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Chief, Rulemaking and Directives Branch
Office of Administration
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Subject: Industry Comments on Draft Regulatory Guide DG-1218, *Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Fire Protection for Existing Light Water Nuclear Power Plants,* and Proposed SRP Section 9.5.1.2, Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Fire Protection Program

Project Number: 689

The Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), on behalf of the nuclear energy industry, is pleased to provide comments on Draft Regulatory Guide DG-1218, *Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Fire Protection for Existing Light Water Nuclear Power Plants*, and Proposed Standard Review Plan (SRP) Section 9.5.1.2, *Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Fire Protection Program*. The satisfactory resolution of stakeholder comments and final issuance of these documents is important to the common industry and NRC desire for a stable and predictable Fire Protection Regulatory Process.

The enclosures to this letter provide detailed comments and recommended changes to the text of the guidance documents. The following are key comments that are further discussed in the enclosures.

Comments on DG-1218, Proposed Rev. 1 to RG 1.205

• Industry implementation guidance is provided in NEI 04-02, "Guidance for Implementing a Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Fire Protection Program under 10CFR50.48(c)." It is important that RG 1.205 identify any exceptions to NEI 04-02 guidance. NEI 04-02 Revision 1 was reviewed and endorsed, with exceptions, in RG 1.205 Rev. 0. Specific exceptions

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RULES AND DIFECTIVE

¹ NEI is the organization responsible for establishing unified nuclear industry policy on matters affecting the nuclear energy industry, including the regulatory aspects of generic operational and technical issues. NEI's members include all utilities licensed to operate commercial nuclear power plants in the United States, nuclear plant designers, major architect/engineering firms, fuel fabrication facilities, materials licensees, and other organizations and individuals involved in the nuclear energy industry.

should be identified and not rely on licensees and inspectors to individually interpret NFPA 805 without the benefit of a vetted guidance and endorsement process.

 NFPA 805 states that, for the fire PRA utilized under NFPA 805, the "approach, methods and data shall be acceptable to the AHJ [Authority Holding Jurisdiction]." The Regulatory Guide should clearly outline the acceptable means to meet the intent of this phrase.

Comments on NUREG-0800 – SRP Ch 9 Section 9.5.1.2

- The SRP should be revised to include pilot plant and non-pilot plant lessons learned over the last three years that have been documented via the FAQ Process.
- Utilization of the SRP would be greatly enhanced by incorporation of a cross reference to NEI 04-02 (Text and Appendices).

The basis for each of these concerns is explained in greater detail in the enclosures to this letter. A number of the comments in the enclosures center on what appears to be a divergence from guidance and agreements reached over the last three years of the NFPA 805 Pilot Process. In a number of instances the draft guidance reflects new interpretations of NFPA 805 that are different from the interpretations agreed to and implemented by the NFPA 805 pilots. We recognize that the NRC has been open to the industry comments on this concern and has agreed to meet with the industry during the week of June 29, 2009. We look forward to this meeting.

If you have any questions regarding the above comments, please do not hesitate to contact me or Steven Hutchins (202.739.8025; sph@nei.org).

Sincerely,

John C. Butler

Enclosures

c: Dr. Sunil D. Weerakkody, Deputy Director of Fire Protection, NRR

Mr. Alex Klein, Branch Chief, Fire Protection, NRR

Mr. Steven Laur, NRR

Ms. Margaret Stambaugh, NRR

NRC Document Control Desk

Generic Comments:

- In various passages, the Regulatory Guide refers to 'methods' in the context of the Fire PRA or risk assessment methods. In all instances, the term 'method' or 'methods' should be changed to 'method of treating the cause/effect relationship' or 'methods of treating the cause/effect relationship'.
- When referring to NEI 04-02, please include both the 'text reference' and the 'Appendix reference'.
- Definition of "Acceptable to the AHJ"

The Regulatory Guide should clearly articulate a definition of how the NRC intends to interpret the phase "Authority Having Jurisdiction". Specifically, NFPA 805 states that, "For the Fire PRA (FPRA) utilized under NFPA 805, the "approach, methods and data shall be acceptable to the AHJ." In order to determine acceptability, the parts of the PRA required by the application are to be assessed for technical adequacy. For the purpose of this assessment, the NRC has determined that the implementation of Regulatory Guide 1.200 constitutes an acceptable process adequate to certify that the PRA approach, methods, and data are acceptable for the PRA to be applied to NFPA 805. Implementation of Regulatory Guide 1.200 should obviate the need for staff review of the base FPRA for which a standard and a corresponding appendix to Regulatory Guide 1.200 exist. A staff review of those PRAs for the risk contributors significant to the decision and for which no standard has been endorsed in Regulatory Guide 1.200 will be necessary to the extent needed to support the decision. However, even for the risk contributors addressed by standards, the staff may, under certain circumstances, decide to perform an audit to verify the technical adequacy of the PRA. An audit may be initiated for a number of reasons, some of which are identified below:

- Lack of evidence that the self-assessment actions that are most relevant to the application have been adequately performed.
- Concerns about the resolution of peer review findings associated with the technical requirements that are most relevant to the application.
- Contributors (e.g., accident sequences, cutsets, operator actions) to the results that differ from those seen at other, similar plants, and for which no plant specific design features can be identified that would explain the differences.
- Results that seem to be counterintuitive, e.g., a decrease in CDF when equipment is taken out of service.
- Estimates of CDF or LERF that differ significantly from those in prior submittals from the same licensee, without a sufficient explanation.¹

¹ Words in italics taken from SRP 19.1.

With respect to the technical adequacy of the FPRA for NFPA 805, the NRC has determined that a PRA that achieves Capability Category II for all technical elements is acceptable for NFPA 805. Licensees should justify use of Capability Category I for specific supporting requirements in their NFPA 805 risk assessments if they contend that it is adequate for the application.

