

January 23, 2007

MEMORANDUM TO: Stacey L. Rosenberg, Chief
Special Projects Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Tanya M. Mensah, Senior Project Manager **/RA/**
Special Projects Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE DECEMBER 21, 2006, CATEGORY 2 PUBLIC MEETING BETWEEN THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC) DIGITAL INSTRUMENTATION AND CONTROL (I&C) STEERING COMMITTEE AND THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE (NEI) DIGITAL I&C AND HUMAN FACTORS WORKING GROUP (WG)

On December 21, 2006, a Category 2 public meeting was held between the NRC staff and industry representatives at NRC headquarters. A list of attendees is enclosed.

The purpose of this meeting was to:

- Introduce the members of the newly established NRC Digital I&C Steering Committee and discuss its objectives.
- Facilitate discussion between the NRC staff and the industry digital I&C representatives on current I&C issues and priorities/schedules.

The NRC staff opened the meeting by first emphasizing the importance of establishing an integrated Digital I&C Plan which is aligned with industry needs. The NRC staff defined that a success measure for this meeting was to identify appropriate NRC and industry counterparts for the Digital I&C issues to ensure accountability. A summary of the appropriate counterparts is provided in this meeting summary. The NRC staff also highlighted the need for the NRC staff to establish a process to document interim decisions on specific activities prior to establishing guidance in Standard Review Plan updates. A brief summary of that discussion is also provided in this meeting summary.

The industry representatives were supportive of the NRC staff's approach to developing a preliminary plan and supported the NRC staff's position that the NRC and industry schedules, priorities, and resources to resolve Digital I&C issues should be aligned.

NRC Presentation

The NRC staff's presentation focused on highlighting the status of the following four topics:

- Highly Integrated Control Room
- Diversity and Defense-In-Depth
- Cyber Security
- Risk-Informing Digital I&C

A summary and NRC actions for each of these topics are contained in the NRC staff presentation slides which are available in the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) as Accession No. ML070030491. High-level meeting minutes which summarize any significant discussion points within each topic are provided below.

Highly Integrated Control Room

The NRC Digital I&C Steering Committee noted that clarifying the acceptance criteria, will improve the efficiency of this process. During this discussion, the NRC staff stated that the NRC Digital I&C Steering Committee plans to provide clarity to the various NRC offices supporting this issue. The NRC staff concluded the discussion by stating that the NRC needs for industry to define its short- and long-term problems associated with this issue so that the NRC staff can gain a better understanding of industry's expectations. This will aid the NRC in prioritization of it's related actions.

Diversity and Defense-In-Depth (D3)

During this discussion a NEI representative questioned the status of a draft SECY paper which the NRC staff is developing on this topic to submit to the Commission. The NRC staff acknowledged that there were higher priorities for the Digital I&C Steering Committee to consider at this time. The NRC staff concluded this discussion by stating that any issues that the Digital I&C Steering Committee decides to put forth to the Commission, will first receive the benefit of extensive dialogue with industry.

Risk-Informing Digital I&C

During this discussion, members of the NRC Digital I&C Steering Committee reinforced their role to provide clarity to the appropriate NRC staff on how to prioritize activities in this area.

Communication of Interim Decisions

In addition to the topics summarized above, representatives of the NRC Digital I&C Steering Committee conveyed that they are pursuing the possibility of adopting an interim staff guidance (ISG) process for the NRC staff to issue guidance in the next 6 to 9 months. A NEI representative proposed the use of a Regulatory Issue Summary as a more effective means to convey interim Digital I&C decisions. The NRC staff will coordinate with the NEI representative on the NRC staff's approach.

Industry Presentation

The NEI Digital I&C and Human Factors Working Group provided an industry perspective on digital I&C issues. A representative discussed common goals, industry perspectives, the contents of an integrated plan, priorities, next steps, and near-term challenges. In particular, the representative emphasized the importance of being able to prioritize new digital I&C issues that may arise. Mr. Shahkarami defined the key to success as clearly defining NRC and industry resources to coordinate digital I&C issue resolution in a timely, efficient manner. The industry presentation slides and the Draft Industry, "Integrated Project Plan," are available in ADAMS as Accession No. ML070030497.

