

From: Ram Subbaratnam
Sent: Tuesday, December 30, 2008 1:42 PM
To: Carol Ashley
Subject: FW: Summary of Conference Call with NEI/Industry on December 23, 2008 to discuss draft NEI White Paper
Attachments: Significance Paper_DRAFT_for_Discussion JMM 02Dec.pdf

From: Ram Subbaratnam
Sent: Tuesday, December 30, 2008 10:37 AM
To: 'KEITHLINE, Kimberly'
Cc: Nilesh Chokshi; Clifford Munson; Goutam Bagchi; Dogan Seber; BELL, Russ; 'Cstepp@moment.net'; 'aph@nei.org'
Subject: Summary of Conference Call with NEI/Industry on December 23, 2008 to discuss draft NEI White Paper

MEMORANDUM TO: File

FROM: Ram Subbaratnam, Project Manager, NRG/DNRL/NRO
Office of New Reactors, Division of New Reactor Licensing

SUBJECT: Summary of Conference Call with NEI/Industry on December 23, 2008 to discuss draft NEI White Paper on Significance of Hypothetical Sensitivity Evaluations

The purpose of the call was to listen to the industry's proposed methodology on evaluating the significance of sensitivity results performed to decide whether a seismic source needs to be updated or not. This is related to a draft white paper submitted by the industry (see attachment) which was discussed in the call. A representative example (that of W.S. Lee site) was discussed to illustrate this methodology and the significance criteria that uses probabilistic risk assessment that tracks prospective change in seismic core damage frequency (SCDF) using guidelines contained in Regulatory Guide 1.174 (currently being used for operating reactors). After considering all the aspects, the staff indicated that the sole use of the SCDF may not be appropriate due to concerns of slope stability and other seismic hazards such as liquefaction which are site specific. Also the staff indicated that the applicability of RG 1.174 criteria to new reactors will require further explorations.

The staff further pointed out that rather than using a fixed numerical criterion, assessment of relative changes to the ground motion may be more appropriate to evaluate the engineering significance. Industry indicated that they will consider the discussion and let the staff know about their plans.

The NRC attendees were:

- Nilesh Chokshi
- Dogan Seber
- Cliff Munson
- Goutam Bagchi
- Ram Subbaratnam

Other observers:

- Adrian Heymer, NEI
- Kimberly Keithline, NEI
- John McConaghy, Duke
- John Thrasher, Duke
- John Richards, Duke
- Peter Hastings, Duke
- Carl Stepp
- Robin McGuire, Risk Engineering
- Bob Kennedy, RPK Structural Mechanics Consulting
- Bob Whorton, SCANA
- Don Moore, Southern

If You need any further information or assistance on this meeting summary please call me on (301) 415 1478 or e-Mail rxs2@nrc.gov.

Thank you.

Ram Subbaratnam
Project Manager, NRG/DNRL/NRO
US NRC
(301) 415 1478

E-mail Properties

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