

June 2, 2006

ORGANIZATION: Nuclear Energy Institute

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE LICENSE RENEWAL TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL AND MEETING HELD BETWEEN THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION STAFF AND THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE LICENSE RENEWAL TASK FORCE

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff and the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) License Renewal Task Force held a public telephone conference call and meeting on April 19, 2006, to discuss generic license renewal topics, lessons learned from the audit process, and license renewal process improvements. Enclosure 1 provides a listing of the conference call participants. Enclosure 2 contains the agenda for the conference call. A summary of the discussions follows:

1. Status of Severe Accident Mitigation Alternatives (SAMA) and environmental acceptance review for License Renewal Interim Staff Guidance (LR-ISG);

A proposed LR-ISG endorsing NEI's "Severe Accident Mitigation Alternatives (SAMA) Analysis Guidance Document," NEI 05-01, Rev. A (Accession No. ML060530192), has been prepared and will be issued for public comment in the near future. A second proposed LR-ISG containing the NRC staff's checklist for performing the acceptance review for the environmental portion of the application will also be issued.

2. Update on guidance development for license renewal application (LRA) acceptance review and content of onsite documentation;

NEI indicated that the industry is preparing a letter to the NRC containing its recommendations regarding acceptance reviews for LRA. Regarding development of guidance on the content of onsite documentation, the industry now plans to document and circulate amongst applicants, lessons learned and best practices for onsite documentation. This approach will allow the industry to update the information as additional experience is gained without the delay in submitting it to the NRC staff for review. The NRC staff agreed with this approach and requested that the industry identify if the audit teams' expectations are not consistent between applications.

3. New issues under development – Mark I containment drywell shell LR-ISG;

The need for an LR-ISG concerning corrosion of inaccessible areas of boiling water reactor, Mark I, drywell steel containment shells was previously discussed in past telephone conferences and a meeting on January 31, 2006. The LR-ISG clarifies the information that an applicant should provide in its application. The NRC staff informed NEI that it was preparing to issue the proposed LR-ISG for public comment the week of April 24, 2006, to provide the information to current applicants with Mark I drywell shells. The LR-ISG was subsequently issued for public comment on May 3, 2006, (Accession No. ML061120001).

4. Status of industry submittal of information on Aging Management Program (AMP) XI.E6 for electrical cables;

NEI will submit a paper to the staff discussing its position on this AMP to support its position that this AMP is not needed.

5. Availability of monthly NRC staff and contractor costs for LRA reviews;

Because of changes in the law, licensees must now track costs on a monthly basis rather than quarterly. NEI asked if the NRC staff could provide staff and contractor costs for review of license renewal applications on a monthly basis. Although the staff can unofficially report staff hours on a monthly basis, monthly contractor costs are not always available to the staff. Contractor costs attributed to each application have, in some cases, been collected and billed after the quarter in which the work was performed. The NRC staff acknowledged the industry's need and indicated that this request actually applies to any large staff review, such as an extended power uprate, and affects the manner in which the NRC bills licensees. NEI should discuss this request at the next NEI – NRC Senior Management meeting.

6. Documenting NUREG-1801 consistency with American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI;

NEI indicated that the ten elements of an acceptable AMP described in the license renewal standard review plan (SRP) and Generic Aging Lessons Learned (GALL) Report are not consistent with the ASME code. The NRC staff responded that the ASME code does not address all of the elements needed for an acceptable AMP which is the reason the ten elements were developed in the SRP and GALL Report. The staff has performed a comparison of the editions and addenda of the code endorsed by the NRC in 10 CFR 50.55(a) through the 2003 addenda. An applicant may use any one as acceptable alternatives to the edition and addenda referenced in the GALL Report AMPs without the need to submit these alternatives for NRC review in its plant-specific LRA. The staff will review its process for ensuring that the latest acceptable version of the code is referenced in the GALL Report and how that interacts with the 10 CFR 50.55(a) endorsement update process.

7. Environmental reviews;

Based on announced schedules, the NRC staff expects concurrent submittals of license renewal and combined operating license (COL) applications for the Harris and Vogtle sites. These overlapping reviews affect the staff's environmental review and preparation of environmental impact statements. In order to complete the renewal review on schedule, the applicant should keep the actions separate and not address the COL in the renewal application.

The combined impact of license renewal for the existing plant and the new plant should be addressed in the COL application. The Southern Nuclear Operating Company representative participating in the call plans to arrange a meeting to discuss this topic with the staff for its June 2007, Vogtle LRA and late 2007/early 2008 COL application.

8. Public participation;

No members of the public participated in the meeting.

**/RA/**

Stephen T. Hoffman, Senior Project Manager  
License Renewal Branch B  
Division of License Renewal  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 690

Enclosures:

1. List of Participants
2. Meeting Agenda

cc w/encls: See next page

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No members of the public participated in the meeting.

**/RA/**

Stephen T. Hoffman, Senior Project Manager  
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cc w/encls: See next page

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DATE	5/ 26 /06	5/ 30 /06	6/ 02 /06	5/ 30 /06	6/ 02 /06

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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE  
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL AND MEETING HELD  
BETWEEN THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION STAFF  
AND THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

APRIL 19, 2006

**Participants**

Frank Gillespie  
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Louise Lund  
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Ken Chang  
Eric Benner  
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Winston  
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TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL AND MEETING HELD  
BETWEEN THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION STAFF  
AND THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE (Cont'd)

April 19, 2006

**Participants**

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Dominion  
Dominion  
Progress Energy  
Progress Energy  
Palisades  
Nine Mile Point  
Monticello

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION  
FOR THE TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL AND  
MEETING BETWEEN THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION STAFF  
AND THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

April 19, 2006

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>LEAD</u>
1. Status of SAMA and environmental acceptance review Interim Staff Guidance (ISG)	NRC
2. Update on guidance development for LRA acceptance review and content of onsite documentation	NEI
3. New issues under development – Mark I containment drywell ISG	NRC
4. Status of industry submittal of information on Aging Management Program XI.E6 for electrical cables	NEI
5. Availability of monthly NRC staff and contractor costs for license renewal application reviews	NEI
6. Documenting NUREG-1801 consistency with ASME B&PV Section XI	NEI
7. Public participation	ALL

Enclosure 2

NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

Project No. 690

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Note to Nuclear Energy Institute from Stephen T. Hoffman, dated: June 2, 2006

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COMMISSION (NRC) STAFF AND THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE (NEI)  
LICENSE RENEWAL TASK FORCE

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