

This web page entirely replaces  
<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/techspecs/post-revision3-sts.html>  
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### **Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) Travelers**

How the Standard Technical Specifications (STS) are Maintained Up-to-Date

In 1992, the NRC issued the improved STS to clarify the content and form of requirements necessary to ensure safe operation of nuclear power plants in accordance with 10 CFR 50.36. Major revisions to the STS were published in April 1995, April 2001 and June 2004. Total adoption of the improved STS will substantially improve the efficiency of the regulatory process, and ensure that licensee and NRC resources are applied to significant safety matters.

As the STS mature, necessary improvements are identified. The process used to initiate changes the STS involves the industry-sponsored Technical Specifications Task Force (TSTF) submitting travelers to the NRC for review, approval, and subsequent incorporation into the next revision of the STS. The submissions are frequently referred to as TSTFs (pronounced "tiss-tiffs"), but are properly called TSTF Travelers.

The NRC reviews TSTF Travelers, with the end product being a model application, a model safety evaluation, and a review plan which licensees may use in license amendment requests. Although the industry owners groups' technical specifications task force included a discussion of the safety basis for each TSTF Traveler it proposed, the NRC staff did not, prior to 2001, prepare a formal safety evaluation (SE) describing its safety basis for accepting the associated changes to the STSs. This was consistent with the development of the STSs themselves. The staff also did not prepare SEs for the STSs, which were published as NUREGs, because they are considered to be guidance documents and are not of themselves legally binding on Part 50 licensees. (The generic acceptability of the model specifications in the STSs, however, is documented in the much expanded and improved Bases for the STSs.) Consequently, a licensee applying to incorporate a TSTF Traveler into its TSs must provide a plant-specific justification acceptable to the staff. If another licensee subsequently finds that this safety basis is applicable to its facility, it may choose to rely on it to justify adopting the same TSTF Traveler. In practice, the SE accompanying the license amendment for the first plant to adopt a particular TSTF Traveler establishes a baseline safety basis for the TSTF Traveler.

Beginning in 2001, the staff revised its TSTF Traveler review and approval process to require preparation of a formal staff SE to support the approval of each new acceptable TSTF Traveler proposal. Providing a model SE with the NRC's approval of a TSTF Traveler streamlines the license amendment process for plants adopting the TSTF Traveler, by establishing a generally applicable and acceptable baseline safety basis that licensees can use to justify adoption of the TSTF Traveler, consistent with any pertinent plant-specific considerations.

Approved TSTF Travelers are available for adoption by licensees and are also incorporated into the STS. Some TSTF Travelers are candidates for the Consolidated Line Item Improvement Process (CLIIP) (discussed below) for Technical Specifications (TS) amendments.

Using the TSTF Traveler process to change the Standard Technical Specifications improves the efficiency of the licensing process by allowing the staff to review and approve a proposed change that will be used and referenced in preparation of License Amendment Requests (LARs) by multiple licensees. An approved TSTF Traveler provides the model technical and regulatory bases for a LAR.

**Industry Status of all TSTF Travelers, including Open, Closed, Withdrawn, and not-yet-submitted**  
The industry maintains a website with draft and submitted TSTF Travelers at <http://www.excelservices.com>. The industry also maintains TSTF Traveler data including: scanned TSTF travelers; reports on status of proposed TSTF Travelers, model applications using TSTF Travelers; and information TSTF Travelers already incorporated into the STS.

### **NRC Status of Approved TSTF Travelers**

In addition to being at the above industry web site, approved TSTF Travelers, their associated model LAR applications, model Safety Evaluations, and review plans will be placed in a table [editors note: table not complete as of 1/25/06]. Until the table is prepared, please contact ITSB for information about a specific TSTF Traveler, including its ADAMS Accession number and sample LARs which incorporated TSTF Travelers.

### **TSTF Travelers undergoing the CLIIP**

May be found at  
<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/techspecs/consolidated-improvement-process.html>

**TSTF Travelers recently approved or closed by the NRC**

The table below presents information about TSTF Travelers which have been closed by the NRC during the previous two quarters plus the current quarter. Technical assignment control (TAC) numbers are used to categorize work and determine fee recovery. Most TSTF Travelers have associated TAC numbers. A closed TSTF Traveler is one where all work associated with the TAC # has been completed. Closure will occur when the NRC issues the final FRN or the final SE.