The NRC and EPRI have documented a comprehensive methodology for conducting a fire PRA in NUREG/CR-6850/EPRI 1011989, "EPRI/NRC-RES Fire PRA Methodology for Nuclear Power Facilities" (Ref. 30). The NRC accepts the use of the fire PRA methods in this document for NFPA 805 risk assessments, including extension of any screening or scoping methods to more detailed plant-specific analyses, when warranted. In addition, NRC may issue additional guidance as to methods that are acceptable to NRC. However, such methods are only one way to demonstrate technical adequacy of the FPRA. Any approach, method or data that is determined through the RG 1.200 process to meet the requirements for Capability Category II (or Capability Category I, where that is demonstrated to be sufficient for the application) is deemed to be acceptable to NRC [AHJ] for application to NFPA 805.²

² Note that this applies also to approaches, methods or data that are new and may lack rigorous proof. In such cases the use of a formal, structured expert elicitation process that is equivalent in rigor to that used by the SSHAC (NUREG/CR-6372), that includes full consideration of uncertainties, and that is subjected to an independent review in addition to the peer review required under RG 1.200 shall be deemed as resulting in an approach, method, or data acceptable to NRC.

Comment #	Regulatory Guide Section	Comment
1	A. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>	None
	This regulatory guide provides guidance for use in complying with the requirements that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has promulgated for risk-informed, performance-based fire protection programs (FPPs) that comply with Title 10, Section 50.48(c), of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR 50.48(c)) (Ref. 1) and the referenced 2001 Edition of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard, NFPA 805, "Performance-Based Standard for Fire Protection for Light-Water Reactor Electric Generating Plants" (Ref. 2).	
2	In accordance with 10 CFR 50.48(a), each operating nuclear power plant must have an FPP that satisfies General Design Criterion (GDC) 3, "Fire Protection," of Appendix A, "General Design Criteria for Nuclear Power Plants," to 10 CFR Part 50, "Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities" (Ref. 3). In addition, plants that were licensed to operate before January 1, 1979, must meet the requirements of Appendix R, "Fire Protection Program for Nuclear Power Facilities Operating Prior to January 1, 1979," to 10 CFR Part 50 (Ref. 4), except to the extent provided for in 10 CFR 50.48(b). Plants licensed to operate after January 1, 1979, are required to comply with 10 CFR 50.48(a), as well as any plant-specific fire protection license conditions and technical specifications.	None .
3	Paragraph (c) of 10 CFR 50.48, adopted by the NRC in 2004 (69 Federal Register (FR) 33536; June 16, 2004) (Ref. 5), incorporates NFPA 805 by reference, with certain exceptions, and allow licensees to voluntarily adopt and maintain an FPP that meets the requirements of NFPA 805 as an alternative to 10 CFR 50.48(b) or the plant-specific fire protection license conditions. Licensees who choose to comply with 10 CFR 50.48(c) must submit a license amendment application to the NRC, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.90, "Application for Amendment of License, Construction Permit, or Early Site Permit." Paragraph (c)(3) in 10 CFR 50.48 describes the required contents of the application.	This paragraph was revised from the original revision of Regulatory Guide 1.205. The wording with respect to NFPA 805 and 10 CFR 50.48(c) was better in the original revision. DG-1218 states that NFPA 805 is taken to mean compliance with NFPA 805 and applicable portions of 10 CFR 50.48(c). Regulatory Guide 1.205 states that NFPA 805 is taken to mean compliance with 10 CFR 50.48(c). Since 10 CFR 50.48(c) incorporates NFPA 805-2001 by reference including exceptions to NFPA 805 the wording in the current reg. guide is more appropriate. Suggest the wording of Regulatory Guide 1.205 be retained.
	Section 50.48(c), which the Commission adopted in 2004 (69 FR	

Comment #	Regulatory Guide Section	Comment
	33536, June 16, 2004), incorporates NFPA 805 by reference, with certain exceptions, and allows licensees to voluntarily adopt and maintain a fire protection program that meets the requirements of NFPA 805 as an alternative to meeting the requirements of 10 CFR 50.48(b) or the plant-specific fire protection license conditions. Licensees who choose to comply with 10 CFR 50.48(c) must submit a license amendment application to the NRC, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.90. Section 50.48(c)(3) describes the required content of the application.	
4	The Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) has developed NEI 04-02, Revision 2, "Guidance for Implementing a Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Fire Protection Program Under 10 CFR 50.48(c)," issued April 2008 (Ref. 6), to assist licensees in adopting 10 CFR 50.48(c) and making the transition from their current FPP to one based on NFPA 805. This regulatory guide endorses portions of NEI 04-02, Revision 2, where it has been found to provide methods acceptable to the NRC for implementing NFPA 805 and complying with 10 CFR 50.48(c). The regulatory positions in Section C below include clarification of the guidance provided in NEI 04-02, as well as any NRC exceptions to the guidance. The regulatory positions in Section C take precedence over the guidance in NEI 04-02.	This statement is "open-ended". Exceptions to NEI 04-02 should be explicitly documented in Regulatory Guide 1.205. NEI 04-02 Revision 1 was reviewed and endorsed, with exceptions, in Regulatory Guide 1.205 Rev. 0 and the incorporated FAQs have undergone an appropriate review, endorsement, and closure process. Specific exceptions should be identified and not rely on licensees and inspectors to individually interpret NFPA 805 without the benefit of a vetted guidance and endorsement process.
5	All references to NEI 04-02 in this regulatory guide refer to Revision 2 of that NEI guidance document. All references to NFPA 805 in this regulatory guide refer to the 2001 Edition of NFPA 805. Where this regulatory guide refers to an FPP or license of a nuclear power plant as being in compliance with, or meeting, the requirements of NFPA 805, the staff means compliance with NFPA 805 and the applicable portions of 10 CFR 50.48(c).	See comment 4.
6	The NRC issues regulatory guides to describe to the public methods that the staff considers acceptable for use in implementing specific parts of the agency's regulations, to explain techniques that the staff uses in evaluating specific problems or postulated accidents, and to provide guidance to applicants. Regulatory guides are not substitutes	See comment 4.

