

December 19, 2008

MEMORANDUM TO: Bruce S. Mallett
Deputy Executive Director for Reactor
and Preparedness Programs
Office of the Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Shawn A. Williams, Senior Operations Assistant /RA/
Technical and Regional Programs Branch
Office of the Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF DECEMBER 8, 2008, CATEGORY 2 PUBLIC
MEETING WITH THE INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR POWER
OPERATIONS TO DISCUSS ITEMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST

On December 8, 2008, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) senior managers met with the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO) senior managers to discuss items of mutual interest. The meeting took place at INPO headquarters located in Atlanta, GA.

The meeting was noticed on November 21, 2008 (ADAMS Accession Number ML083190698). A portion of the meeting was closed to discuss INPO proprietary information as described in the INPO-NRC Memorandum of Agreement (ADAMS Accession Number ML073460015). The public was invited to attend the open portion of the meeting. A list of attendees is provided in Enclosure 1.

The meeting followed the agenda. A summary is provided below:

(1) Safety Culture:

The NRC discussed staff's progress towards the Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) dated February 25, 2008, COMGBJ-08-0001, "A Commission Policy Statement on Safety Culture" (ADAMS Accession Number ML080560476). The SRM directed staff to expand the Commission's Policy Statement on safety culture to address the unique aspects of security and to ensure the resulting policy is applicable to all licensees and certificate holders.

The NRC discussed pending changes to the Reactor Oversight Program (ROP) related to safety culture. INPO discussed their safety culture initiatives.

(2) Part 26 Rule (Work hours) Implementation:

The NRC discussed the Draft Guide (DG)-5026, "Fatigue Management for Nuclear Power Plant Personnel" (ADAMS Package Accession Number ML081960515).

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(3) Transformer, Switchyard, and Grid Issues

INPO discussed transmission and distribution (T&D) trends and operating experience. A significant portion of plant consequential events were caused by transformer, switchyard or grid issues. As of the end of 2008, INPO has completed a review visit at every site in the country. INPO is in the process of writing a T&D guidance document and will continue to engage utility senior management in improving T&D performance.

(4) INPO Training and Accreditation Status

INPO provided an accreditation status on industry training programs for 2008. INPO discussed the success of the National Academy for Nuclear Training e-Learning (NANTeL) system. INPO shared their learning strategy: improve current training, expand leadership development courses, add an emerging manager level course, create a nuclear citizenship course, and centralize an instructor training course and certification.

(5) New Reactors

NRC discussed that inspection procedures, manual chapters, and infrastructure will be in place to meet the agency's responsibilities for construction oversight of new reactors. NRC's plan is to establish construction resident inspectors early in the process.

NRC explained that initial accreditation of new reactor training programs will be conducted prior to training implementation, trainee evaluation, or training program evaluation. NRC is developing plans to inspect the implementation, student mastery, and the evaluation and revision of training programs after initial accreditation and before accreditation renewal.

Significant progress has been made in the prioritization and inspection planning of ITAAC for the AP1000 and Advance Boiling Water Reactor certified designs. The NRC has worked closely with stakeholders to develop a process for the implementation of ITAAC closure letters and Commission findings. NRC staff is continuing to work with stakeholders to ensure the status of closed ITAAC is maintained, including the threshold for notification requirements.

(6) International Activities

The NRC discussed its international activities. The discussion followed the presentation in enclosure 2 (ADAMS Accession Number ML083440599).

INPO shared that they have had an international program to exchange operating experience and operating excellence since 1981. Currently there are 17 international participants. The liaison engineer program for foreign nationals has been a significant benefit of this program as many are now plant managers and corporate site leaders.

Enclosures:

1. List of Attendees
2. U.S. Nuclear Industry's Increasing Engagement in Foreign Markets Presentation

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OFFICE	OEDO	TRPS/Chief
NAME	SWilliams	TBloomer
DATE	12/17/08	12/19/08

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NRC – INPO SENIOR MANAGER PUBLIC MEETING ATTENDANCE
DECEMBER 8, 2008, 8:00-11:30 AM

NAME	AFFILIATION
B. Borchardt	NRC
B. Mallett	NRC
L. Reyes	NRC
M. Doane	NRC
M. Johnson	NRC
B. Boger	NRC
S. Magruder	NRC
S. Williams	NRC
J. Ellis	INPO
R. Purcell	INPO
W. Webster	INPO
D. Igyarto	INPO
P. McCullough	INPO
G. Fader	INPO
G. Hutcherson	INPO
C. Goddard	INPO
R. Smith	INPO
L. Gard	INPO
R. Jacobs	INPO
D. Farr	INPO
G. Mortensen	INPO
S. Newton	INPO