

September 12, 2005

ORGANIZATION: Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI)

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF JUNE 7, 2005, MEETING WITH NEI REGARDING NRC STAFF REVIEW GUIDANCE ON QUALITY ASSURANCE

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss with NEI the NRC staff's update of NUREG-0800, "Standard Review Plan for the Review of Safety Analysis Reports for Nuclear Power Plants" (SRP) Chapter 17, "Quality Assurance" (QA). This meeting was related to the public meetings on NEI 04-01, "Draft Industry Guideline for Combined License Applicants Under 10 CFR Part 52." The meeting attendees are listed in Attachment 1 and the meeting agenda is given in Attachment 2.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss NRC's consolidation of QA guidance in the SRP. The NRC provided an updated set of slides to those attached to the meeting notice (Attachment 3). The following sections summarize the main subjects discussed at the meeting.

Revision of SRP Chapter 17

NRC said it plans to consolidate SRP Sections 17.1, 17.2, and 17.3 into a single section (17.1-3). This update would apply to applicants for combined licenses. SRP Sections 17.1, 17.2, and 17.3 will continue to apply to current licensees. It was noted that many of the standards that are referenced in SRP Sections 17.1, 17.2 and 17.3 have not been revised since the 1970's.

NRC said that the QA requirements included in RS-002, "Processing Applications for Early Site Permits," would be included in SRP Section 17.1.1.

NRC said this meeting was primarily to discuss the proposed SRP update. NEI said that they did not see any fundamental problems with the staff's proposal. NRC said that Section 17.1-3 was scheduled to be issued for public comment by the end of 2005. NEI said that it will review the proposed SRP section and revise guidance in NEI 04-01 related to SRP Chapter 17.

Codes and Standards Related to Quality Assurance

NRC terminated participation in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Code Committee on Quality Assurance Program Requirements for Nuclear Facilities (NQA-1) in 1999. The NRC is working with NQA-1 to try to endorse later editions of NQA-1. NRC stated that NQA-1/1994 was last version of this standard that was endorsed by 10 CFR 50.54(a). NRC has done a line-by-line review of NQA-1/2000 and provided comments to the NQA-1 Code committee.

NEI asked if an applicant would have to seek endorsement of later editions of NQA-1 later than the 1994 Edition. NRC said that any applicant can request to use a later edition of NQA-1. However, licensees have not requested NRC approval to use a later edition.

SRP for Maintenance Rule Operational Program

NRC said there would be a new SRP for reviewing the maintenance rule operational program. NUREG-1648, "Lessons Learned from Maintenance Rule Baseline Inspections," would be the guidance used to develop this SRP section. NRC stated that licensees were not required to commit to the regulatory guide in the development of their maintenance rule programs. The maintenance rule is not described currently in any operating plant FSARs. NRC suggested that it might be beneficial to hold separate meetings on the development of this SRP section.

Regulatory Treatment of Non-Safety Systems (RTNSS)

RTNSS is a program for non-safety related structures, systems, and components that are important to safety and is included in passive plant designs such as the Westinghouse AP1000. NRC has noted previously that NEI 04-01 did not provide guidance regarding RTNSS. NRC stated that RTNSS is a subset of QA. The NRC stated that it is revising SRP Section 17.4, "Reliability Assurance Program," to provide updated guidance on RTNSS, and this revision is scheduled to be issued for public comment by the end of 2005.

Comments from Members of the Public

A member of the public, representing NQA-1, passed out a letter from the chairman of NQA-1 which states that NQA-1 wants to work with the NRC on the next version of the code (see Attachment 4). The committee meets twice a year and has had active support from the Department of Energy. A committee task group is performing work on the next generation of reactors.

Another member of the public, also a member of NQA-1, said the committee needed to know more about industry schedules for new plants so that the committee can support industry activities.

Joseph Colaccino, Senior Project Manager
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 689

- Attachments:
1. List of attendees
 2. Agenda
 3. June 7, 2005, NRC Meeting Slides: Revision of Quality Assurance Standard Review Plans (ML051640411)
 4. June 7, 2005, Meeting Letter from NQA Chairman on Merits of NQA-1-2004 or Later NQA Editions for Application to New Generation (ML051640402)

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/RA/

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cc w/atts: See next page

*See previous concurrence

ADAMS ACCESSION NO. ML051670404-Package

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DATE	8/15/2005	09/07/2005	09/08/2005

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**NRC Meeting with Nuclear Energy Institute To Discuss
Consolidation of Standard Review Plan, Chapter 17,
Quality Assurance
Tuesday, June 7, 2005
1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
NRC Headquarters Conference Room O-4B6**

Name	Organization
Joseph Colaccino	NRR/DRIP/RNRP
Clinton Eldridge	Pacific Gas and Electric Co.
Dale Smith	Duke Power
George Zinke	Entergy/NuStart
Michael P. Saniuk	AREVA
Guy Cesare	Enercon
Dan Williamson	Exelon
Terry Dunn	NQA Committee/SAIA
Jason Jennings	NRR/DIPM/IIPB
Tom Hayes	Westinghouse
Eddie R. Grant	Exelon
Joe Hegner	Dominion
Kerri Kavanagh	NRR/DIPM/IPSB
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Gustave Danielson	U.S. Department of Energy
Steve Koenick	NRR
Ken Heck	NCRC
Paul Prescott	NRR/IPSB
Rich McIntyre	NRR/DIPM/IPSB
Dale Thatcher	NRR/DIPM/IPSB/QMS
Ted Quay	NRR/DIPM/IPSB
Francis X. Talbot	NRR/DIPM/IPSB
Russ Bell	NEI
Stephen Tingen	NRR

Agenda*

June 7, 2005, Meeting with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) to Discuss Consolidation of Standard Review Plan, Chapter 17, Quality Assurance

1:30 p.m.	Introductions/Opening Remarks	NRC/NEI
1:40 p.m.	Presentation on Consolidation of SRP Chapter 17 (See attached slides)	NRC
3:00 p.m.	Discussion with NEI Combined License Application Task Force	NRC/NEI
3:45 p.m.	Public Comments	
4:00 p.m.	Adjourn	

***NOTE: Specific topics and associated discussion times may change without notice.**

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