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	for regulations and compliance with them is not required.	
7	This regulatory guide contains information collection requirements covered by 10 CFR Part 50 that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved under OMB control number 3150-0011. The NRC may neither conduct nor sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, an information collection request or requirement unless the requesting document displays a currently valid OMB control number.	None
8	B. <u>DISCUSSION</u>	
	Background	
	The fire protection requirements of 10 CFR 50.48(b), 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R, and the associated regulatory guidance, are prescriptive in that they identify specific methods for assuring nuclear safety in the event of a fire. The industry and some members of the public have characterized these requirements as creating an unnecessary regulatory burden to achieve an acceptable level of fire safety and comply with the general, performance-based requirements of GDC-3. The NRC has issued approximately 900 plant-specific exemptions to the requirements of Appendix R.	
9	In SECY-98-058, "Development of a Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Regulation for Fire Protection at Nuclear Power Plants," dated March 26, 1998 (Ref. 7), the staff proposed to the Commission that the staff work with NFPA and industry to develop a risk-informed, performance-based voluntary consensus standard for nuclear power plant fire protection. This voluntary consensus standard could be endorsed in future rulemaking as an alternative set of fire protection requirements to the existing regulations in 10 CFR 50.48, "Fire Protection." In SECY-00-0009, "Rulemaking Plan, Reactor Fire Protection Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Rulemaking," dated January 13, 2000 (Ref. 8), the NRC staff requested and received Commission approval to proceed with a rulemaking to permit reactor licensees to adopt NFPA 805 voluntarily as an alternative to existing fire protection requirements. On February 9, 2001, the NFPA Standards Council approved the 2001 Edition of NFPA 805 as an	None

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	American National Standard for performance-based fire protection for light-water nuclear power plants.	-
10	Effective July 16, 2004, the Commission amended its fire protection requirements in 10 CFR 50.48 to add 10 CFR 50.48(c), which incorporates by reference the 2001 Edition of NFPA 805, with certain exceptions, and allows licensees to apply for a license amendment to comply with the 2001 Edition of NFPA 805 (69 FR 33536). Subsequent editions of NFPA 805 have been issued but are not endorsed by the regulation.	None
11	In parallel with the Commission's efforts to promulgate a rule endorsing the risk-informed, performance-based fire protection provisions of NFPA 805, NEI worked with the industry to develop implementing guidance for the specific provisions of NFPA 805 and 10 CFR 50.48(c). NEI published such guidance in NEI 04-02, Revision 2, in April 2008. This regulatory guide provides the NRC staff's position on NEI 04-02 and offers additional information and guidance to supplement the NEI document and assist licensees in meeting the NRC's regulations related to adopting a risk-informed, performance-based FPP in 10 CFR 50.48(c).	Recommend change to "NEI worked with the industry and the NRC to develop". The NRC was extensively involved in the review and issuance of NEI 04-02 from its inception.
12	Fire Protection Program Changes Before the promulgation of 10 CFR 50.48(c), plants typically adopted a standard fire protection license condition. Under this condition, the licensee could make changes to the approved FPP, without prior NRC approval, only if the changes would not adversely affect the plant's ability to achieve and maintain safe shutdown in the event of a fire. Paragraph (c) in 10 CFR 50.48 requires licensees choosing to adopt NFPA 805 to identify license conditions to be revised or superseded. Licensees should request a new fire protection license condition that will define the revised bases for making changes to the approved NFPA 805 FPP without prior NRC approval.	Regulatory Guide 1.205 made specific reference to the regulatory position that defined the new license condition while DG-1218 does not. Suggest adding the appropriate reference to the correct regulatory position.
13	Appendices to NFPA 805 As discussed in the Statements of Considerations for the final	Regulatory Guide 1.205 has a statement "The staff finds the specific guidance contained in those appendices to be acceptable to the extent that the guidance is specifically endorsed within the positions

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	rulemaking (Ref. 5), which incorporated by reference NFPA 805, the appendices to NFPA 805 are not considered part of the rule. However, Appendices A-D of NFPA 805 provide information that may be useful to licensees in implementing the requirements of NFPA 805.	contained in Section C of this regulatory guide." This sentence has been deleted from DG-1218. Suggest that the sentence be added unless the there are no endorsements of any of the guidance in these appendices. If the staff does not endorse any guidance in those appendices then a statement to the affect should be added.
14	Fire Probabilistic Risk Assessment	First sentence on the possibility of transition to an NFPA 805-based
	Although a licensee may transition to an NFPA 805-based FPP	FPP without a fire PRA; it seems to imply that it may still be feasible to do so without a fire PRA. The reason given for using a fire PRA versus
	without a fire probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) model, the NRC anticipates that licensees will develop a plant-specific fire PRA in order to fully realize the safety and cost benefits of transitioning to NFPA 805. This is because a fire PRA forms the basis for risk-informed changes to the FPP that can be made without prior NRC review and approval under the revised plant license condition as described in Regulatory Position 3.1.	other methods is partially correct; however, it is not clear to what extent the fire PRA used during the transition may be updated or changed after the transition and is still considered acceptable derivatives of approved methods (in other words, approved PRA methods in NFPA 805 SER plus improved PRA update process according to accepted PRA practice as endorsed in Reg. Guide 1.200) without prior NRC approval. In addition, if a new regulatory requirement on the scope of fire PRA (shutdown and other external events) is promulgated, would it become necessary to expand the approved PRA model or its derivatives (updated and upgraded in accordance with prevailing Reg. Guides as applicable) which may change the conclusions of the importance or risk significance of certain selected FPP either favorably or adversely?
15	C. REGULATORY POSITION	None
	1. Nuclear Energy Institute Document NEI 04-02	•
	1.1 General	
	This regulatory guide endorses the guidance in NEI 04-02, Revision 2 (April 2008), which provides methods acceptable to the staff for adopting an FPP consistent with the 2001 Edition of NFPA 805 and 10 CFR 50.48(c), subject to the regulatory positions and exceptions described below.	
16	NEI 04-02 provides detailed guidance applicable to many of the regulatory requirements of 10 CFR 50.48(c) and NFPA 805. The guidance in this regulatory guide sets forth regulatory positions, emphasizes certain issues, clarifies the requirements of 10 CFR	Section 1.1, second paragraph, last sentence. Efforts should be undertaken to resolve difference between NEI 04-02, Rev. 2 and the position in the Regulatory Guide so that this last sentence can be