Establishment of NRC and Industry Digital I&C Counterparts

A success measure of this meeting was to establish the appropriate NRC and industry counterparts for digital I&C issues. During the meeting, the following points-of-contact were identified:

	NRC Contact	Industry Contact(s)
Digital I&C Chairman	Jack Grobe, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)	Amir Shahkarami, Exelon Rick Libra, DTE Fermi
Risk-Informing Digital I&C	Cornelius Holden, NRR	Jeff Stone, Constellation Tony Harris, NEI
I&C Technical Issues	Mike Mayfield, New Reactor Office (NRO) Pat Hiland, NRR	Kimberly Keithline, NEI Wes Bowers, Exelon
Human Factors	Nancy Salgado, NRR	Tony Harris, NEI Joe Naser, EPRI
Cyber Security	Vonna Ordaz, Office of Nuclear Security Incident Response (NSIR)	Jack Roe, NEI Matt Gibson, Progress
Licensing Process	Point-of-Contact to Be Identified, NRR	Ken Thomas, Duke Mike Schoppman, NEI
Fuel Cycle	Joe Glitter, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)	Point-of-Contact to Be Identified

Next Steps

At the conclusion of the meeting, the NRC staff stated that they would review the information that industry provided and incorporate the appropriate actions into the NRC Digital I&C Project Plan, which is currently under development. The NRC staff also stated that they would develop a project plan that would consider industry input and the existing industry plan. However, the NRC staff would have ownership over the plan and would make it publicly available. In the meantime, the NRC staff asked that industry representatives be prepared in the future to address:

- A time frame which identifies when industry representatives needs to obtain clarity from the NRC staff on design attributes for new reactors.
- Any additional operating reactor needs.
- Anticipated detailed designs.

The industry representatives responded that they have an action to meet with vendors in 2007 to obtain these details.

Future Meetings

The following key action items were assigned during the meeting:

- Propose and implement a method to convey interim digital I&C decisions (NRC).
- Review the NRC project plan and integrate industry's plan, where applicable. (NRC/NEI).
- Describe the structure and interaction of the NRC steering committee on digital I&C issues with industry (NRC)

Discussions pertaining to these actions items will continue during future NRC public meetings with industry representatives:

- January 30, 2007 - The 2nd public meeting between the NRC Digital I&C Steering Committee and the NEI Digital I&C and Human Factors WG.
- February 2, 2007 - To discuss Diversity and Defense-in-Depth associated with digital systems.

Meetings that have been officially noticed will be posted to the NRC's Public Meeting Schedule at: <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/public-meetings/index.cfm>.

Members of the public were in attendance. No public meeting feedback forms were received.

Project Nos. 689

Enclosure: List of Attendees

cc w/encl: See next page

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ADAMS Package Accession Number: ML070100050

Meeting Notice Accession Number: ML063390494

Meeting Handout Accession Numbers: ML070030491, ML070030497

Meeting Summary Accession Number: ML070030519

NRC-001

OFFICE	PSPB/PM	PSPB/LA	EICA/BC	PSPB/BC
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DATE	1 / 22 /07	1/22/07	1/ 22 /07	1/ 23 /07

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DISTRIBUTION FOR MEETING SUMMARY:

Dated: January 23, 2007

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List of Attendees for December 21, 2006	
Name	Organization
Charles Ader	NRC
Steven Arndt	NRC
Royee Beccom	NRC
Robert Beenken	ABB, Inc.
Patricia Campbell	General Electric Co.
Norbert Carte	NRC
Don Chase	Scientech
Matt Chiramal	NRC
Richard Croteau	NRC
Mark Cunningham	NRC
Jadu Das	Washington Gp
Larry Erin	Westinghouse
Farouk Eltawila	NRC
Gerry Gears	US Department of Energy
Joe Giitter	NRC
Tony Harris	NEI
Patrick Hiland	NRC
Cornelius Holden	NRC
Ian Jung	NRC
Kimberly A. Keithline	NEI
Bill Kemper	NRC
Alan Kuritzky	NRC
Alex Marion	NEI
Jerry Mauck	South Texas
Michael Mayfield	NRC
Tanya M. Mensah	NRC
Richard E. Miller	General Electric (GE)
S.K. Mitra	NRC
Kirk Noonan	MPR
Charles Ogle	NRC
Vonna Ordaz	NRC

ENCLOSURE

Deann Raleigh	Sciencetech
Paul Rebstock	NRC
Jim Riley	NEI
Nancy Salgado	NRC
Mark F. Santschi	Sargent & Lundy
Amir Shahkarami	Exelon
Gush Singh	NRC
Robert A. Slough	TXU Power
Jenny Weil	McGraw-Hill
Chuck Welty	Electric Power Research Institute
Deanna Zhang	NRC

cc:

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