

May 13, 2005

LICENSEE: NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MEETING HELD ON APRIL 28, 2005, BETWEEN THE
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION STAFF AND INDUSTRY
LICENSING ACTION TASK FORCE

Members of the staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) hosted a meeting with representatives of the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and licensees comprising the Licensing Action Task Force (LATF) on April 28, 2005, at NRC Headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. This meeting was open to the public. A list of attendees is provided as Enclosure 1.

A summary of the discussion is provided below:

1. Topical Report Review Process

Bob Gramm presented the NRC's process for coordinating topical report reviews and related licensing actions (see Enclosure 2). He described some changes in the process that are intended to improve the efficiency of completing reviews of licensing actions that reference topical reports. Letters will be sent to the owner's groups, vendors, and NEI documenting this process. If the NRC staff decides to document this information in a Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS), the NRC will interact with the industry to discuss comments and feedback before the RIS is issued.

2. Requests for Additional Information (RAI) Process

Don Woodlan provided a summary of activities conducted by the joint NRC/NEI RAI sub-group. The sub-group conducted public meetings on March 9 and April 26, 2005, and is currently working on data trends on the number of RAIs per licensing action and case studies of selected licensing actions to gain insights into the apparent causes for the recent RAI trends. Based on the significance of the results, the sub-group may develop recommended process changes in the areas of precedent use, topical report references, and guidance to staff and licensees. Mike Schoppman discussed the data trending effort which is scheduled to be completed by June 2005. Gene Suh discussed the planned case studies which are planned for completion in September 2005. He also indicated that the NRC staff is working on guidance on non-acceptance, rejection, and denial of licensee submittals that are of poor quality or incomplete

3. Licensing Action Request Review Process

NEI had no progress to report on development of a White Paper as they have been focusing their efforts on the RAI and generic issue processes. NEI expects to have a draft White Paper ready for LATF review by October 2005. Mike Schoppman reported that NEI plans to separate the 50.59 threshold issue from this White Paper.

4. Generic Issues Process

NEI provided an outline for a proposed White Paper on the Generic Issue Resolution Process (see Enclosure 3, page 2). The goal is to develop an interim process to follow for plant-specific issues until a generic issue is resolved. NEI expects to have a draft of the White Paper ready for LATF review prior to the October quarterly meeting. NEI and NRC will consider forming subgroups to evaluate and comment on the proposal.

5. Update on Technical Issues

- Instrument Setpoints

John Nakoski reported that the NRC is developing a RIS to convey the NRC's positions, focusing on compliance with 10 CFR 50.36. NRR staff has met with the NRR Leadership Team regarding development of the RIS which is expected to be issued in approximately 1 month. He indicated that the staff will consider interacting with interested stakeholders, including NEI, prior to issuance of the RIS.

- Control Room Habitability

Craig Harbuck reported that the NRC is evaluating the NEI paper, and the public meeting, scheduled for April 28, will be rescheduled for May 26, 2005.

6. Operability Determination Process

Don Woodlan reported that discussions between the NRC and NEI to review and comment on the draft RIS have been productive. The final markup of the RIS is expected to be completed the week of May 9, 2005, will be issued by the end of September 2005. Nancy Salgado, NRC, stated that the NRC plans to train the regional inspectors on the RIS during counterpart meetings.

7. Reduce Unnecessary Burden Initiative (RUBI)

Bill Reckley reported on the status of the remaining RUBI items.

Enclosures: 1. List of Attendees
 2. NRC Handout
 3. NEI Handout

cc w/encls: See next page

Nuclear Energy Institute

Project No. 689

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4. Generic Issues Process

NEI provided an outline for a proposed White Paper on the Generic Issue Resolution Process (see Enclosure 3, page 2). The goal is to develop an interim policy for the NRC and industry to follow for plant-specific issues until a generic issue is resolved. NEI expects to have a draft of the White Paper ready for LATF review prior to the October quarterly meeting. NEI and NRC will consider forming subgroups to evaluate and comment on the proposal.

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cc w/encls: See next page

DISTRIBUTION: See next page

Package: ML051220467 Accession Number: ML051220177

Enclosure 3: ML051190300 Meeting Notice: ML051020006

OFFICE	LA:PDI-1	PM:PDI-1	D:PDIII	DD:DLPM
NAME	SLittle	DSkay	AMohseni	JLyons
DATE	05/09/05	05/10/05	05/10/05	5/11/05

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Distribution for Summary of Meeting Held on April 28, 2005, Between NRC Staff and Industry
Licensing Action Task Force

Date:

PUBLIC

PDI-1 Reading File

L. Marsh

J. Lyons

C. Holden

E. Hackett

R. Laufer

G. Suh

J. Nakoski

N. Salgado

W. Reckley

D. Skay

T. Boyce

H. Berkow

W. Ruland

H. Chernoff

H. Vander Molen

R. Emrit

C. Gratton

C. Harbuck

ACRS

OGC

S. Little

LICENSING ACTION TASK FORCE MEETING

APRIL 28, 2005

LIST OF ATTENDEES

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
Jim Lyons	NRC/NRR/DLPM
Bill Reckley	NRC/NRR/DLPM
Herb Berkow	NRC/NRR/DLPM
Donna Skay	NRC/NRR/DLPM
Aby Mohseni	NRC/NRR/DLPM
Nancy Salgado	NRC/NRR/DIPM
Craig Harbuck	NRC/NRR/DIPM
Harold Chernoff	NRC/NRR/DLPM
Gene Suh	NRC/NRR/DLPM
Cornelius Holden	NRC/NRR/DLPM
Eric Benner	NRC/NRR/DIPM
Edwin Hackett	NRC/NRR/DLPM
John Nakoski	NRC/NRR/DLPM
Christopher Gratton	NRC/NRR/DLPM
Harold Vander Molen	RES/DSARE/ARREB
Ronald Emrit	RES/DSARE/ARREB
Mike Schoppman	NEI
Jerry Burford	Entergy
Lou Larrogoite	Constellation
Doug McKinney	Southern Nuclear
Donald Hoffman	Excel Services
Joe Bauer	Exelon
David Gullott	Exelon
Jerry Holm	Framatome ANP
Deann Ralieg	Scientech
Rick Garner	Progress Energy
Charles Brinkman	Westinghouse
Edward Weinkam	NMC
Don Woodlan	STARS
Pete Kokalakis	Entergy Nuclear Northeast
Nancy Chapman	SERCH/Bechtel

Coordination of Topical Report and
Licensing Action NRC Staff Reviews
Bob Gramm - NRR/DLPM/PDIV-2

- Seeking to improve effectiveness and efficiency of NRC reviews of topical reports and related licensing actions
- Difficulties have arisen where licensing actions reference an un-approved topical report
- Topical report review schedules are frequently in excess of NRC licensing action age goals
- Are going to institute better internal controls for up-front review coordination
- Encourage use of topical reports that allow subsequent licensing action reviews to be conducted more efficiently
- Will generally discourage simultaneous submittals of topical reports and licensing actions which reference the un-approved topical report
- Licensees should generally await publication of the draft SE on the topical report when technical issues have been resolved and NRC limitations/conditions are identified
- If plant-specific information is needed it should generally be included as part of the topical report
- Licensees choosing to submit a licensing action referencing an un-approved topical report under review should coordinate in advance with the NRC PMs, and the vendor/OG to discuss the merits of such a submittal
- Licensees choosing to submit a stand alone licensing action that embodies the methodology of an un-approved topical report should hold a pre-submittal discussion with the NRC PMs and vendor/OG
- Correspondence under preparation to vendor/owners groups and NEI