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	50.48(c) and NFPA 805, clarifies the guidance in NEI 04-02, and modifies the NEI 04-02 guidance where required. Should a conflict occur between NEI 04-02 and this regulatory guide, the positions in this regulatory guide govern.	deleted.
17	1.2 Exceptions and Clarifications	General – The NRC should cite specific sections of NEI 04-02
	Specific exceptions and clarifications of the NRC's endorsement of NEI 04-02 are as follows:	corresponding to the exceptions. Many exceptions are general and leave it up to licensees and inspectors to determine the lack of endorsement.
	a. The NRC's endorsement of NEI 04-02 does not imply the NRC's endorsement of the references cited in NEI 04-02. The guidance	a. None
	provided in these references has not necessarily been reviewed and approved by the NRC, except where specifically noted in this regulatory guide.	b. If the NRC takes exception or needs to provide clarification for any examples in NEI 04-02, they should be provided in Regulatory Position C.1.2.
examples are illustrative only, and each li an example is applicable to its particular of implementing the guidance as described c. NEI 04-02 often refers to requirements 50.48(c). In some cases, NEI 04-02 sugg are voluntary (e.g., "should" used in place required to comply with the applicable reg	b. NEI 04-02 includes examples to supplement the guidance. These examples are illustrative only, and each licensee should ensure that an example is applicable to its particular circumstances before	c. This statement is inappropriate. If the NRC needs to provide an exception or clarification in NEI 04-02, then this should be provided in Regulatory Position C.1.2.
	implementing the guidance as described in an example.	The discussion creates an opportunity for future re-interpretation of the
	c. NEI 04-02 often refers to requirements in NFPA 805 and 10 CFR 50.48(c). In some cases, NEI 04-02 suggests that the requirements are voluntary (e.g., "should" used in place of "shall"). Licensees are	regulatory requirements. The entire bullet item should be removed pending an interim updated to NEI 04-02 to reconcile the usage of 'should' and 'shall'.
	required to comply with the applicable regulations, unless an exemption is granted under 10 CFR 50.12, "Specific Exemptions."	d. None
	Licensees should follow the words of 10 CFR 50.48(c), which incorporates by reference the text of NFPA 805, 2001 Edition, if there are conflicts with NEI 04-02.	e. This statement is unnecessary the transition process, which was endorsed by Regulatory Guide 1.205, Revision 0 requires that a licensee review their entire program.
	d. NEI 04-02 states that licensees can use the performance-based methods of NFPA 805 to support changes to their current, pre- transition licensing bases. The NRC does not endorse this guidance, as it is not within the scope of this regulatory guide.	f. Recommend that the statement be changed to reflect the wording in NFPA 805
		"While the NRC endorses this guidance, the additional risk presented by the use of recovery actions shall be evaluated
	e. NEI 04-02 states "a substantial part of an existing fire protection program can be transitioned to a new NFPA 805 licensing basis by performing a transition review" While this statement may be true for	when the use of recovery actions has resulted in the use of the performance-based approach per NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4 (see Regulatory Position 2.4).
	some licensees, it should not be interpreted to mean that the existing FPP, a priori, complies with the requirements of 10 CFR 50.48(c).	Note this position is a revision from the guidance in NEI 04-02 and

Comment # Regulatory Guide Section Comment Licensees should verify that portions of the existing FPP that are to be Regulatory Guide 1.205 Revision 0 so "transitioned" do in fact comply with the requirements of NFPA 805. The exception made by DG-1218 is that NEI 04-02 requires that f. NEI 04-02 states that, if operator manual actions that are not allowed OMAs currently unallowed must be evaluated by the change process under the current regulatory framework or do not have previous NRC but the NRC position is that all recovery actions must be addressed by approval become recovery actions, they should be evaluated using the performance-based methods as required by NFPA 805 Section 4.2.4. change process. While the NRC endorses this guidance, all recovery While the statement is true, the intent is that unallowed OMAs must be actions must be addressed using performance-based methods, as evaluated by the change process but other recovery actions may be required by NFPA 805. Section 4.2.4 (see Regulatory Position 2.4). evaluated with other options provided in NFPA 805. Suggest rewording this exception to allow all the performance based options g. NEI 04-02 states that existing engineering equivalency evaluations under NFPA 805. (EEEEs) are an acceptable alternative to the deterministic requirements in NFPA 805, Section 4.2.3. The NRC endorses this In addition, the use of the phrase "all recovery actions must be guidance only if the conditions identified in Regulatory Position 2.3.2 addressed" may be in conflict with NFPA 805. This appears to be an are met. expansion of applicability beyond what is discussed in NFPA 805. A change of intent of applicability of statements in NFPA 805 would h. NEI 04-02 lists examples of changes that would not require a require Rulemaking. NFPA 805 section 4.2.3.1 indicates that the license amendment, after a plant has made the transition to NFPA definition of "Recovery Actions" is limited to those actions necessary to 805, using a plant-specific license condition that permits self-approval maintain a success path free of fire damage. of some changes. The NRC does not endorse this list. The plantspecific license condition identifies the types of changes that can be "Use of recovery actions to demonstrate availability of a success self-approved. path for the nuclear safety performance criteria automatically shall imply use of the performance-based approach as outlined in i. NEI 04-02 provides a sample standard license condition, which the 4.2.4." NRC does not endorse. The NRC-endorsed sample standard license condition is provided in Regulatory Position 3.1. g. None j. NEI 04-02 identifies FPP changes that require NRC review and h. Need explicit reference for lack of endorsement. approval before implementation. The NRC endorses this guidance i. The NRC changed the license condition without input from the with the following exception: combined changes also require prior industry. NRC review and approval if any part of those changes would fail to meet the risk acceptance criteria of the approved license condition j. None. (see Regulatory Position 3.2.3). k. This statement is not clear on the purpose of the lack of k. NEI 04-02 references a fire model verification and validation (V&V) endorsement and was not explained satisfactory by NRC staff at the standard. The NRC does not endorse the fire model V&V standard 4/29/09 meeting on this topic. referenced in NEI 04-02. An NRC analysis used the "Standard Guide I. None for Evaluating the Predictive Capability of Deterministic Fire Models" of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM E1355-05a, m. None