Closure will also occur if the NRC anticipates that no further work will be done on a particular revision, and a new TSTF Traveler is not submitted to the NRC within a reasonable time. A TSTF Traveler might also be closed if the TSTF group informs the NRC that a TSTF Traveler is "on hold" or if a significant amount of time passes without a response to formal RAIs or informal questions.

TSTF Travelers closed July 1, 2005 to February 17, 2006								
TSTF #	Rev	Application Date, ML#	Closeout Date, ML#, or FRN	Title	Task ID (TAC No.)**	Review Branches and ITSB Contact	Remarks	FRN, SE, model LAR, review plan, NSHD
343	1	06/29/2005 ML051860291	12/06/2005 ML053460302	Containment Structural Integrity	Rev. 1: No TAC	ITSB Hearn	Incorporated into Rev. 3.1	N/A
	0	07/11/1999 ML012060129	05/16/2000 ML003715367 (Referring to 03/20/2000 ML003695878		Rev. 0: MA6708			
417	0	09/05/2001 ML012530030	11/02/2005, ML053060296	AC Electrical Power System Completion Times (WCAP-15622)	MB2878  MB2257 for topical.	ITSB	Withdrawn	N/A
422	1	01/23/2003 ML030270099	07/05/2005 70 FR 38729	Risk-Informed Modifications to Selected Required Action End States for CE Plants	Rev. 1: MB7337	ITSB	CLIIP	Example Application at 70 FR 38729  Model SE and NSHC at 70 FR 23238
	0	06/06/2002 ML021920029	01/02/2003 ML023570044		Rev. 0: MB5531			
439	2	06/20/05 ML051860296	01/11/2006 ML060120272	Eliminate Second Completion Times Limiting Time from Discovery of Failure to Meet an LCO	Rev 2: No TAC	ITSB Schulten	Incorporated into Rev. 3.1	N/A
	1	10/28/2002 ML023100066	03/03/2003 ML030640863 (RAI)		MB6689			
	0	06/06/2002 ML021920029	09/18/2002 ML022620042 (noting NEI TSTF was working on 439)		MB5534			
450	0	07/15/03 ML032020067	07/28/2005 ML052090097	Staggered integrated ESFAS Testing (WCAP 15830)	No TAC for TSTF Traveler.  MB9131 for Topical.	ITSB Schulten	The topical associated with TSTF 450 was not approved. See ML052090097 dated July 28, 2005. WOG plans Response by 06/30/2006	N/A

TSTF Travelers closed July 1, 2005 to February 17, 2006								
TSTF #	Rev	Application Date, ML#	Closeout Date, ML#, or FRN	Title	Task ID (TAC No.)**	Review Branches and ITSB Contact	Remarks	FRN, SE, model LAR, review plan, NSHD
454	1	09/21/2005 ML052700153	12/13/2005 70 FR 73802	Increase PCIV Completion Times from 4 hours, 24 hours, and 72 hours to 7 days (NEDC-33046)	Both Rev. 0 and Rev. 1 used MC1448	ITSB LPD4-A: SPSB-A: Harbuck	CLIIP.	Example Application at ML053070410  Model SE and NSHC at 70 FR 73802
	0	09/05/2003 ML032520693	09/21/2005 ML052700153 (Adams # is for Rev. 1 receipt, which referred to approval of topical 01/20/2005 ML050240360 )					
459	0	12/17/03 ML033350006	02/13/2006 ML060440645 (ML# is for Rev. 1, which is a complete replacement of Rev. 0.)  TAC MC1449 closed 12/12/05.	Provide an Exception to the Requirement to Have One RHR Shutdown Cooling System in Operation	MC1449	ITSB	Superseded.  On a teleconference 3/17/04, NRC indicated unwilling to change the LCO not to require an RHR subsystem to be in operation.	N/A
467	0	06/28/2004, ML042520039	11/02/2005, ML053060296	Add Restriction for Lowest Loop Tave During MODE 2 Physics Testing,	MC4439  From 9/10/04 to 9/22/04 tac# was MC4037	ITSB	Withdrawn	N/A
479	0	12/02/04, ML052990317	12/06/2005, ML053460302	Changes to reflect revision of 10 CFR 50.55a	MC6271 MC6272 MC6273 MC6274 (one tac per vendor)	ITSB Hearn	Incorporated into STS 3.1  *** Contact NRC prior to requesting LAR.	*** Contact NRC prior to requesting LAR.
482	0	02/15/05, ML050480256	12/06/2005, ML053460302	Correct LCO 3.0.6 Bases	MC6189 MC6190 MC6191 MC6192 (one TAC per vendor) MC9448	ITSB Tjader Roth	Incorporated into STS 3.1	N/A
485	0	05/31/05, ML051570066	12/06/2005, ML053460302	Correct Example 1.4-1	No TAC#	ITSB Hearn Roth	Incorporated into STS 3.1	N/A

