

October 10, 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 August 29, 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. New issues under development.

No new issues were identified by the NRC staff or NEI.

2. Response to NEI letters re. 10 CFR 54.37(b).

The NRC staff had previously committed to responding by August 31, 2006, to NEI's March 8, 2006, letter regarding the staff's implementation of the provisions of 10 CFR 54.37(b) and the applicability of the backfit rule, 10 CFR 50.109. By letter dated July 5, 2006, NEI submitted its position on the intent of the words "newly identified" as used in 10 CFR 54.37(b). Although NEI believes that the July 5, 2006, letter can be responded to separately from the March 8, 2006, letter, the staff's initial evaluation is that the two letters are interrelated. The staff indicated that it would respond to both letters by October 31, 2006.

3. Generic Aging Lessons Learned Report (GALL) Aging Management Program (AMP) XI.E6 for electrical cable connections.

NEI indicated that its position paper on GALL AMP XI.E6 was almost complete. The paper was subsequently submitted by NEI letter dated September 5, 2006.

4. Preparation for September 26, 2006, management meeting.

Potential topics for the September 26, 2006, meeting between NRC management and the NEI License Renewal Working Group. NEI will send its proposed topics for the agenda.

5. Lessons learned from recent safety review audits.

Observations from recent audits discussed include the following:

- a. The staff's goal, starting with the Fitzpatrick application, is to provide the audit questions two weeks in advance of the audit team coming onsite.
- b. Feedback from Entergy regarding use of the audit process for reviewing time-limited aging analyses is that the audit process is more detailed and better.
- c. The staff is using the audit process for review of the scoping and screening methodology but it is still evaluating whether to perform the scoping and screening reviews by audit.

6. Additional topics

NEI questioned why license renewal commitments for future actions needed to be included in the final safety analysis report (FSAR) supplement and could not be handled in the same manner as other commitments. The NRC staff responded that the approach of including the commitments in the FSAR with a new license condition referencing them was established with the first renewal applications as a basis for issuing the renewed license. Incorporating the commitments into the FSAR provides regulatory oversight that the commitments will be met prior to operating beyond 40 years. The other option at the time was to make the commitments license conditions. This topic will probably be discussed further in future telephone calls or meetings.

Because there have not been many topics for the monthly calls, NEI proposed considering that the monthly calls continue to be scheduled but consider whether a call is needed each month. If the topics do not warrant a call, hold the calls bi-monthly. Similarly, if a quarterly meeting is not needed, schedule the meeting no more than every four months.

7. Public participation

Richard Pinney, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, questioned whether the NEI commitment control process applies to license renewal commitments. The process does apply.

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

Project No. 690

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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

August 29, 2006

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AGENDA FOR TELECONFERENCE BETWEEN
THE U.S. NRC STAFF AND THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

August 29, 2006

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Lead</u>
1. New issues under development	NRC/NEI
2. Response to NEI letters re. 10 CFR 54.37(b)	NRC
3. Generic Aging Lessons Learned Report aging management program XI.E6 for electrical cable connections	NEI
4. Preparation for September 26, 2006, management meeting	NEI/NRC
5. Public participation	All

NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

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DISTRIBUTION: Note to Nuclear Energy Institute from S. Hoffman dated October 10, 2006

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