2005) (Ref. 9) as a standard to conduct V&V on parts of five different

n. This appears to implement a standard in SER development that did

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	fire models, as described in Regulatory Position 4.2.	not exist at the time the NRC approval was granted. NEI 04-02
	I. NEI 04-02, Section 1.5, states that the terms "current licensing basis (CLB)" and "pre-transitional fire protection licensing basis" are used interchangeably in the document. The NRC does not endorse the use	provides a legitimate approach to determining prior approval. These statements would be included in NEI 04-02 B-1 Table for the NRC's concurrence.
	of CLB in this context, because CLB is used in 10 CFR Part 54, "Requirements for Renewal of Operating Licenses for Nuclear Power Plants" (Ref. 10), and in 10 CFR 50.54(f) (Ref. 11) with a different meaning. The NRC has no objection to using "pre-transitional fire protection licensing basis."	o. The discussion includes a statement that can be interpreted to mean that the required information submittal includes the entire plant PRA and Fire PRA models and all related documentation. This interpretation would be inconsistent with current practice for risk-informed applications. Instead, it is suggested that the wording be
	m. NEI 04-02, Section 2.2.1, states that licensees can request the NRC's Office of General Counsel for an informal NRC opinion of the acceptability of an interpretation by the NFPA. The NRC Office of	modified as follows: The licensee should ensure that it submits sufficient information for the NRC to make its safety finding on the application.
	General Counsel does not provide informal advice or informal interpretations to outside entities.	The suggested wording change is consistent with wording in Section 2.2.2 and 2.2.3.
	n. NEI 04-02, Section 2.3.1, includes two bulleted items that set forth strategies a licensee may use to demonstrate prior NRC approval of a particular FPP attribute. The NRC does not endorse the second bullet, which contains a discussion that would imply that there can be tacit acceptance by the NRC of a particular FPP attribute. The NRC's acceptance should be demonstrated either by an explicit statement of the particular FPP attribute, or by a demonstration that a specific FPP attribute was explicitly made known to the NRC and that the NRC's acceptance can reasonably be interpreted as including the specific	This section takes exception to NEI 04-02 Section 4.6.1 since the list may be incomplete. However, only one example is provided and regulatory position 2.2 does not provide any additional guidance. When an exception is taken to NEI 04-02 the staff's position should be clearly stated such that a licensee has sufficient guidance to ensure compliance. This exception and the guidance in regulatory position 2.2 are vague and will lead to interpretations by individual licensees and potential rejection by the staff.
	FPP attribute.	p. None
	o. Section 4.6.1 of NEI 04-02 provides a list of key items that should be included in a license amendment request. Appendix H to NEI 04-02 provides a license amendment template. The information provided may not be complete; for example, the list in Section 4.6.1 does not include submitting information to support the quality of the PRA models or the use of such models in performing NFPA 805 risk assessments. The licensee should ensure that it submits all information required by applicable regulations and necessary for the NRC to make its safety finding on the application. The NRC will	q. None
,	determine the acceptability of the application in accordance with its regulations and procedures, including 10 CFR Part 2, "Rules of	

Comment #	Regulatory Guide Section	Comment
	Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings and Issuance of Orders" (Ref. 12).	
	p. NEI 04-02, Section 2.3.3, discusses the NRC's interim enforcement discretion policy pertaining to licensees that make the transition to NFPA 805. The NRC does not endorse this section because it is out of date and does not properly characterize the NRC's policy. Licensees should consult the NRC Web site for current information on enforcement discretion at http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/enforcement/enforce-pol.html).	
	q. Appendix D to NEI 04-02 and Appendix C to NFPA 805 contain detailed discussions that may be useful to licensees in determining which fire models to use and in applying those fire models within their limitations. However, the NRC only endorses these appendices to the extent described in Regulatory Position 4.2. Analyses performed by licensees using the information in these appendices should include adequate technical justification for methodologies and data, as appropriate.	
18	2. License Transition Process	Will the NRC be providing information on how the review will be
	2.1 <u>Transition Schedule</u>	conducted such as the timing and order they will be performed? Based on the number submittals and NRC resources. Some plants
•	Paragraph (c) in 10 CFR 50.48 does not mandate a specific schedule for implementing an FPP that meets the provisions of NFPA 805.	could see 3 years before there LAR is approved.
	However, the statement of considerations for 10 CFR 50.48(c) states that the license amendment approving a licensee's request to use NFPA 805 will include a license condition imposing the use of NFPA 805, together with an implementation schedule. Licensees should include an implementation schedule with their request to adopt an NFPA 805 FPP. Also, licensees that wish to take advantage of the Commission's interim enforcement discretion policy for fire protection will need to establish an implementation schedule consistent with that enforcement policy.	This section discusses an implementation schedule. One aspect is a schedule that is consistent with the enforcement discretion policy. However, the enforcement discretion policy is not concerned with the time it takes to implement the NFPA 805 program but the time limit is defined with respect to the issuance of the license amendment request. Suggest the sentence with regard to enforcement discretion be deleted unless the staff wishes to provide additional guidance in this area.
19	2.2 License Amendment Request	None
	2.2.1 Uncertain Elements of Current Fire Protection Programs	

