

October 25, 2006

APPLICANT: ESBWR Design-Centered Working Group (Dominion Nuclear, NuStart Energy, Entergy Nuclear, General Electric)

PROJECT: NRC Project Nos. 741, 744, 745

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2006, PUBLIC MEETING (CATEGORY 2) WITH ESBWR DESIGN-CENTERED WORKING GROUP REGARDING PRE-COL APPLICATION ACTIVITIES

On September 20, 2006, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) held a public meeting at NRC Headquarters in Rockville, MD with representatives of the ESBWR Design-Centered Working Group (DCWG). The purpose of the meeting, the second in a series related to pre-combined license (COL) activities, was to provide an opportunity for the DCWG members to address several pre-COL topics with the NRC staff. Topics included: COL application organization, structure, and extent of standardization; communication and interaction between the DCWG and NRC staff; and status and schedule of COL-related activities. Attendees are identified in Enclosure 1 and the meeting agenda is provided in Enclosure 2.

Presentation materials distributed at the meeting are available through the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at ADAMS Accession Number ML062650071. ADAMS is the system that provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737 or by e-mail to [pdrc@nrc.gov](mailto:pdrc@nrc.gov).

### Background

Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) 2006-06, New Reactor Standardization Needed to Support the Design-Centered Licensing Review Approach, described the NRC's design-centered review approach regarding nuclear power plant design certification and COL applications under 10 CFR Part 52 and requested voluntary submission of industry plans and schedules. In response to the RIS, Dominion, NuStart, Entergy, and General Electric, with support by primary subcontractors Bechtel Power Corporation and Enercon Services, informed the NRC that they had formed the ESBWR DCWG and that COL applications referencing the ESBWR design, currently undergoing design certification review by the NRC, are planned for the North Anna, Grand Gulf, and River Bend sites. On July 14, 2006, the NRC held the initial public meeting with the DCWG. The DCWG committed to standardization relative to licensing, plant design, operational programs, and a collaborative approach to site-specific issues.

### Meeting Highlights

The meeting, held at the request of the DCWG, consisted of both prepared presentations on COL-related topics by DCWG representatives and discussion between NRC staff and DCWG representatives on the topics. Opening remarks by the DCWG noted the group's commitment to the design-centered approach, maximizing standardization, quality COL applications, and ongoing coordination with NEI and the AP1000 DCWG.

The DCWG confirmed the planned schedule that COL applications for North Anna and Grand Gulf will be submitted concurrently in November 2007. Both sites have docketed ESP applications and the DCWG's expectation is that the ESPs will be issued prior to COL application submittals. The DCWG recognizes that the ESBWR design will be undergoing design certification review at the time of the COL applications and that maintaining a synchronized, parallel certification/COL review process presents a challenge to the staff and the DCWG. The DCWG will designate either North Anna or Grand Gulf as the reference COL (R-COL) at a future date. The COL application for River Bend will be submitted in May 2008 and considered a subsequent COL (S-COL) application.

The DCWG has committed to a coordinated and streamlined communication process with the staff to support the concurrent COL applications. The DCWG has identified an executive-level point of contact for written communications and a protocol for staff-level communications. The DCWG intends to document the communication process in forthcoming correspondence.

The DCWG envisions a 10-part COL application and, through a series of illustrative handouts, presented details of the anticipated content, regulatory basis/reference, level of standardization, format, and development schedule for each part. For example, one handout summarized the intended extent of standardization and indicated approximately 75 percent of the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) content would be standardized among COL applications. Another handout illustrated the anticipated "reader-friendly" format of the FSAR that would assist in the NRC review by clearly identifying information as either standardized or plant-specific. Development of the FSAR and other parts of the application are ongoing and the DCWG noted the challenge of preparing the application in parallel with the NRC developing Draft Regulatory Guide DG-1145.

The DCWG identified that member organizations are currently engaged in pre-application site activities in addition to development of COL application materials. For example, the boring campaigns are underway at North Anna and Grand Gulf and will soon commence at River Bend.

The DCWG and staff addressed several topics which required additional information for clarification/resolution and were deferred for discussion at future meetings. Topics include: schedule for revision to 10 CFR Part 52; staff environmental review activities prior to a COL application; pre-COL application public meetings; issues related to electronic submittal of information; NRC's invoicing protocol for the DCWG; content of FSAR Chapter 2, Site Characteristics; and, quality assurance program issues.

The NRC and DCWG agreed to support future meetings at an interval of approximately six weeks. Meetings will focus on specific pre-COL topics of mutual interest to the DCWG and the staff.

Members of the public were in attendance.

Please direct any inquires concerning this meeting to Tom Kevern at 301-415-0224 or [tak@nrc.gov](mailto:tak@nrc.gov).

*/RA/*

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ESBWR/ABWR Projects Branch  
Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures: 1. List of Attendees  
2. Agenda

cc w/encls: See next page

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**Meeting with Industry's ESBWR Design-Centered Working Group (DCWG) Regarding Pre-Combined License Activities**

**September 20, 2006**  
**8:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.**

**U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Rockville, MD**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Thomas Kevern	NRR/DNRL/NESB
Gina Borsh	Dominion
George Zinke	Entergy/NuStart
Steve Routh	Bechtel
Russ Bell	NEI
Tom Williamson	Entergy
Joe Hegner	Dominion
Marvin Smith	Dominion
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Patricia Hall	OIS/HBPI
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Bob Kitchen	Progress Energy
Charles Willbanks	NRR/DNRL/NPLB
Bob Fraser	Black & Veatch Corporation
Donald Hoffman	Excel
Larry Drbal	Black & Veatch Corporation
Joelle Starefos	NRC
Joseph Colaccino	NRC

Amy Cabbage	NRR/DNRL/NESB
Eric Oesterle	NRR/DNRL/NAPB
Alan Levin	AREVA
Rick Kingston	GE
Mark Beaumont	Washington Group
Bob Evans	Enercon Services
Marshall David	Enercon Services
Patricia Campbell	General Electric
Amy M. Monroe	SCE&G
Ching Ng	NRR/DE/EEMB
Tom Ryan	TVA
Peter Hastings	Duke/NuStart
Kenneth Hughey	Entergy
Garry G. Young	Entergy
Charles B. Brinkman	Westinghouse
Geoffrey Quinn	Bechtel
Ray Reith	General Electric
Roger Scott	NuStart
Michael Bennett	Enercon Services
Joseph Mihalcik	Constellation
Charles Pierce	Southern Nuclear

**Agenda for Public Meeting**  
**ESBWR Design-Centered Working Group (DCWG) Pre-COL Activities**  
**September 20, 2006**

8:00 a.m.	Introductions/Opening Remarks	All
8:10 a.m.	COL Application	DCWG
	Overall Organization Schedule Section Preparation Approach Section Examples	
9:50 a.m.	Public Comment Opportunity	Public
10:00 a.m.	Break	All
10:15 a.m.	Other DCWG Topics	DCWG
	Communication Protocol Status of DCWG Activities	
11:20 a.m.	Public Comment Opportunity	Public
11:30 a.m.	Adjourn	

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