

March 9, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO: Daniel M. Gillen, Deputy Director
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

FROM: Rafael L. Rodriguez, Project Manager */RA/*
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
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SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MEETING WITH INDUSTRY GROUPS TO CONTINUE
DISCUSSIONS ON OPTIONS FOR CAPTURING AND PRESERVING
DECOMMISSIONING LESSONS LEARNED

On February 1, 2006, staff from the Decommissioning Directorate in the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards and the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation met with representatives of the Fuel Cycle Facilities Forum, Nuclear Energy Institute, and the Electric Power Research Institute to continue discussions on possible approaches for capturing and preserving decommissioning lessons learned. Several options from our previous meeting held on November 30, 2005, were discussed further and a path forward was agreed upon. The meeting also served as an opportunity to discuss the strategy that the "working group" will use to present the idea of the collective effort during a panel session at the Waste Management Conference in late February 2006. A summary of the meeting and the names of the participants is enclosed.

If you have any questions regarding the meeting or the summary notes, please feel free to contact me at 301-415-0193, or via e-mail at RLR1@nrc.gov.

Enclosure:
Meeting Summary

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Meeting Summary

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SUMMARY OF FOLLOW-UP MEETING WITH INDUSTRY GROUPS AND AGREEMENT STATES ON OPTIONS TO PRESERVE DECOMMISSIONING LESSONS LEARNED

02/01/2006

Participants:

NRC: Rafael L. Rodriguez, Andrew Persinko, Amir Kouhestani, Dominick Orlando, Roger Pedersen

Fuel Cycle Facilities Forum: David G. Culberson, John Conant

Nuclear Energy Institute: Ralph Andersen

Electric Power Research Institute: Chris Wood, Sean Bushart

Others: John Greeves, James Lieberman

The meeting started out with an introduction from all the participants. Mr. Rodriguez then discussed some of the topics covered during the first meeting which took place on November 30, 2005, and some outcomes resulting from the meeting. Some of the topics included: (1) purpose and benefits of the collective effort with industry and Agreement States to capture and preserve decommissioning lessons learned, (2) four preliminary approaches to capture the lessons, and two additional options presented during the meeting, and (3) near-term products before the next meeting, including a preliminary bibliography of decommissioning lessons learned, with the references being provided by all participating organizations within their respective fields of expertise. Mr. Rodriguez then presented the six possible options to capture and preserve the lessons learned, and discussed the advantages and disadvantages of each one. Mr. Conant commented on the idea of the workshops and the proceedings, stating that these workshops could be similar to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC)'s decommissioning workshop held during April 2005. Mr. Bushart stated the Electric Power Research Institute's (EPRI)'s preferred options, but expressed concerns about making proprietary information available to the public. However, he stated that EPRI would be willing to share abstracts and/or summaries about EPRI's documents on lessons learned, but not the documents themselves. Mr. Conant mentioned that one challenge during the review of lessons learned is actually extracting the lesson from the document. He suggested that the documents in the preliminary bibliography should be reviewed so the actual lesson could be extracted. Other issues for managing lessons learned mentioned in the discussion are: (1) disseminating proprietary information to the public, (2) legal implications and/or perception that NRC could be endorsing a specific lesson learned, (3) the different categories of lessons learned, how they would be grouped, and their complexity (from a high-level discussion to those that are very technical), and finally (4) people's willingness to share experiences or lessons in a very informal setting rather than in a more formal environment. Mr. Culberson stated his preference for a database system, in addition to compact discs (CDs) that will be loaded with the information on the database system and published on a specific frequency (i.e., the CDs will work as "volumes" of the information in the database system), as well as hard copy volumes of these CDs. These hard copies would be helpful to people so they would have a handy reference on their shelves that

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could be passed on to future generations. Finally, the group discussed what would be the strategy to present the idea of the collective effort to the waste management community at the Waste Management Conference in Arizona. There will be a panel discussion with members of the Fuel Cycle Facilities Forum (FCFF), EPRI, and NRC. Mr. Orlando proposed that Mr. Daniel Gillen (representing NRC) should be the spokesperson for the working group, and will provide some discussion on various topics, including: (1) what circumstances triggered this joint effort with industry and Agreement States, (2) clarification that this collective effort is getting started, and (3) what NRC and the other participating organizations are doing to layout the path that will help to capture and preserve decommissioning lessons learned in the long run. Mr. Orlando then proposed that Mr. Culberson (representing FCFF) could talk about some of the lessons learned in the fuel cycle community. Likewise, Mr. Bushart (representing EPRI) could discuss some of the efforts from EPRI and Nuclear Energy Institute on the subject. During the meeting, the working group stressed the fact that the options to preserve decommissioning lessons learned should be shared during the Waste Management Conference. In addition, the group should develop a list of keywords that could facilitate the search for the lessons on a specific topic. This list of keywords will be shared during the panel's presentation at the conference so the audience can comment and provide feedback. Finally, the working group agreed to have another interaction by the end of April.

Summary of Actions:

-Mr. Rodriguez will post the preliminary list of decommissioning lessons learned on the NRC's decommissioning webpage before the Waste Management Conference.

-Mr. Conant will develop a template that will assist in the future to format the lessons learned posted on the web by the participating organizations. Some of the fields that could be part of this format are: source of information, keywords, and an abstract/summary of the lesson learned.

-The panel will share the idea of the collective effort at the Waste Management Conference and will request feedback from the audience on the six possible options to preserve the lessons learned.