

#### **UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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NOTE TO:

A. Giarratana, NMSS

C. MacDonald, NMSS

W. Beach, RES

H. Peterson, RES

J. Tomlin, RES

R. Van Houten, RES

J. Vora, RES

C. Fitzgerald, RM/D

N. Moore, IP

R. Brady, ADM/SEC

M. Steele, ADM/TIDC

FROM:

N. Monaco, RM/BBO

SUBJECT:

AGENDA FOR 38th DOE-NRC COORDINATION MEETING

Attached for your information is the agenda for the October 8, 1986 meeting to be held at 1:30 p.m. in Room E-301, DOE/Germantown. Please attend or ensure that a representative is available to participate at the meeting on the item for which you have lead.

> Nicholas Monaco, Jr., Chief **Budget Operations Branch** Division of Budget and Analysis Office of Resource Management

Attachment: As stated

cc w/attachment:

T. Rehm, OEDO

R. Scroggins, RM

P. Rabideau, RM/B

# DRAFT AGENDA 38th DOE-NRC COORDINATION MEETING October 8, 1986 1:30 P.M. Room E-301 DOE (Germantown)

Agency Lead

# Item 45 - Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982

DOE-Gardner NRC-Giarratana

This Act establishes requirements for the disposal of highlevel radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel.

Status:

In May, DOE announced that the President approved the Secretary's recommendation that sites in Nevada, Texas, and Washington would be characterized as candidates for the first repository for high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel. DOE also announced in May that site-specific work for a second repository had been indefinitely postponed because of the progress in siting the first repository and the uncertainty of when a second repository might be needed.

Action: Continue to coordinate activities.

# Item 53 - Changes to 10 CFR Part 20

DOE-Vallario NRC-Peterson

NRC published proposed changes to 10 CFR Part 20 in the Federal Register on January 9, 1986. These changes recommend a 50 year dose commitment extrapolated from the current exposure rate, but makes an exception for long-lived radionuclides such as plutonium and uranium.

Status:

DOE has prepared and submitted comments to the NRC which reiterate the previous DOE position that these changes will severely impact DOE programs. DOE recommends against using the dose commitment system as proposed by NRC. NRC will evaluate DOE comments in conjunction with others received and plans to make recommendations to the Commission by December 1988.

Action: Continue to coordinate activities.

#### 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 must eventually be disposed of. The disposition, expense, and control of these items are being addressed on a batch-by-batch basis.

Status:

DOE has completed the initial transfer of NRC test program spent fuel at Chalk River to the Canadian Government which represents about one-third of the total NRC spent fuel inventory. DOE has formulated a plan to have Oak Ridge process the relatively small inventory of enriched material at Sandia. DOE has agreed to combine the inventory of NRC spent fuel at Battelle Columbus with DOE fuels for shipment and storage at INEL. Costs for the collection, packaging, transport, and storage of the fuel will be shared by NRC on a prorated basis, with transfer of the fuel expected to be completed February 1987.

Action:

Continue to coordinate activities to dispose of this fuel expeditiously, and cost effectively.

## <u> Item 60 - Research-in Progress Data Base</u>

DOE-Witmer NRC-Steele

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 Researchin-Progress Data Base is anticipated, with NRC requesting access to this DOE system file.

Status:

NRC has provided a computer data base compatible with PC access to TIC. TIC has not yet incorporated the NRC data into RECON due to format differences, which will be resolved. NRC access to RECON is readily achieved by contacting DOE/OSTI, Oak Ridge, for sign up.

Action:

NRC is reviewing continued participation as a result of recent developments.

# Item 64 - 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. A joint working group on this subject is to be established to facilitate information exchange and cooperative efforts.

Status:

In early April, NRC and DOE held a meeting on the DOE/EPRI life-extension program. A satisfactory exchange of information resulted and DOE agreed to keep NRC informed. Dialogue has been initiated to establish a working group between DOE and NRC. A joint DOE/NRC workshop on aging is planned for early November to allow key DOE reactor operations contractors to exchange information on their respective aging data bases and surveillance activities and to provide input to the NRC program.

Action:

Hold DOE/NRC workshop and initiate followup activities. as appropriate.

# Item 65 - Mutual Applicability of Select NRC/DOE Data-Bases

Both NRC and DOE and their contractors are developing a number of specialized computerized data bases relating 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 (prior Item 56).

Status:

Prior screening of NRC's data base by DOE/NE pointed to difficulties in system compatibilities, and DOE/NE opted for continued use of the "gray book." DOE/EH recently met with NRC/PPCS and was briefed on NRR's computerized FIN descriptions. DOE/EH is determining general DOE-wide interest in PC access to this an subsequent data bases.

Action:

DOE to notify NRC of findings and continue to explore areas of mutual interest, e.g., computerized event (LER) filing and analysis.

#### Item 66 - PBF Transfer Agreement

NRC and DOE have prepared and signed a transfer agreement on the Power Burst Facility at INEL.

Action: Recommend item be closed.

# Item 67 - Transportation Licensing Issues

Recent changes in DOE procedures were noted by NMSS, whereby DOE SNM is being exported FOB DOE docks. This poses potential licensing problems to NRC.

Status:

DOE has developed a transportation policy/ procedure which satisfies both DOE and NRC certificate/licensing concerns and will issue it in the near future. DOE - Witmer NRC - Tomlin (Fitzgerald)

DOE - Murphie NRC - Beach

DOE - Garrison NRC - MacDonald (Moore) Action: Followup issuance of policy and its implementation.

# New Items:

# **Uranium Enrichment Classification**

DOE -NRC - Brady

A meeting is scheduled for October 1 between DOE/NRC classification and security representatives to discuss issues of mutual interest in uranium enrichment. The exchange has been prompted by foreign overtures to NRC for siting an enrichment plant in the U.S. using foreign centrifuge technology.

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# DOE-NRC CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

#### 1. Foreign Nationals (Item 2)

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

## 2. DOE Institutional Planning (Item 4)

DOE/NRC continue to exchange data/institutional planning information as established by an interagency agreement on an annual basis.

# 3. <u>DOE Nuclear Safety Evaluations (Item 6)</u>

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

## 4. 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.

## 5. NRC Evaluation of Laboratories (Item 18)

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

# 6. Safeguards Area (Item 31)

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

# 7. 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 <u>Federal Register</u> publication.

# 8. 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.