

April 2, 2008

LICENSEE: MITSUBISHI HEAVY INDUSTRIES, LTD.
FACILITY: US-APWR STANDARD DESIGN CERTIFICATION REVIEW
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE MARCH 25, 2008 MEETING ON THE US-APWR DESIGN CERTIFICATION REVIEW SCHEDULE

On March 25, 2008, a Category 1 public meeting was held between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) at the Mitsubishi Nuclear Energy Systems (MNES) offices at 2300 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the draft review schedule for the US-APWR design certification application. Enclosure 1 lists the meeting attendees.

A revised public meeting notice was issued on March 13, 2008, and was posted on the NRC's external (public) web page (ADAMS Accession No. ML080730069). The notice included the meeting agenda, which was also available as a handout at the meeting. The NRC staff presented information (See the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) accession number ML080850036 and ML080840420) on the scheduling process and the draft schedule developed for the US-APWR Design Certification Review. These presentations were followed by a discussion of schedule issues identified by MHI and MNES.

NRC Presentations

The first NRC presentation, Design Certification Review Process, described the NRC's six phase review process. During the course of the presentation, several questions from MHI and MNES representatives were fielded by the staff. MHI asked if there was a difference in Open Items from those requiring significant review and those that contained almost all of the necessary information. MHI also inquired as to the extent of the second interaction with Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) during Phase 5 of the review process. The NRC staff responded that the Open Items and extent of ACRS interactions depend on the number of Open Items issued. The staff further stated that based on the design submittal timeline provided by MHI, the staff anticipates minimal Open Items. MHI representatives asked if ACRS met during the month of January and the NRC staff responded that some of the ACRS subcommittees hold meetings in January but the full committee does not meet that month. The staff also stated that ACRS meetings will be scheduled as they are critical path tasks.

The second NRC presentation, US-APWR Design Certification Review Schedule, presented the draft review schedule to MHI. The NRC staff briefly described the design timeline submitted by MHI with the Design Control Document (DCD) as well as the assumptions the staff made regarding future submittals related to the review. Universal assumptions which were used to develop a draft schedule were also shared before the draft schedule was presented for Phase 1 and 2 of each DCD chapter. The NRC staff indicated the possibility that the schedule will be re-baselined following completion of Phase 2.

MHI questioned the milestone dates of certain chapters with late audits if the design of tests has already been established in earlier technical reports. The NRC staff indicated that they would approach the technical staff to explain the inclusion of the audit results in Phase 2 of the review. Of particular interest to MHI was the schedule for the DCD sections related to the sump strainer. MHI asked if the NRC had incorporated their recent design submittal timeline into the draft schedule. The staff stated that due to time constraints they were unable to include this latest submission in the draft schedule. MHI indicated that they would submit a written request to the NRC to delay the issuance of a final schedule until all inputs could be considered.

Discussion of specific schedule issues identified by MHI

MHI singled out the sump strainer sections for much of their discussion, again requesting that the final schedule issuance be delayed until their revised submittal timeline can be considered. MHI also inquired as to the status of the generic sump issue (GSI 191) in regards to ACRS. The NRC staff suggested a conference call to discuss the sump concerns in greater detail. MHI questioned the ability of the Gantt chart to list sections of concern and requested a future meeting or conference call to discuss the chapter sections which are at or near critical path. The NRC staff verbally provided the schedule details down to the section level for critical path items.

MHI asked why there is such a difference in the duration of topical report reviews. The review of a fuel topical report submitted mid-2007 will not have a final safety evaluation report before October of 2009. The NRC staff indicated this extended review time was due to availability of funding and resources at the time of submittal. MHI also inquired as to whether some of the extended schedule milestones were due to limited staff resources, and the MHI did not want to submit information only to have it languish in the review process due to staff shortages. The NRC staff stated that they want to maintain a review schedule that will produce a defensible safety evaluation.

MHI also addressed the issue of document translation. The NRC staff had previously requested additional documents whose submission was prolonged due to the need to translate the information from Japanese to English. MHI stated that they will try to translate to English all that is requested, but that advance notice of the translation requests would be appreciated.

Public Participation

Members of the public were in attendance and invited to participate during the public comment portion of the meeting prior to adjournment. Mr. Steve Schulin of Nuclear.com questioned the NRC staff's earlier comment that ACRS could be the bottleneck for the application review and inquired how this would be resolved given that the ACRS workload has been increased due to the recent absorption of Advisory Committee Nuclear Waste and Materials into ACRS. He also asked about considerations underway to conserve the hours ACRS is available each month. The staff acknowledged that there is a significant amount of work for ACRS to review in the future and that the staff is working with ACRS to schedule dates for committee review as far in advance as possible. The NRC staff referred the second question to ACRS stating that ACRS is working with the staff to be more efficient, but that ACRS would have more information on what changes, if any, are being considered.

There were no additional questions from the public. MHI thanked the NRC for sharing the draft schedule and stated that they would be submitted in a letter later in the week requesting the

NRC delay the release of the final schedule until recent design submittal timeline revisions from MHI can be incorporated into the schedule. The NRC staff closed the meeting by thanking all for attending and stating that they look forward to the future MHI submittals. Public Meeting Feedback forms were distributed but none were received. Please direct any inquiries to me at 301-415-2849 or jenise.thompson@nrc.gov.

/RA/

Jenise Thompson
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Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 52-021

Enclosures: 1. List of Attendees
 2. NRC Meeting Handouts

cc w/enclosures: See next page

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Meeting with Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Regarding US-APWR Design
 Certification Review Schedule – March 25, 2008
 Attendance Sheet

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Steve Shulin	ABZ, Inc.
Russ Wells	Areva
Don Woodlan	Luminant
Todd Evans	Luminant
Atsushi Kumaki	MHI
Mutsumi Ishida	MHI
Tim Matthews	Morgan Lewis
Andrew Johnson	MNES
David Lange	MNES
Masanori Onozuka	MNES
Masayuki Kambara	MNES
Satoshi Hanada	MNES
Sherry Bernhoft	MNES
Shinji Kawanago	MNES
Takahiro Imamura	MNES
Dan Shulman	MNES/Enercon
Bonnie Stohr	NRC
Jeff Ciocco	NRC
Jenise Thomspen	NRC
Jin Chung	NRC
Larry Burkhart (by phone)	NRC
Lynn Hall	NRC
Lynn Mrowca	NRC
Peter Hearn	NRC
Stephen Monarque	NRC
Steve Bloom	NRC
Weijun Wang	NRC
Paul Gaukler	PWSP
Patrick Ward	Talisman
Tom Martin	Talisman
Joe Mihalcik	Unistar Nuclear
Mark Beaumont	URS
Charles Brinkman	WEC

Enclosure 1

NRC Meeting Handouts

US-APWR Design Certification Review Schedule Public Meeting Slides
(ML080840420)

US-APWR Design Certification Review Schedule Gantt Chart
(ML080850036)

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