

July 11, 2007

MEMORANDUM TO: John W. Lubinski, Deputy Director  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Daniel M. Frumkin, Acting Technical Assistant     /RA by TBoyce for/  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT:           SUMMARY OF THE MAY 23, 2007, MEETING BETWEEN  
THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION STAFF, THE NUCLEAR  
ENERGY INSTITUTE, AND THE INDUSTRY LICENSING ACTION TASK  
FORCE

On May 23, 2007, members of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff hosted a meeting with representatives of the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and licensees comprising the Licensing Action Task Force (LATF), at the NRC Headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. This meeting was open to the public. Enclosure 1 is a list of attendees, Enclosure 2 are the slides presented by industry, and Enclosure 3 are the slides presented by the NRC staff. A summary of the discussion is provided below:

1. Action Item NRC-07-Q1-02 Advise Industry of Pending Generic Communications

The LATF indicated that it would be helpful to know what generic communications are in progress. The staff indicated that a list was available on the public web site and agreed to provide it to the LATF. The list of open generic communications can be found on <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/gen-comm/>.

2. Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50.59 Implementation Guidance (NEI status report on NEI 96-07, Revision 2)

The LATF 50.59 Team is evaluating lessons learned since NEI published NEI 96-07, Revision 1 (November 2000) on 10 CFR 50.59. A separate NEI Team is engaged in a companion effort for 10 CFR 72.48 and NEI 96-07 Appendix B (March 2001). The NRC contact for 50.59 questions was identified as Jay Robinson of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation and for 72.48 questions as L. Raynard Wharton of the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

3. Electronic Distribution of Documents (NRC status report)

The NRC staff stated that the objective of this newly launched effort was to discontinue sending paper copies of operating reactor licensing products by replacing them with electronic distribution via email. A pilot will be launched with Exelon West July - September 2007, and a tentative implementation date for all licensees is January 1, 2008. Participants were generally supportive of the program and provided comments on the implementation process. NRC stated

it would consider the comments during development and implementation and update the LATF of progress during a future meeting. .

#### 4. Topical Report Process' (NEI status report)

The LATF Topical Report Team will meet in late June 2007. The objective is to establish a scope and schedule for topical report process improvement recommendations. NEI expects to provide information to NRC during the next LATF meeting in July 2007. The Team requests a public meeting with NRC in the 3rd quarter 2007. The LATF Topical Report Team stated it would work with NRC's point of contact (Tanya Menesah) on its progress.

#### 5. NEI Licensing Forum

This year's NEI Licensing Forum is scheduled for October 15-16, 2007, in Alexandria, VA. NEI will provide a draft agenda to NRC in early June, and NRC agreed to provide suggested topics to NEI. The target date for a draft agenda is July 1, 2007.

#### 6. Generic Issues Management (GIM) Process

On March 29, 2007, the Committee to Review Generic Requirements (CRGR) held a public meeting with stakeholders to discuss the NRC backfit controls. On May 18, 2007, NEI submitted a letter to the CRGR containing examples of staff positions that warranted a regulatory analysis. The LATF GIM Team is drafting a white paper to describe additional examples, which it expects to submit in 3rd quarter 2007. NEI offered that many emerging issues could be considered backfits; the NRC staff characterized them as plant-specific issues with generic implications. NRC stated that it did not fully understand the issues and concerns presented by the NEI LATF and the NEI white paper is a good method for clarifying the issues.

#### 7. Operability Determination Process

The LATF Operability Determination Process (ODP) Team begins a new series of meetings on May 24, 2007. The purpose is to prepare a comment letter to NRC on operating experience with the ODP Inspection Manual Chapter in Part 9900, which it expects to submit to NRC by the end of 2007. The LATF Class 2 and 3 Team submitted a revised white paper on May 11 to address NRC comments received at a meeting on February 15, 2007. NEI reiterated its request for NRC to publish interim guidance to inspectors confirming that licensees are not "required" to declare American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Class 2 and 3 components inoperable immediately on discovery of operational leakage. The NRC staff stated that it would identify a point of contact for this issue. The NEI LATF ODP Team would address any issues or concerns to the NRC point of contact.

#### 8. Pandemic Licensing Plan (NEI status report on White Paper, Revision 1)

The LATF Pandemic Team is incorporating NRC comments into a revised White paper. The Team is considering "table top" exercises to test the licensing plan. NEI recommends that NRC form a "task working group" for management oversight and to expedite the licensing plan for reduced staffing.

#### 9. License Amendment Request (LAR) Guidelines (NEI 06-02, Revision 1)

The LATF LAR Team is incorporating NRC comments into NEI's LAR guidelines. The LATF RAI (Request for Additional Information) Team has been merged into the LAR Team, and the NEI RAI pilot project has been closed. The NRC stated that it planned to discontinue its efforts on the RAI pilot project.

