

January 28, 2009

MEMORANDUM TO: Alexander R. Klein, Chief
Fire Protection Branch
Division of Risk Assessment
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Brian Metzger, Fire Protection Engineer */RA by Daniel Frumkin for/*
Fire Protection Branch
Division of Risk Assessment
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF DECEMBER 18, 2008 NRC FIRE
PROTECTION STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

On December 18, 2008, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) held a Category 2 public meeting with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) staff and industry stakeholders to discuss key fire protection topics. An attendance list and meeting agenda are enclosed in this summary as Enclosures 1 and 2, respectively.

During the meeting, the NEI distributed a Draft NEI 00-01, Rev 2(b) – Pilot Plant Review – Initial report, which is available at Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML083570682. The NRC distributed slides that are available at ML083570698.

Summary of Meeting

The topics discussed during the meeting were National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 805 Frequently Asked Question Process, Fire-Induced Circuit Failures, and Metric to Assess Regulatory Effectiveness. The discussion generally followed the slide presentation mentioned above.

NFPA 805 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) (Slides 3 through 6)

Regarding the NFPA 805 FAQs, NEI indicated that NEI was preparing FAQs for the issues on slide 5. NEI also indicated that they were preparing position papers regarding the issues on slide 6 (NEI Action 1). The committee chairman thought that the issues on slide 6 should be entered into the FAQ process.

Enclosures:
As stated

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Fire-Induced Circuit Failures (Slides 7 and 8)

NEI presented draft NEI 00-01, Revision 2, to the NRC during the meeting (ADAMS Accession Number ML083660046). The industry plans to pilot the methods within NEI 00-01, Revision 2 at Limerick Nuclear Station, and complete the expert elicitation portion of the pilot in late January 2009. The committee chairman suggested that Limerick may not be a good challenge to the method since it is a more modern plant. NEI representatives indicated that the method is independent of plant design. A member of the public inquired if the expert panel process would be public, the answer was no.

Metric to Assess Regulatory Effectiveness (Slides 9 through 11)

Regarding the metric related to fire protection findings, NEI representatives were concerned that there was not a clear distinction between minor findings and findings colored green or greater. The committee chairman assured them that the distinction was clear and consistently applied. The committee chairman clarified that it was not the intent of these metrics to evaluate licensee performance; rather the intent is to measure the stability of the regulatory infrastructure. NEI representatives suggested tracking license amendments and exemptions, the NRC staff said that they would be considered as metrics.

Regarding the metric related to long-term compensatory measures, the NRC suggested that the information regarding long-term compensatory measures be collected by the licensees. NEI representatives suggested there would be significant burden to the licensee to collect this information, and asked why resident inspectors would not be used to collect the data. The committee chairman responded that the resident inspectors' responsibility is the day to day safety of the plant, not information collection. NEI further suggested that only long-term compensatory measures exceeding one fuel cycle be considered, the NRC will consider including this in the metric. NEI indicated that there are administrative processes for implementing a voluntary information collection of this type. The next meeting of the nuclear industry chief nuclear officers is scheduled for April 2009. The NRC will continue discussions with NEI regarding details of collecting the information for long-term compensatory measures.

Other Topics

NEI is changing its organization. Mr. John Butler will now be the manager over fire protection at NEI replacing Mr. James Riley.

Action Items

The following action items for the NRC were discussed:

1. NRC will consider having a metric for assuring regulatory effectiveness of the number of exemptions and license amendments.
2. The NRC will consider the NEI request that long-term compensatory measures be those that exceed a single refueling outage duration.
3. NRC will continue discussions with industry regarding the details of collecting the information for long-term compensatory measures.

The following action items for the NEI were discussed:

1. NEI will submit the issues from NRC slide 5 into the FAQ process and prepare position papers for the issues from NRC slide 6.

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1. NEI will submit the issues from NRC slide 5 into the FAQ process and prepare position papers for the issues from NRC slide 6.

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NAME:	BMetzger	DFrumkin	AKlein
DATE:	01/27/09	01/27/09	01/28/09

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**NRC Fire Protection Steering Committee
December 18, 2008
Executive Boulevard Building
6003 Executive Boulevard
Rockville, MD 20852
List of Attendees**

NRC STAFF

J. Grobe
M. Cunningham
D. Frumkin
C. Lui
R. Radlinski
A. Klein
P. Qualls*
B. Metzger
G. Taylor
Q. Nguyen
C. Ader
M. Salley
S. Weerakkody
C. Moulton

OTHER

A. Marion	Nuclear Energy Institute
J. Butler	Nuclear Energy Institute
J. Bonanno	Nuclear Energy Institute
J. Rinckel	Nuclear Energy Institute
S. Hutchins	Nuclear Energy Institute
J. Riley	Nuclear Energy Institute
J. Hicks	Luminant Power
N. Chapman*	Bechtel
C. Lambert*	Exelon
A. Ratchford*	Kleinsorg Group
K. Zee*	ERIN
S. Chomos*	Omaha Public Power District
J. Lattner*	Southern Nuclear
C. Donaldson*	OAG
S. Wagner*	Legal Council for Assemblyman Richard L. Brodsky
U. Witte*	Northern Lights

UNCONFIRMED (Were provided tie-in line number but did not introduce themselves)

P. Guardado*	Entergy
L. Young*	Entergy
G. Cameron*	APS
R. Wilferd*	APS

* participated via phone

**NRC Fire Protection Steering Committee
December 18, 2008
Agenda**

PURPOSE: To discuss current fire protection topics

12:15 p.m. Introductions and meeting focus

12:25 p.m. Discuss current fire protection topics in SECY 08-0171, "Plan for Stabilizing Fire Protection Regulatory Infrastructure," (ADAMS Accession Number ML082840683) including:

- National Fire Protection Association Standard (NFPA) 805 implementation guidance
- Fire induced circuit failures
- Assess Regulatory Effectiveness
- Other topics as needed

1:40 p.m. Public comment period

1:45 p.m. Adjournment