

May 8, 2008

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 Michelle Honcharik for/*
Special Projects Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE APRIL 11, 2008, CATEGORY 2 PUBLIC MEETING
BETWEEN THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC)
AND INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING THE NRC'S
TOPICAL REPORT (TR) PROCESS (TAC NO. MD4832)

On April 11, 2008, a Category 2 public meeting was held between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff and industry representatives at NRC headquarters. A list of meeting attendees is enclosed.

The purpose of the April 11, 2008, public meeting between NRC staff and industry representatives was to discuss issues regarding TR process improvements. A copy of the meeting agenda is contained in the April 11, 2008, public meeting notice (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML080870043). Specifically, the NRC staff and industry representatives exchanged perspectives on the TR process and provided data/examples which highlight challenges within the current TR process. Prior to the public meeting, the NRC staff shared with industry representatives a draft version (redline/strikeout format) of LIC-500, Revision 4, "Processing Requests for Reviews of Topical Reports" (ADAMS Accession No. ML081190403). The redline/strikeout changes in Draft LIC-500, Revision 4, will be used to facilitate discussion at future public meetings on the TR process.

Opening remarks were provided by senior managers within the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) and the NEI. Mr. Michael Case, Director, Division of Policy and Rulemaking, NRR, opened the meeting by stating that both the NRC staff and industry representatives have an interest in improving the TR process. While pointing out that a one-size fits all approach in the TR process may not benefit all owners groups and vendors, Mr. Case emphasized that the improvements made should balance with the desire to recognize and accommodate special cases within the TR process.

Mr. Alex Marion, Executive Director, Nuclear Operations, NEI, discussed how industry representatives were pleased with the establishment of these routine TR meetings, to be held approximately on a monthly basis, to discuss the TR process. In addition to sharing how industry has long-standing concerns with how the NRC assigns priority to TR reviews (compared to other licensing actions), Mr. Marion also expressed that it is important for the NRC and industry to recognize the safety as well as economic benefits of the TR process.

To kick-off the opening meeting, the NRC staff and industry representatives shared first-draft process maps and/or tables, which visually displayed the TR processes within the Pressurized Water Reactor Owners Group (PWROG), the Boiling Water Reactor Owners Group (BWROG), and the NRC.

Some questions and/or issues that were raised during the meeting by industry representatives as a result of examining the various process maps and/or tables included:

- Should a Draft Safety Evaluation (SE) be created at the beginning of the TR process to help focus the Request for Additional Information process?
- What is the benefit/value of having the pre-submittal meeting before technical reviewers are actually assigned to review the TR? Should this meeting occur later in the process once the technical leads have been assigned?
- Should the industry representatives and NRC staff develop a common approach to creating process maps so that we can identify for each key step, the resources that it takes to complete each step in the TR process, along with the mechanics of the review (i.e., who is doing the work and how long does it take?).
- Are pilot-plants a viable approach to consider when reviewing a TR submittal?
- How do TR metrics factor into the technical decision-making process?
- Should there be an appeal process to resolve technical differences between industry and the NRC staff? An alternative to this approach might be to identify steps in the TR process to inform senior management early-on of technical differences/views.
- Can the review schedules for TRs be compressed with better planning between industry representatives and NRC staff?

The industry presentation slides are available in ADAMS (Accession No. ML081190431).

Additional questions and/or issues that were raised during the meeting by NRC staff as a result of examining the various process maps and/or tables included:

- The NRC sometimes receives TRs that do not clearly identify the scope of the TR. The objective is ambivalent or unclear. Can we propose some guidelines so that each TR submitted clearly identifies what is being requested, and what specific plants the TR would be applicable to?
- When is a TR revision required? What's the difference between a TR revision and a TR supplement? If the TR has already been approved by the NRC, should new information be considered an Appendix? In addition to developing a consistent terminology, we need to consider the threshold for revising a TR and submitting it for NRC review.
- When should a TR be sunset? Does it need to be updated and who is responsible for checking to ensure that an approved TR remains applicable?
- Can Office of New Reactors approved TRs be made available for use by operating reactors (and vice versa)?
- What would a "CLIIP-like" process for TRs look like?
- The owners groups and vendors currently use different formats when submitting their TRs to the NRC. Discuss the value and feasibility of developing a standard format and content for TR submittals and NRC TR SEs.

These questions, as well as additional topics identified by industry representatives and the NRC staff during its presentations, will form the basis for discussions at future public meetings.

