October 4, 2007

MEMORANDUM TO: Mark Salley, Branch Chief
Fire Research Branch
Materials Engineering
Division of Fuel, Engineering, and Radiological Research
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: Kendra Hill, Reliability & Risk Engineer ***/RA/***
Fire Research Branch
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SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF NRC-RES/EPRI FIRE PRA COURSE ON JULY 23-27 & AUGUST 27-30, 2007

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) conducted a joint public meeting consisting of a fire PRA (Probabilistic Risk Assessment) course on July 23-27 and August 27-30, 2007 in Palo Alto, CA. The purpose of the course was to provide detailed, hands-on training on the fire PRA methodology described in the technical document, NUREG/CR-6850 (EPRI 1011989) entitled "EPRI/NRC-RES Fire PRA Methodology for Nuclear Power Facilities." The sessions conducted in July and August consisted of the same presentations and training materials. This fire PRA methodology document supports implementation of the risk-informed, performance-based rule 10CFR50.48(c) endorsing National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 805, as well as other applications such as exemptions or deviations to our current regulations and fire protection Significance Determination Process phase 3 applications.

RES and EPRI provided training in three subject areas: Fire Analysis, PRA/HRA (Human Reliability Assessment), and Electrical Analysis. Participants selected one of these subject areas and spent the duration of the course in the module that covered the subject area that they selected. This format allowed for in-depth presentations and practical examples directed toward the participant's area of interest. In addition to the enclosures to this memorandum that were provided in the course, technical materials related to the fire analysis subject area were distributed (ADAMS ML070800079). The approximately 100 participants in this course included NRC employees from NRR, RES and the Regions, licensees and consultants, and representatives from outside the U.S.

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Feedback from this year's course was positive with a high demand for future courses expressed. Participants especially expressed their satisfaction with the quality of the instruction and the classroom format that included hands-on exercises and smaller group discussions.

General workshops on this fire PRA methodology were conducted prior to this detailed, hands-on training. The first general workshop on this subject was conducted in June of 2005 at the EPRI NDE Center in Charlotte, NC with approximately 80 persons attending. The second workshop was conducted at the NRC headquarters in May of 2006 with approximately 130 persons attending. Feedback from previous workshops indicated that participants would be better served by more concentrated, interactive presentations with examples. The change in format was a result of this feedback.

The course slides and handout materials (Enclosure 3) can be found in ADAMS under ADAMS package accession number ML072670530. The package includes the following:

Course Slides Introduction – ML072680335
Course Slides Module - 1 ML072680374
Course Slides Module - 2 ML072680474
Course Slides Module - 2 Diagrams A ML072680416
Course Slides Module - 2 Diagrams B ML072680432
Course Slides Module - 2 Example Problems ML072680452
Course Slides Module - 3 (A) ML072680292
Course Slides Module - 3 (B) ML072680243
Course Slides Closing – ML072680305

Enclosures:
1. Agenda
2. Attendance Lists
3. Course Slides
4. Kerite FR Cable Failure Thresholds (supplement to information in NUREG/CR-6850)
5. RES & EPRI Team Response to FAQ 06-0016

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