

[REDACTED]

January 30, 2007

MEMORANDUM TO: Peter J. Habighorst, Chief  
Fuel Manufacturing Branch  
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety  
and Safeguards  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

FROM: William C. Gleaves, Project Manager /RA/  
Fuel Manufacturing Branch  
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety  
and Safeguards, NMSS

SUBJECT: BWX TECHNOLOGIES, INC., SUMMARY OF JANUARY 19, 2007  
TELECONFERENCE TO DISCUSS LICENSE RENEWAL  
(TAC NO. L31836)

On January 19, 2007, the staff from the Fuel Manufacturing Branch (FMB) and the Technical Support Branch (TSB) held a teleconference with BWX Technologies, Inc., (BWXT) staff for the purpose of clarifying the License Renewal request in the Criticality Safety review area. The teleconference was to address clarifications needed to complete the BWXT License Renewal Safety Evaluation Report. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) participants were Peter Habighorst, Bill Gleaves (FMB), Yawar Faraz and Blake Purnell (TSB). Steve Schilthelm, Leah Morrell, Robert Hogg, and Dave Spangler were the participants from BWXT.

After the introductory remarks, Blake Purnell addressed NRC's need for clarifications in order to conclude its review of the BWXT License Renewal application, in the area of Criticality Safety. The conversation topics and conclusions were addressed as follows:

- 1) Raschig Rings. Clarification was needed regarding BWXT's implementation of the ANSI/ANS-8.5-1996 Standard for chemical and mechanical testing for Raschig rings. BWXT stated that they use alternate methods for all cases where chemical and mechanical testing of Raschig rings are required under the standard.
  - 2) [REDACTED]. The staff noted that the License Renewal application requested withdrawal of License Condition S-17, but did not incorporate the definition of "systems involving [REDACTED]" into the license application, Chapter 5. BWXT stated that we should carry License Condition S-17 into the renewed license.
- [REDACTED]

- 3) BWXT's commitment regarding their Criticality Accident Alarm System (CAAS). The NRC staff discussed BWXT's commitment to use the full RG 3.71 for their CAAS. BWXT indicated that they use the RG in part, and use alternate means to meet regulatory requirements as follows:

- for dose criteria they use RG 3.71;
- they follow ANSI/ANS-8.3-1997 for detector placement;
- they follow the exceptions in RG 3.71 for dual coverage of criticality detectors;
- they commit to annual calibration of criticality detectors, which serves as a test of their entire alarm system;
- they commit to have audible alarms;
- they perform quarterly functional testing of criticality detectors.

The staff concluded the call by thanking BWXT staff for supporting this teleconference which will lead to a quick conclusion to our renewal review.

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