The NRC staff presentation slides are available in ADAMS (Accession Nos. ML081190403 and ML081190413).

Additional topics such as, "Results of PWR Pilot Post-Job Evaluation" and "Project Plan" were planned for discussion on April 11, 2008. Due to a lack of time, those topics will be deferred to a future public meeting.

The next TR public meeting is currently planned for May 15, 2008. A meeting notice will be issued with additional detail.

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

Project Nos. 669, 689, 691, 694, and 700

Enclosure: List of Attendees

cc w/encl: See next pages

The NRC staff presentation slides are available in ADAMS (Accession Nos. ML081190403 and ML081190413).

Additional topics such as, "Results of PWR Pilot Post-Job Evaluation" and "Project Plan" were planned for discussion on April 11, 2008. Due to a lack of time, those topics will be deferred to a future public meeting.

The next TR public meeting is currently planned for May 15, 2008. A meeting notice will be issued with additional detail.

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

Project Nos. 669, 689, 691, 694, and 700

Enclosure: List of Attendees

cc w/encl: See next pages

DISTRIBUTION:

See attached page

Package Accession Number: ML081300028

Meeting Notice Accession Number: ML080870043

Meeting Handout Accession Numbers: ML081190431, ML081190403,

Meeting Summary Accession Number: ML081190446 NRC-001

OFFICE	PSPB/PM	PSPB/LA	PSPB/BC
NAME	TMensah	DBaxley	SRosenberg
DATE	5/8/08	5/1/08	5/8/08

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

DISTRIBUTION OF MEETING SUMMARY FOR MEETING WITH THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

Dated: May 8, 2008

DISTRIBUTION:

PUBLIC

PSPB Reading File

RidsNrrAdro

RidsNrrDpr

RidsNrrDprPspb

RidsNrrLADBaxley

RidsNrrPMTMensah

RidsOpaMail

RidsNrrDe

CGratton

KKarwoski

CSchulten

RElliott

MCase

SRosenberg

WReckley

TMendiola

HCruz

JThompson

MHoncharik

VPerin

SPeters

RJasinski

RidsOgcMailCenter

RidsAcrsAcnwMailCenter

External Email:

mas@nei.org

List of Meeting Attendees for April 11, 2008	
Tim Abney	GE Hitachi
Charles Brinkman	Westinghouse
Dennis Buschbaum	PWROG/Luminant
Mike Case	NRC
Douglas Coleman	BWROG/Energy Northwest
Chris Gratton	NRC
Tom Laubham	Westinghouse/PWROG
Alex Marion	NEI
Tony Mendiola	NRC
Tanya Mensah	NRC
Sean Peters	NRC
Bill Reckley	NRC
Stacey Rosenberg	NRC
Mike Schoppman	NEI
Carl Schulten	NRR
Rob Sisk	Westinghouse
Russ Wells	Areva
Neil Wilmshurst	EPRI
Charles Wirtz	FENOC (BWRVIP Tech Chair)

ENCLOSURE

Nuclear Energy Institute
Electric Power Research Institute

Project No. 689
Project No. 669

cc:

Mr. Anthony Pietrangelo, Vice President
Regulatory Affairs
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708
arp@nei.org

Mr. John Butler, Director
Safety-Focused Regulation
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708
jcb@nei.org

Mr. Jack Roe, Director
Operations Support
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708
jwr@nei.org

Mr. James H. Riley, Director
Engineering
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-3708
jhr@nei.org

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

Mike Melton, Senior Project Manager
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708
man@nei.org

Mr. James Gresham, Manager
Regulatory Compliance and Plant Licensing
Westinghouse Electric Company
P.O. Box 355
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0355
greshaja@westinghouse.com

Mr. Chris Larsen
Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer
EPRI
3412 Hillview Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1338
dblarsen@epri.com

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

Mr. David J. Modeen
Director, External Affairs
EPRI
1300 W. T. Harris Boulevard
Charlotte, NC 28262-8550
dmodeen@epri.com

Mr. Alexander Marion, Executive Director
Nuclear Operations & Engineering
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708
am@nei.org

Dr. Sean Bushart
EPRI
3412 Hillview Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1338
sbushart@epri.com

Mr. Kurt Edsinger
EPRI
3412 Hillview Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1338
kedsinge@epri.com

Mr. Ken Canavan
EPRI
1300 W.T. Harris Boulevard
Charlotte, NC 28262-8550
kcanavan@epri.com

Mr. Greg Selby
EPRI
1300 W. T. Harris Boulevard
Charlotte, NC 28262-8550
gselby@epri.com

