboratory placed NRC work.

Addressees - Memorandum dated November 4, 1985

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