

May 19, 2009

MEMORANDUM TO: Stacey L. Rosenberg, Chief
Special Projects Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Tanya M. Mensah, Senior Project Manager **/RA/**
Special Projects Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE APRIL 23, 2009, CATEGORY 2 PUBLIC
MEETING BETWEEN THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION AND INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES
REGARDING THE NRC'S TOPICAL REPORT PROCESS
(TAC NO. MD4832)

On April 23, 2009, a Category 2 public meeting was held between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff and industry representatives at NRC headquarters to discuss issues regarding Topical Report (TR) process improvements. A list of meeting attendees is enclosed and the meeting agenda is contained in the April 23, 2009, public meeting notice available in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) as Accession No. ML090900610.

In summary, the NRC staff and industry representatives provided updates and exchanged perspectives on the following:

- A. Draft Topical Report Prioritization Scheme
- B. Additional Industry Feedback on LIC-500, Draft Revision 4
- C. Future Monthly TR Public Meetings

Opening remarks were provided by Mr. Tom Blount, Deputy Director, Division of Policy and Rulemaking (DPR), Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR). Mr. Blount thanked the NRC staff and industry representatives for its continued support of the monthly TR meetings.

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To open the meeting, Ms. Tanya Mensah, Senior Project Manager, provided an update to the industry representatives on the near-term priorities that were assigned to DPR. The NRC handout provides additional detail on the following items (ADAMS Accession No. ML091200330). To summarize, Ms. Mensah provided a current status for each of the following near-term priorities:

- #1: DPR should continue its current progress on TR reviews, including its current assessment of LIC-500 by May 30, 2009.
 - Current Status: On schedule. The NRC TR Team and industry representatives use the monthly TR meetings to assess and discuss recommended changes to LIC-500 (ADAMS Accession No. ML091200325). The NRC TR Team anticipates that all internal and external comments received will be tracked and resolved by May 20, 2009, to support issuance of the revised LIC-500 by May 30, 2009.
- #2: DPR should develop a prioritization/valuation scheme for TRs, including consideration of internal and external views. A draft prioritization scheme developed with implementation plan and presented to the NRR Leadership Team (LT) by May 30, 2009.
 - Current Status: On schedule. The revised LIC-500 incorporates guidance to support implementation of the prioritization scheme. Industry representatives plan to select a few TRs that have already been accepted for NRC staff review, and run them through the draft prioritization scheme to determine how the TRs rank against one another. Their input will be provided to Ms. Mensah via the NEI.
- #3: DPR to reassess TR metrics for timeliness and resource expenditures, based on the new prioritization/valuation scheme. Provide results of metrics assessment to NRR LT for the first and second quarters following prioritization scheme implementation, but no later than January 30, 2010.
 - Current Status: On hold. The NRC TR Team anticipates focusing on this recommendation once the draft prioritization scheme has been presented to the NRR LT in May 2009.
- #4: DPR should establish a process for the assignment of a Technical Champion for the more technically challenging TRs. Include attributes for decision to have a Technical Champion in LIC-500 procedure by May 30, 2009.
 - Current Status: On schedule. The technical champion process has been integrated into the revised LIC-500.

After discussion of the near-term priorities, the NRC staff and the industry representatives discussed the following issues:

Industry Feedback on LIC-500, Draft Revision 4: The industry representatives provided additional comments in its meeting handout dated April 23, 2009 (ADAMS Accession No. ML091170503). The NRC TR Team will consider the following input and provide feedback to the industry representatives during the May 2009 status call (to be scheduled).

- A. Section 4.2.1 of LIC-500, Draft Revision 4: Industry representatives asked that the TR Team consider, for first-of-a-kind/complex TRs, that more than one non-fee billable meeting may be needed to support conceptual development of the TR and planning.
- B. Section 4.2.1.2 of LIC-500, Draft Revision 4: Consider removing some of the language in Section 4.2.1.2 (1st paragraph) which discusses the industry interactions involving the Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF).
- B. Section 4.2.10 of LIC-500, Draft Revision 4: Allow various options (as proposed in the NEI meeting handout) for the formatting of the approved version of the TR.

Future Public Meetings:

- A. A status call is currently being planned for the month of May 2009.
- B. A public meeting is currently being planned for the month of June 2009. A meeting notice will be issued with additional detail.

The industry handout is available in ADAMS as Accession No. ML091170503.

The NRC handouts are available in ADAMS as Accession Nos. ML091200325 and ML091200330.

Members of the public were present and provided feedback during the public comment portion of the meeting regarding:

- Ensuring that the linkage between 10 CFR Part 52 and Part 50 for the TR process are consistent.
- Alignment of the TR prioritization scheme with the TR acceptance review.
- Process for documenting TR changes in the responses to a request for additional information.

No public meeting feedback forms were provided.

Project Nos.: 669, 689, 691, 694, and 700, 710

Enclosure:
List of Attendees

cc w/encl: See next pages

S. Rosenberg

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ADAMS Accession No: ML091210153(Package); ML090900610 (Notice); ML091170503, ML091200325, ML091200330 (Handouts); ML091200360 (Summary) NRC-001

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Jin Chung	Mitsubishi
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Chad Holderbaum	Westinghouse/PWROG
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ENCLOSURE

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