Mr. David Steininger
EPRI
3412 Hillview Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1338
dsteinin@epri.com

Mr. Neil Wilmshurst
EPRI
1300 W. T. Harris Boulevard
Charlotte, NC 28262-8550
nwilmshu@epri.com

BWR Owners' Group

Project No. 691

Mr. Doug Coleman
Vice Chair, BWR Owners' Group
Energy Northwest
Columbia Generating Station
Mail Drop PE20
P.O. Box 968
Richland, WA 99352-0968
DWCOLEMAN@energy-northwest.com

Mr. Richard Libra
Executive Vice Chair, BWR Owners' Group
Exelon Generation Co, LLC
200 Exelon Way
Mail Code KSA 2-N
Kennett Square, PA 19348
Rick.libra@exeloncorp.com

Mr. Richard Anderson
BWROG, Executive Chair
FPL Energy (DAEC)
Duane Arnold Energy Center
3277 DAEC Road
Palo, IA 52324
richard_i_anderson@fpl.com

Mr. James F. Klapproth
GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy
M/C A50
3901 Castle Hayne Road
Wilmington, NC 28401
james.klapproth@ge.com

Mr. Joseph E. Conen
Regulatory Response Group Chair
BWR Owners' Group
DTE Energy-Fermi 2
200 TAC
6400 N. Dixie Highway
Newport, MI 48166
conenj@dteenergy.com

Frederick Emerson
BWROG, Project Manager
Frederick.emerson@ge.com

Mr. J. A. Gray, Jr.
Regulatory Response Group Vice-Chair
BWR Owners' Group
Entergy Nuclear Northeast
440 Hamilton Avenue Mail Stop 12C
White Plains, NY 10601-5029
JGray4@entergy.com

Mr. Ken A. McCall, Program Manager
GE Energy
M/C F12
3901 Castle Hayne Road
Wilmington, NC 28401
kenneth.mccall@ge.com

Mr. Tim E. Abney
GE Energy
M/C A-16
3901 Castle Hayne Road
Wilmington, NC 28401
tim.abney@ge.com

Oscar Limpias
Entergy Nuclear Northeast
1340 Echelon Parkway.
Jackson, MS 39213-8202
olimpia@entergy.com

Joe Donahue
Progress Energy Inc.
410 S. Wilmington St.
PEB 6A
Raleigh, NC 27601-1849
joe.w.donahue@pqnmail.com

Paul J. Davison
Hope Creek Generating Station
P.O. Box 236
Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038
paul.davison@pseg.com

Dennis Madison, Hatch Vice President
Southern Nuclear Operating Co.
11028 Hatch Parkway North
Baxley, GA 31515-2010
drmadiso@southernco.com

PWR Owners Group
Westinghouse Electric

Project No. 694
Project No. 700

cc:

Mr. James A. Gresham, Manager
Regulatory Compliance and Plant Licensing
Westinghouse Electric Company
P.O. Box 355
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0355
greshaja@westinghouse.com

Mr. Gordon Bischoff, Manager
Owners Group Program Management Office
Westinghouse Electric Company
P.O. Box 355
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0355
gordon.c.bischoff@us.westinghouse.com

GHNE

Project No. 710

cc:

Mr. George B. Stramback
GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas LLC
1989 Little Orchard Street
M/C HME
San Jose, CA 95125-1030
george.stramback@ge.com

Mr. James F. Harrison
GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas LLC
Project Manager - Fuel Licensing
P.O. Box 780
M/C A45
Wilmington, NC 28401
james.harrison@ge.com

Ms. Patricia L. Campbell
Washington Regulatory Affairs Director
GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas LLC
1299 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
9th Floor
Washington, DC 20004
patricia.campbell@ge.com

Mr. Andrew A. Lingenfelter
Manager, GNF Fuel Engineering
P.O. Box 780
M/C F12
Wilmington, NC 28401
andy.lingenfelter@gnf.com

Rick Kingston
GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas LLC
Project Manager, Methods Licensing
3901 Castle Hayne Road
PO Box 780
Wilmington, NC 28401-0780
rick.kingston@ge.com

James A Ross
Vice President
GE - Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas LLC
Washington Regulatory Affairs
1299 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Suite 900
Washington, DC 20004
james2.ross@ge.com

Mr. Robert E. Brown
Senior Vice President, Regulatory Affairs
GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas LLC
P. O. Box 780, M/C A-30
Wilmington, NC 28401
Bob.Brown@ge.com