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	The NRC may not have specifically approved certain aspects of the plant's current FPP (e.g., through an approved 10 CFR 50.12 exemption request). This has resulted in uncertainty in licensees' fire protection licensing bases. Licensees should submit uncertain elements of their plant's FPP, such as the crediting of recovery actions and circuit analysis methods, if they want explicit approval of these elements under 10 CFR 50.48(c). Any submittal addressing these FPP elements should include sufficient detail to allow the NRC to assess whether the licensee's treatment of these elements meets 10 CFR 50.48(c) requirements.	
20	2.2.2 Performance-Based Methods for Fire Protection Program Elements and Minimum Design Requirements	None
	Under 10 CFR 50.48(c)(2)(vii), a licensee may request NRC approval (by license amendment) to use NFPA 805 performance-based methods in determining the licensee's compliance with the FPP elements and minimum design requirements in Chapter 3 of NFPA 805. A licensee should provide sufficient information in the license amendment request to allow the NRC staff to determine that the performance-based approach:	
	 a. satisfies the performance goals, performance objectives, and performance criteria specified in NFPA 805 related to nuclear safety and radiological release; 	
	b. maintains safety margins; and	
	 c. maintains fire protection defense in depth (fire prevention, fire detection, fire suppression, mitigation, and post-fire safe-shutdown capability). 	
21	2.2.3 Risk-Informed or Performance-Based Alternatives to Compliance with NFPA 805	Section 2.2.3, first paragraph, first sentence: The wording as stated could cause the unintended re-interpretation of the requirements of the
	Under 10 CFR 50.48(c)(4), a licensee may request NRC approval (by license amendment) of the use of alternative risk-informed or performance-based methods (i.e., methods that differ from those prescribed by NFPA 805) to demonstrate compliance with 10 CFR 50.48(c). A licensee should provide sufficient information in the	Regulation. To avoid this potential, the following wording change is recommended: Under 10 CFR 50.48(c)(4), a licensee may request NRC approval (by license amendment) of the use of alternative risk-informed or performance-based methods (i.e., methods that differ from those

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	license amendment request to allow the NRC staff to determine that the proposed alternatives:	prescribed by NFPA 805 as clarified or otherwise stipulated in this Regulatory Guide) to demonstrate compliance with 10 CFF
	 a. satisfy the performance goals, performance objectives, and performance criteria specified in NFPA 805 related to nuclear safety and radiological release; 	50.48(c).
	b. maintain safety margins; and	
	c. maintain fire protection defense in depth (fire prevention, fire detection, fire suppression, mitigation, and post-fire safe-shutdown capability)	
22	A license amendment request can either describe alternative risk- informed, performance-based methods that have been approved by the NRC before their incorporation in the licensee's FPP or refer to alternative risk-informed, performance-based methods that are documented in topical reports that have been previously approved by the NRC and through which the licensee can demonstrate that the alternative is applicable for its intended use.	Recommend not limiting the alternative methods to "topical reports". The process should allow the FAQ/NEI 04-02 process and endorsement in subsequent revisions to Regulatory Guide 1.205 Revision 0 as an acceptable process.
		The draft revision Regulatory Guide appears to call for the use of NRC-approved methods, or methods based on topical reports previously approved by the NRC, whereas the current revision allows a licensee to request NRC approval of the method via the license amendment. Additionally, the current revision specifies that "methods means NFPA 805, while the draft revision could be interpreted to refer to NUREG 6850 and thus require the use of that methodology or another methodology from an NRC-approved topical report.
23	The license amendment request should include complete and concise details of each of the proposed methods. Where the performance-based methods have been adequately described in the license amendment request and have been accepted by the NRC, these methods may be applied to the licensee's FPP upon issuance of a license amendment approving the methods. A licensee may apply these approved methods within the limits specifically described in its licensing basis to implement plant changes that affect the FPP.	None
24	Licensee self-approval of FPP changes using approved performance- based methods may be granted in the fire protection license condition when appropriate. Subsequent changes to the approved performance-	Recommend changing to
		"Licensee self-approval of FPP changes using approved performance-based methods that are alternatives to NFPA 805

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	based methodology must be submitted for NRC review and approval (through a license amendment request) before being applied to the licensee's FPP.	may be granted in the fire protection license condition when appropriate. Subsequent changes to the approved performance-based methodology that is an alternative to NFPA 805 must be submitted for NRC review and approval (through a license amendment request) before being applied to the licensee's FPP."
25	2.2.4 Risk Evaluations The license amendment request should clearly demonstrate that the requirements of 10 CFR 50.48(c) and NFPA 805 will be met once transition is complete. This includes providing analyses and results of any required risk assessments. The use of the NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4.2, fire risk evaluation requires comparing the difference in risk between the deterministic requirements of NFPA 805, Section 4.2.3, and the proposed alternative. If the use of recovery actions has led to the performance-based approach, the additional risk presented by their use must be evaluated in accordance with NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4. This risk evaluation should use fire modeling or other engineering analyses (e.g., NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4.1) or probabilistic methods (e.g., NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4.2). A bounding approach may be acceptable. Any risk increases may be combined with risk decreases when estimating the total risk change to be reported in the license amendment request, as described in Regulatory Position 3.2.5.	Comment 1 - The current revision does not indicate that the licensee would be expected to submit detailed risk analyses as part of their LAR. Regulatory Guide 1.200, R2 was supposed to reduce the extent of information that the licensee was expected to submit for NRC review. Recommend following changes for clarification: "The license amendment request should clearly demonstrate that the requirements of 10 CFR 50.48(c) and NFPA 805 will be met once transition is complete. This includes providing analyses and results of any required risk assessments. The use of the NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4.2, fire risk evaluation requires comparing the difference in risk between the deterministic requirements of NFPA 805, Section 4.2.3, and the proposed alternative. If the use of recovery actions has led to the performance-based approach, the additional risk presented by their use must be evaluated in accordance with NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4. This risk evaluation should use fire modeling or other engineering analyses (e.g., NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4.1) or fire risk evaluation probabilistic methods (e.g., NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4.2). A bounding approach may be acceptable. Any risk increases may be combined with risk decreases when estimating the total risk change to be reported in the license amendment request, as described in Regulatory Position 3.2.5."
		includes the "pre-transition fire protection licensing basis, as depicted in Figure 2-2 of NFPA 805. Comment 2 - This section states that the change is risk is the difference between the post-transition plant configuration and the NFPA 805, Section 4.2.3 deterministically compliant configuration.