\*\* The TAC numbers are provided to ease tracking of the work internally to the NRC. The provided closure information in the "Closeout Date, ML#, or FRN" column provides the NRC's rationale and dates for disposing of the TSTF Traveler. By contrast, the TAC column does not have dates because the TAC#s were not always opened and closed on the same date as the final or last agency action on a TSTF Traveler, especially if the NRC has waited for a response from industry for a long time. In some cases, there is no TAC# because the NRC's work was done under generic programs and not assigned a specific TAC#. TSTFs 479 and 482 had one TAC# per vendor. TSTF 482 had an fifth TAC# opened then cancelled.

**NRC Status of TSTF Travelers under review with NRC Action**

This table shows TSTF Travelers with pending NRC action, as well as anticipated dates for publishing associated model safety evaluations.

TSTF Travelers with Current or Pending NRC Action UPDATED 02/17/2006								
TSTF #	Rev	Application Date	Closeout Date, ML#, or FRN	Title	Task ID (TAC No.)**	Review Branches and ITSB Contact	Remarks	FRN for Comment or Draft SE Target Date
374	0	04/20/01 ML011340449		Revision to TS 5.5.13 and associated TS Bases for Diesel Fuel Oil	MC5092	ITSB Hearn	Publish Federal Register (FR) Notice for comment Publish FR Notice for adoption	FRN for Comment ML060340359 02/10/2006 71 FRN xxxx  Final FR 06/01/2006
409	2	11/10/03 ML033280006		Containment Spray System Completion Time Extension (CE NPSD-1045-A) (Already included in STS Rev 3)	MC5093	ITSB Thomas	Model SE, LAR, NSHC written by ITSB.  Final package routing in progress.	Draft 03/28/2006  Final 06/28/2006
	1	10/28/2002 ML023100066	11/10/03 ML033280006( # for Rev 2, which referred to 11/15/2001 ML013190173)		MB6657			
	0	05/29/2001 ML011630375 (cover letter missing)	12/15/2001 ML013400174 (Referring to 11/15/2001 ML013190173)		MB2154			
412	2	01/31/2006 ML060370064		Actions for One Steam Supply to Turbine Driven AFW/EFW Pump Inoperable		ITSB SPLB-A Pannier	TSTF-412, Revision 2, (TSTF-06-01) received 02/06/2006. Review new Rev.  Also Beaver Valley BSI 26 tac#s MC6783/6784	FRN for comment 03/31/2006  Final 07/31/2006
	1	01/31/05 ML050460306	01/31/2006 ML060370064 (Rev. 2's ML)		MC6304			
	0	07/05/2001 ML011980165	ML021960158 07/12/2002		MB2395			
423	0	08/13/03 ML032270250		Technical Specifications End States, NEDC-32988-A (BWR Initiative 1)	MC0314	APOB, SBPB, ITSB Tjader	Draft SE, NSHC Published for Comment 12/14/05, 70 FR 74307 The comment period ended 1/13/2006. Comments from TSTF Traveler received 1/13/2006 (ML060130291)	Draft published 12/14/2005 Final planned for 3/31/2006
426	0	08/30/04 ML042520158		"Revise or Add Actions to Preclude Entry into LCO 3.0.3 - RITSTF Initiatives 6b & 6c"	MC4438	APOB, SBPB, ITSB Tjader	TSTF responded to RAI. NRC to issue Notice for Comment	Draft by 03/30/06. Final by 06/30/2006

