

November 3, 2005

MEMORANDUM TO: David Trimble, Chief
Operating Licensing and Human Performance Branch
Division of Inspection and Regional Support
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
/RA/

FROM: George M. Usova
Operating Licensing and Human Performance Branch
Division of Inspection and Regional Support
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MEETING HELD ON October 25, 2005, WITH THE WESTINGHOUSE OWNERS GROUP (WOG) TO DISCUSS RESULTS AND CONTINUED ACTIVITIES FOR REVISING SECTION 2 OF THE KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES (KA) CATALOG FOR NUCLEAR POWER PLANT OPERATORS: PRESSURIZED WATER REACTORS (NUREG-1122, REV.2)

On October 25, 2005, representatives of the Westinghouse Owners Group (WOG) met with the staff in a public meeting to discuss results of the WOG's Study Supporting its proposed revisions to Section 2 of the Knowledge and Abilities Catalog for Nuclear Power Plant Operators: Pressurized Water Reactors (PWR) (NUREG-1122, Rev.2) and its recommended continued activities on the project. The WOG's meeting attendees are listed in Attachment 1.

The staff introduced the meeting with a general overview of past events leading to the subject meeting. WOG, through a series of slides, presented a background of its study that lead to a number of proposed revisions to the Catalog section (Attachment 2). On the basis of needs from the study, the WOG's working group met in May of 2005 and effected proposed revisions to the Catalog. While a full report containing the specific details of its revisions is available in Attachment 3, the following is a summary of its proposed revisions changes:

- Replace subsection 2.3 with 10 new K/As derived from 10 CFR 55.41
- Delete 4 K/As because they are adequately addressed in other sections of the Catalog
- Revise 37 K/As to clarify their meaning
- Move 7 K/As related to fuel handling from subsection 2.2 to 2.1 to group related content
- Move 6 K/As from subsection 2.1 to 2.2 to group related content
- Move 2 K/As from subsection 2.4 to 2.2 to group related content
- Add one new K/A to subsection 2.1 related to reactivity management

Regarding the WOG's proposed follow-up activities, they proposed that they conduct a new survey to provide importance ratings for both the Reactor Operator (RO) and Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) jobs for the new and substantively revised K/As, using the same group of respondents and with opportunities to make additional comments; the objective is to verify that the new and revised K/As are understandable and important to safety.

Discussion between the staff and WOG ensued over potential concerns, e.g.,

How would existing test banks, including the INPO National Examination Bank, which “houses” all the NRC test bank items, adapt to the changing KA numbering system and what costs would be associated with such a transition?

What is to be the role of the Boiling Water Reactor (BWR) exams in light of the PWR Catalog changes? Would the BWR Owners Group adopt the changes and use such in BWR examination development?

Does the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) Industry Focus Group, as representatives of the industry, accept the Catalog changes?

Would existing test bank items continue to relate to revised KA statements?

Were assumptions based upon rework reductions related to KA/test item mismatches?

The WOG agreed to determine the answers to these issues and subsequently inform the staff. In turn, the staff stated that they would defer any decision to continue the project until the above issues were satisfactorily resolved and until the matter was discussed with NRR management and Regional operator licensing Branch Chiefs.

In closing, the staff acknowledged the quality of the WOG’s work product and the high level of professionalism devoted to this project to date, but reiterated its limited NRC resources to devote to this project. The staff, nonetheless, expressed to the WOG that it had a number of questions and issues, as noted above, to consider before deciding to continue with the project; specifically, the staff needed to conduct internal discussions within the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation to consider the cost/benefit of the Catalog revision in light of resource and budget constraints; conduct internal discussions with Regional operator licensing branch chiefs; determine the acceptance of the revisions and use of the catalog by the BWR owners’ group as well as the acceptance of the revised Catalog by the NEI Industry Focus Group members who represent the industry at-large. WOG acknowledged these issues and agreed to pursue the answers to several of these concerns. The meeting ended with the general understanding that the NRC would provide WOG with its answer regarding project continuation on or around the end of November, 2005.

Following the meeting, the staff expressed its appreciation to the WOG members for its professional presentation. There were no members of the public represented at the meeting. An attendance list, and copy of the slides, and full WOG Report appear in the attachments.

Attachments: Meeting Attendees
WOG Power Point Slides
WOG Report

cc w/att:

Mr. James A. Gresham, Manager
Regulatory Compliance and Plant Licensing
Westinghouse Electric Company
P.O. Box 355
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0355

Mr. Gordon Bischoff, Manager
Owners Group Program Management Office
Westinghouse Electric Company
P.O. Box 355
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0355

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ACCESSION NO.:

OFFICE	NRR/DIRS	NRR/DIRS	
NAME	GUsova	DTrimble	
DATE	11/02/05	11/03/05	

DOCUMENT NAME: E:\Filenet\ML053140422.wpd

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

MEETING ATTENDEES

MEETING WITH THE WESTINGHOUSE OWNERS GROUP

October 25, 2005

WESTINGHOUSE OWNERS GROUP

Charles W. Sawyer, Duke Energy (Maguire Station)

John Brown, Constellation Energy

John H. Hilton, Westinghouse Electric Company

Christine DiMuzio, Westinghouse Electric Company

Dr. Valiere E. Barnes, Public Safety and Health Associates

Jacquelynn (Lynn) Moyer, Public Safety and Health Associates

NRC

George Usova

David Trimble

Fred Guenther

John Munro