September 8, 2005

MEMORANDUM TO: John D. Monninger, Chief
Probabilistic Risk Analysis Branch
Division of Risk Analysis and Applications
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: Mary T. Drouin ***/RA/***
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SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF AUGUST 25, 2005, PUBLIC MEETING WITH STAKEHOLDERS REGARDING RISK-INFORMED PERFORMANCE-BASED REVISION TO 10 CFR PART 50

The staff held a public meeting with stakeholders on August 25, 2005, to discuss and solicit comments on the staff's plan for a risk-informed performance-based revision to 10 CFR Part 50. The meeting was well attended and included representatives from Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), Japan Nuclear Energy Safety Organization, Westinghouse, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Framatome, Oakridge National Laboratory, Brookhaven National Laboratory, AdSTM, Scientech, Information Systems Laboratories, Inc., and other stakeholders.

The list of attendees and the meeting handouts are provided in Attachments 1 and 2, respectively. The NRC staff led the meeting, which addressed the following agenda items:

- Introduction and the purpose of the meeting
- Background/History
- Proposed Approach
- Schedule
- Stakeholder Presentations
- Open Discussion
- Summary/Wrap-up

As part of the stakeholder presentations, NEI (see Attachment 3), ASME/Westinghouse and Framatome gave formal comments. A summary of their statements is as follows:

NEI —

- Ongoing risk-informed activities (e.g., 50.46, 50.69, and technical specification initiatives) should be worked in parallel with the technology-neutral framework (TNF) activities

- TNF should be an alternative to, and complete replacement of, Part 50 that builds on the concepts and processes of Part 50, Part 52, and reactor oversight process

- — Issue an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking with complete set of example regulations in June 2006
- — Issue draft set of technology-neutral regulations in June 2008 for information only
- — Issue notice of proposed rulemaking for comment in 2012
- — Issue final rule in 2014

ASME/Westinghouse —

- Key area/element is PRA quality for current, new/advanced, and next generation reactors

- Significant work needs to be done to determine PRA quality needs for current reactor applications and for new technology

- Concerned about the resource needs to support today's and tomorrow's standards for new reactor design

- Need to prioritize the efforts for next generation reactors

Framatome —

- Not economically viable to use Part 50 and Part 52 via exemptions to license gas-cooled reactors

- Expressed interest in using the new regulatory structure (TNF) for licensing

There was a good exchange of information between the staff and attendees regarding further risk-informed, performance-based revisions to Part 50. The major points raised by the stakeholders during the discussion included:

- Following parallel paths (i.e., planned risk-informed changes to Part 50 and TNF) is a good approach

- Between the two paths, higher priority should be given to completing ongoing activities (e.g., 50.46, 50.69, technical specification initiatives)

- Focus on implementation of current initiatives (e.g., 50.46, 50.69, and technical specification initiatives) rather than initiating additional rulemaking
  - — Address the single failure criterion (SFC) in the context of the TNF (and not as a separate effort under Part 50)

- PRA quality for current and future activities is a key element

- Implementation of TNF should be focused on new reactor designs rather than LWRs (existing and advanced)

- Recognize that there are additional challenges associated with pursuing TNF rulemaking in parallel with finalizing the TNF

- Some resources need to be dedicated to reviewing and updating the Regulatory Guides and SRPs using a “risk screening approach”

The meeting concluded with the general agreement that the meeting was productive and provided for a good exchange of information.

Attachments:
1. List of Attendees
2. Meeting handouts
3. NEI presentation

J. Monninger

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