TSTF Travelers with Current or Pending NRC Action UPDATED 02/17/2006								
TSTF #	Rev	Application Date	Closeout Date, ML#, or FRN	Title	Task ID (TAC No.)**	Review Branches and ITSB Contact	Remarks	FRN for Comment or Draft SE Target Date
427	1	02/03/2006 ML060370034		RITSTF Initiative 7, Allowance for non Technical Specification Barrier		APOB, ITSB Tjader	Rev. 1 with NRC comments addressed submitted 02/03/2006.	Draft by 03/31/06. Final by 06/30/2006. Dates subject to change based on Rev. 1.
	0	04/03/2003 ML030660070	02/03/2006 ML060370034 (ML of new rev)	Degradation on Supported System Operability -	MB2388		Review new Rev.	
448	2	08/18/05 ML052930105		Control Room Habitability	MC8335	ITSB LPD4-A: SPSB-C: Harbuck	In ML053630048 dated 12/26/2005, NRC disagreed with portions of TSTF and stated NRC will send markups of TSTF and draft SE by late Feb. 2006.	For comment by 09/30/06  Final by 01/30/07
	1	08/19/2003 ML032390523	06/23/2005 ML051800640		MC0519			
	0	12/18/2002 ML030080399	07/01/7003 ML031820580		MB7186			
459	1	02/13/2006 ML060440645		Provide an Exception to the Requirement to Have One RHR	MD0039	ITSB Roth	Review of Rev. 1 to start March 2006	For comment by 02/13/2007  Final by 06/13/2007
	0	12/17/03 ML033350006	02/13/2006 ML060440645 TAC MC1449 closed 12/12/05. Rev. 1 is a complete replacement of Rev. 0.	Shutdown Cooling System in Operation	MC1449			
476	0	08/30/04 ML042540121		Improved BPWS Control Rod Insertion Process (NEDO-33091)	MC4442	SBWB, ITSB Thomas	Incorporate comments on internally-prepared SE.	For comment by 03/31/06  Final 07/31/06
478	0	04/25/05 ML051170308		TSTF-478, Revision 0, "BWR Technical Specification Changes that Implement the Revised Rule for Combustible Gas Control	MC8336	ITSB Harbuck	Not fee exempt. Review with fees to BWROG.	For comment 04/25/2006  Final 08/25/2006
484	0	05/05/05 ML052930102		Use of TS 3.10.1 for Scram Time Testing Activities	MC8953	ITSB Lewin	Started February 2006.	For comment 06/14/06 Final 10/14/06
486	0	06/03/05 ML051580191		Revise MTC Surveillance for Startup Test Activity Reduction (STAR) Program (WCAP-16011)	MC8896	SPWB, ITSB Tjader	Documenting NRR work request for technical review assignments	Draft FR 03/31/06 Final FR 06/30/06

TSTF Travelers with Current or Pending NRC Action UPDATED 02/17/2006								
TSTF #	Rev	Application Date	Closeout Date, ML#, or FRN	Title	Task ID (TAC No.)**	Review Branches and ITSB Contact	Remarks	FRN for Comment or Draft SE Target Date
487	0	06/20/05 ML051860302		Relocate DNB Parameters to the COLR	MC8594	ITSB Roth	Review started January 2006	For comment 06/20/06 Final 10/20/06
490	0	09/13/2005 ML052630462		"Deletion of E Bar Definition and Revision to RCS Specific Activity Tech Spec"	MC8565	ITSB Pannier	See also Wolf Creek MC8819; Diablo Canyon MC9671/MC9672 due 01/01/2007. Review to start by February 2006	For comment 09/13/2006  Final 01/13/2007
491	0	09/13/2005 ML052590343		"Removal of Main Steam and Main Feedwater Valve Isolation Times From Technical Specifications"	MC8562	ITSB Hearn	Reviewed as BSI for Beaver Valley ITS conversion in progress.	6/30/2006
492	0	10/25/2005 ML052990215		"Modify RHR - High Water Level Bases to Address Decay Heat Removal with Upper Internals Installed" (Bases 3.9.5)	MC8758	ITSB Pannier	Review	10/24/2006
493	0	1/27/06 ML060270503		"Clarify Application of Setpoint Methodology for LSSS Functions" (TSTF-06-03)	To be assigned post acceptance and fee review		Acceptance Review and fee review in progress	tbd

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**NRC Status of TSTF Travelers under review with NEI, Owners Group, or other non-NRC action next.**  
This table shows TSTF Travelers with pending or anticipated actions from NEI, the owners groups, or other non-NRC stakeholders. Information from the Technical Specification Task Force and associated dates have been provided in the remarks section.