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		This is a major change in staff position from Regulatory Guide 1.205 Revision 0. Regulatory Guide 1.205 in regulatory position C.2.2 states "The total risk increase associated with all FPP noncompliances (based on current deterministic FPP regulations) that the licensee does not intend to bring into compliance and the total risk change associated with plant changes planned for the transition to NFPA 805 should be estimated and reported in the license amendment request." This directly conflict the statement in DG-1218 C.2.2.4 that discusses the change in risk with the NFPA 804 Section 4.2.3 compliance. NFPA 805 Section 2.2.9 describes a plant change evaluation as a change to a previously approved FPP element. NFPA 805 Section 2.4.4 states "A plant change evaluation shall be performed to ensure that a change to a program element is acceptable." Both sections reference "a previously approve fire protection program element" therefore, the previously approved fire protection program element is based on current FPP regulations as modified by currently approved exemptions and deviations and not NFPA 805 Section 4.2.3. A current noncompliance is against the current FPP regulations and not NFPA 805. Issues that comply with current FPP regulations as modified by approved exemptions and deviations are not considered a change and do not require a change evaluation or reporting of the risk increase due to a change.
		Comment 3 - The current wording creates confusion as to whether the additional risk to be evaluated for Recovery Actions need be considered in a manner that would otherwise be required for Change Evaluations and the associated acceptance criteria. The source of confusion revolves around the use of the term 'change in risk' as it is used in the context of Change Evaluations and Recovery Actions. To avoid this potential source of confusion, the following wording changes are recommended:
		The license amendment request should clearly demonstrate that the requirements of 10 CFR 50.48(c) and NFPA 805 will be met once transition is complete. This includes providing analyses and results of any required risk assessments. The use of the NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4.2, fire risk evaluation requires comparing the difference in risk between the deterministic requirements of NFPA 805, Section 4.2.3, and the proposed alternative. If the use of

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		recovery actions has led to the performance-based approach, the
		additional risk presented by their use must be evaluated in
		accordance with NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4. However, such
		evaluations are not Change Evaluations that would otherw
		be required by NFPA 805, Section 2.4.4. The risk evaluation
		should use fire modeling or other engineering analyses (e.g.,
		NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4.1) or probabilistic methods (e.g., NFF
		805, Section 4.2.4.2). A bounding approach may be acceptable
		When performed in support of Change Evaluations, any ris
		increases may be combined with risk decreases when estimat
		the total risk change to be reported in the license amendment
		request, as described in Regulatory Position 3.2.5.
		The change in risk (both in terms of core damage frequency (C
		and large early release frequency (LERF))associated with
		Change Evaluations required by NFPA 805, Section 2.4.4
		should be determined and provided individually for each fire a
		and collectively for all fire areas that do not meet the determini
		requirements of NFPA 805, as clarified by the provisions
		described in Section 2.3 of this Regulatory Guide, and for
		which a quantitative risk-informed, performance-based approa
	,	applied using NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4.2. The change in risk
		should be the difference between the post-transition plant
		configuration and the NFPA 805, Section 4.2.3, deterministica
		compliant configuration as clarified by the provisions of Sec
		2.3 of this Regulatory Guide.
		The total change in risk arising from the NFPA 805, Section
		2.4.4 required Change Evaluations associated with the
		implementation of NFPA 805 should be consistent with the
		acceptance guidelines in Regulatory Guide 1.174, "An Approa
		for Using Probabilistic Risk Assessment in Risk-Informed
		Decisions on Plant-Specific Changes to the Licensing Basis,"
		issued November 2004 (Ref. 13). The quality of the risk
		assessments should be consistent with Regulatory Position 4.

