



Improving Effectiveness and Efficiency of Environmental Reviews

December 10, 2008

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Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions 1:00 – 1:15
- Industry Lessons Learned 1:15 – 2:15
- Follow-up from Dec '07 Meeting 2:15 – 2:45
- Break 2:45 – 3:00
- Interactions with the USACE 3:00 – 3:30
- Summary and Next Steps 3:30 – 3:45
- Public Comments 3:45 – close

Industry Lessons Learned

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The Stage

- NRC's Environmental Readiness Activities
 - 17 COL Applications
 - 1 ESP Application
- NRC's Environmental Technical Assistance
 - 3 National Laboratories
 - 5 Design Center Contracts
- Realigning Span of Control - 3rd Projects Branch
- Matters outside of NRC's Control
 - Funding Challenges - Continuing Resolution
 - New Administration's Energy Agenda
 - Applicant performance and responsiveness

Progress since Round Table Discussion of December 6, 2007

- Early engagement of stakeholders
- Applying lessons learned from early reviews to subsequent applications
- Generic Issues
- Guidance documents

Guidance Development Activities

- Regulatory Guides
- Environmental Standard Review Plan
- Interim Staff Guidance
- Environmental Protection Plan Template

Other NRC Actions

- April 2008 Commission Policy Statement on conduct of new reactor licensing proceedings
- Rebuilding NRC's in-house expertise
- Opportunities for schedule improvements

Lessons Learned from Early Reviews and Generic Issues

- Commission's Vision in optimal use of Part 52 is not being realized (ESP and DC before COL)
- Quality of submittals – completeness, thoroughness and consistency
- Development and conduct of, for example, ecological sampling program and results
- Adequacy of site selection process and documentation
- RAI response timeliness and quality

Stakeholder Interactions

- US Army Corps of Engineers
 - MOU signed September 12, 2008
 - Cooperating / coordinating Agency Options
 - Timing of permit applications to the Corps
 - Developing cooperative relationship
- US Environmental Protection Agency
 - Outreach to Regional Section 309 Review Team
 - Periodic involvement at counterpart meetings
- Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation

Summary and Next Steps

- Action Items
- Path Forward

Comments from Members of the Public