

January 31, 2002

NOTE TO: Gary Holahan, Director, DSSA/NRR
THRU: John Hannon, Chief, SPLB/DSSA/NRR/RAI
FROM: Eric Weiss, Chief, Fire Protection Section, SPLB/DSSA/NRR/RAI
SUBJECT: STATUS OF REACTOR FIRE PROTECTION PROJECTS - JANUARY 2002

The attached report provides the status of the significant reactor fire protection projects that are assigned to the Fire Protection Engineering and Special Projects Section. The report does not contain allegation-related material, but may contain predecisional information.

The internal reactor fire protection web page, which provides ready access information for all of our significant reactor fire protection activities, is available at:
<http://nrr10.nrc.gov/adt/dssa/splb/fireprot/index.html>

This status report is issued on a quarterly basis.

Attachment: As stated

CONTACT: Eric Weiss, SPLB/DSSA/NRR
301-415-3264

January 31, 2002

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Information in this record was deleted
in accordance with the provisions of information
Act, exemptions 5
2003-358

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OFFICE	SPLB:DSSA:NRR	SC:SPLB:DSSA	BC:SPLB:DSSA			
NAME	DOudinot:bw	EWeiss	JHannon			
DATE	01/29/02	01/29/02	01/31/02	1 / 02	1 / 02	

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PREDECISIONAL INFORMATION - NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

**STATUS REPORT
SIGNIFICANT REACTOR FIRE PROTECTION PROJECTS**



Fire Protection Engineering and Special Projects Section
Plant Systems Branch
Division of Systems Safety And Analysis
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

January 2002

~~PREDECISIONAL INFORMATION - NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE~~

ISSUE: MANUAL ACTIONS USED TO PERFORM FIRE SAFE SHUTDOWN

DESCRIPTION: On November 14, 2001, as a part of corrective actions for the Reactor Oversight Process, the NRR, Fire Protection Engineering staff, conducted a quarterly training seminar to improve the training level of regional fire protection inspectors. As a part of that training, a session was conducted addressing manual actions licensees can take credit for in accordance to Appendix R, Section III.G.2, Fire Protection Safe Shutdown. NEI requested a copy of the lesson plan. The lesson plan was subsequently provided in a letter to NEI dated November 29, 2001. On January 11, 2002, NEI sent a letter to the NRC with comments on the training lesson plan. NEI considers that the training lesson plan constituted new NRC guidance.

CURRENT STATUS: The staff has prepared a response to the NEI letter. The staff does not believe that the training or its response letter contain new industry guidance or would result in a backfit to the industry. The CRGR has been informed of the issue. NEI has requested a meeting with the staff on this subject.

A related issue is a pending enforcement at ANO-1 concerning a failure to implement Appendix R, Section III.G.2, and the use of manual actions to operate equipment in lieu of passive fire protection. The licensee wrote a letter to the NRC claiming a backfit. The backfit was reviewed by a Region IV backfit panel and the region is preparing a response letter to the licensee denying the backfit claim. The region would like to issue its letter only after NRR responds to the NEI letter. The SDP (phase 3) is currently being performed by NRR for the ANO-1 issue.

The response has been signed by SPLB Branch Chief. CRGR is reviewing the issue for generic backfit implications. After CRGR completion of its review, NRR will issue its response to NEI. A meeting with NEI can then be scheduled if NEI still requests it.

MILESTONES:

- November 14, 2001 Training conducted concerning manual actions
- November 29, 2001 Copy of lesson plan provided to NEI
- January 11, 2002 NEI letter commenting on lesson plan
- January 29, 2002 NRC response letter prepared
- Early February 2002 CRGR completion of its review

REFERENCES: Letter from NRC to NEI dated 11/29/01, "Fire Protection Training Materials", (ADAMS ML013370302). Included in this letter is an attachment with the lesson plan for the training provided. Letter from NEI to NRC dated 1/11/02, "Use of Manual Actions to Achieve Safe Shutdown for Fire Events" (ADAMS ML020300069).

CONTACT: Phil Qualls, 415-1849, PMQ

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