

March 19, 2009

MEMORANDUM TO: Michael Scott, Acting Deputy Director
Licensing and Inspection Directorate
Division of Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation, NMSS

FROM: Shana Helton, Senior Project Manager /RA/
Licensing Branch
Division of Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation, NMSS

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MARCH 12, 2009, MEETING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY TO DISCUSS THE PLANNED APPLICATION TO RENEW SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIALS LICENSE NO. SNM-2504 FOR THE FORT SAINT VRAIN INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (TAC NO. L24312)

Background

A meeting was held on March 12, 2009, in Rockville, Maryland, to discuss the Department of Energy – Idaho Operations Office's (DOE-ID's) planned request to renew Special Materials License No. SNM-2504 for the Fort Saint Vrain (FSV) independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI). DOE requested the meeting.

The meeting was noticed on February 11, 2009 (ML090430266). The meeting attendance list is provided as Enclosure No. 1.

Discussion

The discussion generally followed the agenda (Enclosure No. 2). The primary reason for the meeting was to discuss a planned license renewal application (DOE-ID's presentation slides are Enclosure No. 3). In conjunction with the planned license renewal application, DOE also plans to request an exemption from 10 CFR 72.42(a) to allow a 30-year (rather than 20-year) renewal period. DOE anticipates submitting their application by November, 2009. In particular, the discussion focused on:

1. License Renewal Approach
2. Aging Management Reviews and Time-Limited Aging Analysis
3. Licensing Basis Document Revisions
4. Revised Approach to Natural Gas Infrastructure Accident Analysis
5. Schedule

There was discussion regarding some corrosion that was found in the standby storage wells of the FSV ISFSI. DOE stated that no corrosion was found on the outside of the fuel storage containers, which have double O-ring metallic seals. There was much discussion regarding how DOE plans to determine whether there could be any corrosion inside the fuel storage casks. NRC staff was interested in how much moisture the fuel may have been exposed to during the cask loading. The NRC staff advised that the corrosion found in the standby storage

wells may be better analyzed as an aging management effect, rather than as part of the time-limited aging analysis.

DOE mentioned that two structures, systems, and components (SSCs) important to safety that no longer need to be within the scope of the license: an individual fuel element grapple, and the FSV-1 transfer casks. The grapple no longer needs to be within the scope of the license because condition 13 of SNM-2504 prohibits repackaging of the fuel assemblies. The transfer casks no longer exist at the ISFSI and have been replaced with two TN-FSV casks. There was some discussion as to whether DOE should handle the removal of these two SSCs from the Safety Analysis Report via an amendment separate from the request to renew the license.

During the discussion of the revised approach to the natural gas infrastructure, the NRC staff advised that DOE consider the Division of Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation's Interim Staff Guidance No. 21, "Use of Computational Modeling Software."

Docket No: 72-9

TAC No: L24312

Enclosures:

1. Meeting Attendees
2. Agenda
3. Presentation Slides

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Distribution: NRC Attendees

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