The LAR Team plans to incorporate an "RAI checklist," based on LIC-101, Revision 3, "License Amendment Review Procedures," into the LAR guidelines. The LAR Team recommends that NRC include the checklist in LIC-101, Revision 3. Licensees continue to see RAIs that add little or no value, and that seems inconsistent with the guidance in LIC-101, Revision 3. NRC mentioned that LIC-101, Revision 4 was close to being issued and that the stakeholders could comment on the final document.

#### 10. Action Items/New Business

- a. Metrics - NRC provided an update on progress in reviewing licensing actions using metrics. The handouts for this discussion are in Enclosure 3.
- b. TIA process - Stacey Rosenberg and Sean Peters are the NRC Points of Contact.
- c. Action Items - A list of pre-meeting action items is in Enclosure 2, and an updated list with the post-meeting action items reflecting the discussion during the meeting is also in Enclosure 2.

Project No. 689

Enclosures:

1. List of Attendees
2. NEI/LATF Handouts
3. NRC Handouts

cc w/encls: See next page

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Jay Robinson, NRR/DPR  
 Christopher P. Jackson, NRR/DPR  
 RidsNrrDorLpl3-2  
 RidsNrrDprPspb, Stacey Rosenberg  
 Tanya Mensah, NRR/DPR  
 Sean Peters, NRR/DORL  
 RidsNrrDpr, Michael Case  
 MMurphy, NRR/DPR  
 RidsNrrLASLittle

ADAMS Accession Nos.

Enclosure 2: **ML071570227**

Mtg. Notice: **ML071150523**

Package: **ML071570504**

Enclosure 3: **ML071570231**

Mtg. Summary and Enclosure 1: **ML071570509**

OFFICE	(A) TA:DORL	LA:DORL	DD:DORL
NAME	DFrumkin TBoyce for	SLittle	JLubinski
DATE	06/14/07	06/14/07	07/11/07

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

**cc:**

**Mr. Anthony Pietrangelo, Senior Director  
Risk Regulation  
Nuclear Energy Institute  
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20006-3708**

**Mr. H. A. Sepp, Manager  
Regulatory and Licensing Engineering  
Westinghouse Electric Company  
P. O. Box 355  
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0355**

**Mr. Jack Roe  
Nuclear Energy Institute  
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20006-3708**

**Mr. Charles B. Brinkman  
Washington Operations  
ABB-Combustion Engineering, Inc.  
12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Suite 330  
Rockville, MD 20852**

**Mr. Gary L. Vine, Executive Director  
Federal and Industry Activities, Nuclear  
Sector  
EPRI  
2000 L Street, NW, Suite 805  
Washington, DC 20036**

**Mr. Pedro Salas  
Regulatory Assurance Manager -  
Dresden  
Exelon Generation Company, LLC  
6500 N. Dresden Road  
Morris, IL 60450-9765**

**Ms. Barbara Lewis  
Assistant Editor  
Platts, Principal Editorial Office  
1200 G St., N.W., Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20005**

**Mr. Gary Welsh  
Institute of  
Nuclear Power Operations  
Suite 100  
700 Galleria Parkway, SE  
Atlanta, GA 30339-5957**

**Mr. Alexander Marion, Senior Director  
Engineering  
Nuclear Energy Institute  
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20006-3708**

**Mr. Michael Shoppman  
Nuclear Energy Institute  
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20006-3708**

**LICENSING ACTION TASK FORCE MEETING**

**LIST OF ATTENDEES**

**MAY 23, 2007**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>ORGANIZATION</u></b>
John Lubinski	NRC/NRR/DORL
Tom Boyce	NRC/NRR/DORL
Carl Schulten	NRC/NRR/DIRS
Jay Robinson	NRC/NRR/DPR
Christopher P. Jackson	NRC/NRR/DPR
Russell Gibbs	NRC/NRR/DORL
Stacey Rosenberg	NRC/NRR/DPR
Tanya Mensah	NRC/NRR/DPR
Sean Peters	NRC/NRR/DORL
Mike Case	NRC/NRR/DPR
Mike Schoppman	NEI
Jerry Burford	Entergy
Don Woodlan	TXU Power
Nancy Chapman	SERCH/Bechtel
Steven Dolley	Inside NRC/Platts
Ned Tyler	Constellation
Brad Maurer	Westinghouse
Tim Abney	GE
Peter Yandow	GE
Bob Bryan	TVA
Ben George	Southern Nuclear
Darin Benyak	Exelon
Jerry Holm	Areva