April 21, 2008

MEMORANDUM TO: Alexander R. Klein, Chief
Fire Protection Branch
Division of Risk Assessment
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Charles E. Moulton, Fire Protection Engineer /RA by Paul Lain for
Fire Protection Branch
Division of Risk Assessment
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MARCH 13, 2008, CATEGORY 2 MEETING REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NUREG/CR-6850, ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE 1011989: "ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE / NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION - OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REGULATORY RESEARCH FIRE PROBABILISTIC RISK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY FOR NUCLEAR POWER FACILITIES"

On March 13, 2008, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a meeting with stakeholders and the public to discuss how to provide the most efficient resolution of NUREG/CR-6850, EPRI 1011989: "EPRI/NRC-RES Fire PRA Methodology for Nuclear Power Facilities" implementation issues. Participants included the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR), the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES), Sandia National Laboratory, the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), and other industry representatives.

Industry representatives expressed the critical nature of the resolution of these issues to their implementation of the new risk-informed, performance-based fire protection regulation (NFPA 805). RES and EPRI discussed their plan to use their existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to work together on the resolution of these issues. Participants agreed to utilize the NFPA 805 Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) process to publicize the resolution of these issues. The FAQ process is a public process between NRR and NEI and was determined by the participants to be most efficient method to provide interim staff closure memos on the resolution of these issues.

EPRI listed seven initial issues during the meeting to be developed into FAQs:

1. Revise or update fire ignition frequency information (e.g., examine if some historical events remain appropriate)
2. Develop guidance to provide credit for incipient fire detection systems (beyond that of smoke or heat detectors)

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3. Develop guidance to allow more realistic treatment of large oil pump fires with respect to fire size
4. Develop guidance for treatment of hot-short duration
5. Improve treatment of manual suppression reliability (establish effects of fire brigade response and control of fires for some events which may currently contribute to over-conservative failure estimates)
6. Provide clarification for existing guidance regarding fire propagation among stacked cable trays
7. Develop a more realistic timeline for fire development and growth which considers the incipient stage of fire development.

Also, RES indicated that a FAQ should be developed to clarify the existing guidance in NUREG/CR-6850 for determining the spurious actuation probability when more than one cable can produce the same spurious actuation for a single fire scenario. (This clarification addresses the circuit failure dependency in assessing such a spurious actuation probability).

These are the initial issues identified under the RES/EPRI MOU process that the industry would like to disposition as soon as possible. Industry participants indicated that additional issues would likely be developed in the future.

The participants determined that the next meeting date would be dependent on when the NUREG/CR-6850 writing teams can mature the FAQs to a point where a meaningful public discussion can occur.

The meeting handouts are available in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System. The accession numbers are ML080870198 and ML080870201.

A list of meeting attendees is enclosed with this memorandum.

Enclosure:
As stated

4. Develop guidance for treatment of hot-short duration
5. Improve treatment of manual suppression reliability (establish effects of fire brigade response and control of fires for some events which may currently contribute to over-conservative failure estimates)
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DISTRIBUTION:

DRA R/F	DFrumkin	PLain	RGallucci	MCunningham
AKlein	CMoulton	HBarrett	MSalley	

ADAMS Accession No.: ML081020066

Office	NRR/DRA/AFPB	NRR/DRA/AFPB	RES/BC
Name	CMoulton	AKlein	MSalley via e-mail
Date	4 / 16 /08	4 / 21 /08	4/ 21 /08

Official Record Copy

IMPLEMENTATION OF NUREG/CR-6850, EPRI 1011989: "EPRI/NRC-RES FIRE PRA METHODOLOGY FOR NUCLEAR POWER FACILITIES"
LIST OF ATTENDEES

March 13, 2008

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Staff

A. Klein
C. Moulton
D. Dube
G. Parry
H. Phan
J. Circle
J. Hyslop
J. Lai
M. Galloway
M. Salley
P. Lain
S. Laur

Others

B. Bradley (NEI)
B. Najafi (SAIC)
C. Guey (FPL)
D. McCoy (Southern Nuclear)
D. Miskiewicz (Progress)*
D. Shumaker (PSEG)
D. True (ERIN)
E. Rumfelt (SCE&G)*
G. Hughes (ETRANCO)
G. Krueger (Excelon)
J. Ertman (Progress)*
J. Riley (NEI)
J. Walker (Entergy)*
K. Canavan (EPRI)
L. Young (Entergy)*
M. Mitchell (PNNL)
M. Zaccone (SCE&G)*
P. Baranowski (ERIN)
S. Nowlen (SNL)
S. Pyle (Entergy)*

*participated via phone

ENCLOSURE