TSTF Travelers with Current or Pending Owners Group Action Feb 17, 2006								
TSTF #	Rev	Application Date	Closeout Date, ML#, or FRN	Title	Task ID (TAC No.)**	Review Branches and ITSB Contact	Remarks	FRN for comment or Draft SE Target Date
424	0	01/23/03 ML030620047		RITSTF Initiative 4b HPSI operability restoration Completion Time extension (WCAP-15773)	MB3541	APOB, LPLx, SPWx, SPBP, EEEE, EICB, IRIB, ITSB Tjader	NRC Provided RAIs in RITSTF meeting minutes. TSTF to revise Traveler to address NRC questions by 03/31/2006. Ft. Calhoun lead.  February 28, 2006 will have meeting with NEI and Industry on Initiative 4b Rmts Guidelines Document Submitted in February 2006	Draft in FR by 06/30/06. Final by 08/31/2006
425	0	08/31/04 ML052990318		RITSTF Initiative 5 Relocate Surveillance Frequencies to Licensee Control.	MC3567 LIMERICK MC3568 LIMERICK MB2531 TSTF 425	APOB, LPLx, SPWx, SPBP, EEEE, EICB, IRIB, ITSB Tjader	NRC provided RAIs on the methodology document and the Limerick lead plant submittal. Limerick and RITSTF to respond by 01/31/2006  RAIs to be discussed 02/22	Draft in FR by 06/30/06. Final by 08/31/2006
446	1	1/31/05 ML050460293		Risk Informed Evaluation of Extensions to Containment Isolation Valve Completion Times (WCAP-15791)	Rev. 1 using same TAC as rev. 0	ITSB LPD4-B: SPSB-A: Thomas	TSTF will submit revision to Traveler after Topical Report is approved.  Underlying Topical Report draft SE 09/16/2005 (ML052360101). Comments received 10/19/2005 (ML052940248)	Draft SE on TSTF shortly after final approval of underlying topical, which should be end of 1st quarter 2006
	0	10/21/2002 ML022970278	1/31/05 ML050460293 (Adams # is for Rev. 1 receipt)		MB6567			



TSTF Travelers with Current or Pending Owners Group Action Feb 17, 2006								
TSTF #	Rev	Application Date	Closeout Date, ML#, or FRN	Title	Task ID (TAC No.)**	Review Branches and ITSB Contact	Remarks	FRN for comment or Draft SE Target Date
465	0	09/17/03 ML033350006		Addition of time performance Surveillance Requirement (SR) note to Source Range Monitor (SRM) SRs	MC1451	ITSB Schulten	NRC provided questions by e-mail October 14, 2005. TSTF responded 01/09/2006. Review continuing	Comment 03/31/2006 Final 07/31/2006
468	0	08/30/04 ML042520043		Declare Systems Inoperable Due to an Inoperable MCC or Distribution Panel in lieu of ITS 3.8.9	MC4440	ITSB Clark	TSTF discussed with the NRC staff at the RITS meeting held Jan. 19, 2006. Review continuing	Comment 08/30/06 Final 12/30/06
475	0	08/30/04 ML042520035		Control Rod Notch Testing and SRM Insert Control Rod Action	MC4441	ITSB Pannier	NRC provided RAI. 03/21/2005 ML050740340  BWROG TSICC to respond by 03/31/2006	Comment 08/30/2006 Final 12/30/2006
477	0	08/30/04 ML042520109		Add Action for two Inoperable Control Room AC Subsystems	MC4443	ITSB Hearn	RAI to reconcile the changes in TSTF-477 with simialr risk-informed changes.  TSTF to revise 477 to address NRC questions by 02/28/2006	05/30/2006 / 02/28/2006

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