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26	The change in risk (both in terms of core damage frequency (CDF) and large early release frequency (LERF)) should be determined and provided individually for each fire area and collectively for all fire areas that do not meet the deterministic requirements of NFPA 805 and for which a quantitative risk-informed, performance-based approach is applied using NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4.2. The change in risk should be the difference between the post-transition plant configuration and the NFPA 805, Section 4.2.3, deterministically compliant configuration.	Recommend adding the following clarification:
		Note that the deterministic approach in Section 4.2.3 of NFPA 805 includes the "pre-transition fire protection licensing basis, as depicted in Figure 2-2 of NFPA 805.
		The current revision of the Regulatory Guide does not discuss determination of change in risk for each fire area individually and collectively.
27	The total change in risk associated with the implementation of NFPA 805 should be consistent with the acceptance guidelines in Regulatory Guide 1.174, "An Approach for Using Probabilistic Risk Assessment in Risk-Informed Decisions on Plant-Specific Changes to the Licensing Basis," issued November 2004 (Ref. 13). The quality of the risk assessments should be consistent with Regulatory Position 4.3.	Recommend removing this acceptance criterion since it is not a requirement of NFPA 805 and may place unnecessary complications with the transition process.
28	Upon completing the transition to an NFPA 805 licensing basis, including completing all plant modifications and changes that the licensee has committed to make, the baseline risk will be the risk of the plant as-built, as-operated, and maintained from that point onward, according to the NRC-approved FPP licensing basis.	None .
29	2.2.5 Non-power Operational Modes	None
	The scope of NFPA 805 requires licensees to address the impacts of fires during all phases of plant operation, including shutdown, degraded conditions, and decommissioning. Section 4.3.3 and Appendix F to NEI 04-02 provide detailed guidance on one acceptable approach to addressing fires during non-power operational modes.	
30	2.2.6 Radioactive Release Transition	This statement should be revised to reflect FAQ 56 resolution.
	A licensee's FPP must comply with the radioactive release performance criteria in NFPA 805, Section 1.5.2. The license amendment request should clearly demonstrate that this requirement will be met once the transition is complete. The licensee should address methods for achieving the performance criteria for both smoke and suppression agents, on a fire-area-by-fire-area basis, during full-power and low- or non-power operations, and address the	

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	potential for cross-contamination (water run-off and smoke from a contaminated area being directed through an uncontaminated area), and include the following:	
	 a. the methodology used to identify which systems, components, and flow paths are used to meet the release criteria; 	
	 b. the identification of FPP elements, including measures, systems, procedural control actions, and flow paths, credited to meet the criteria; 	
	 c. a description of plant programs, such as fire brigade training and equipment maintenance, that are relied upon to sustain equipment reliability and fire brigade performance; and 	
	d. a bounding analysis, qualitative risk analysis, or quantitative risk analysis that demonstrates the release criteria have been met.	
	NEI 04-02 Section 4.3.4 and Appendix G provide additional guidance related to this topic.	
31	2.3 Carryover of Current Fire Protection Programs into NFPA 805	None
	In certain cases, the NRC may have granted exemptions or deviations from the licensee's current FPP that would be acceptable alternatives to the NFPA 805 requirements. Where prior NRC approval of such alternatives exists, licensees should reference documentation of that approval.	
32	2.3.1 Previously NRC-Approved Alternatives to NFPA 805, Chapter 3, Fundamental Fire Protection Program and Design Elements	The term "exemption" is not an appropriate reference since most plants do not have "exemptions" from topics now addressed by NFPA 805 Chapter 3.
	NFPA 805 states that previously approved alternatives to the fundamental FPP attributes identified in Chapter 3 take precedence over the requirements in NFPA 805, Chapter 3. Existing exemptions to these Chapter 3 attributes are previously approved alternatives from the fundamental protection program attributes and, therefore, take precedence over the requirements in NFPA 805, Chapter 3, provided the NRC staff determines that the licensee has acceptably addressed the continued validity of any exemption in effect at the time of	This section implies that prior NRC approval is only via an exemption. This is not correct. The exemption process was heavily used as part of the compliance effort for 10 CFR 50 Appendix R. However, the NRC staff approved many unique fire protection program elements prior to Appendix R with just the SER process. Suggest that this section be changed to acknowledge that FPP elements could have been previously approved via a SER. In addition, there are some approvals in a SER that should have been approved exemption but were never

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	application. The term "valid" used in this context means that the technical basis for approval of the original exemption still applies and is correct (e.g., plant modifications or other changes have not invalidated the assumptions or analysis that formed the basis for the exemption; new information has not surfaced that would invalidate the original finding).	processed as an exemption. The staff has stated that they would approve such exemption requests provided they are still valid. However, for a plant transitioning to NFPA 805 this would appear to be an unnecessary step.
33	The NRC's approval of the licensee's request to implement an FPP based on NFPA 805 should reference the valid exemption as the basis for meeting the applicable Chapter 3 requirement. The NRC will ordinarily rescind the original exemption in the license amendment, since the NRC's approval to use 10 CFR 50.48(c) and NFPA 805 in most cases effectively negates the licensee's need for the exemption.	The term "exemption" is not an appropriate reference since most plants do not have "exemptions" from topics now addressed by NFPA 805 Chapter 3.
34	2.3.2 Previously NRC-Approved Alternatives to NFPA 805, Section 4.2.3, Deterministic Requirements	None
	NFPA 805, Section 2.2.7, defines EEEEs and states that, when applying a deterministic approach, EEEEs may be used to demonstrate compliance with the specific deterministic fire protection design requirements in Chapter 4 for existing plant configurations. These EEEEs are required to clearly demonstrate an equivalent level of fire protection compared to the deterministic requirements.	
35	In the past, licensees have requested and received exemptions to the specific requirements in current fire protection regulations (i.e.,	Clarification should be provided that a change evaluation is not necessary if a recovery action is addressed by an exemption.
	Appendix R). Existing exemptions may be used to demonstrate compliance with the specific deterministic fire protection design requirements in Chapter 4 of NFPA 805, provided the NRC staff determines that the licensee has acceptably addressed the continued validity of any exemption in effect at the time of application and that the exemption does not involve a recovery action as defined in NFPA 805, Section 1.6.52 (see also Regulatory Position 2.4). The term "valid" used in this context means that the technical basis for approval of the original exemption still applies and is correct (e.g., plant modifications or other changes have not invalidated the assumptions or analysis that formed the basis for the exemption; new information	This section does not address post-1979 plants which do not have exemptions from Appendix R requirements.
		This paragraph allows the use of approved exemptions to meet chapter 4 requirements except if it involves a recovery action as defined in NFPA 805 Section 1.6.52. However, having an existing exemption would indicate compliance with the current FPP regulation and therefore this recovery action does not represent a change that would have to be evaluated via the change process. The risk of such an action would still have to be evaluated. In addition, chapter 4 of NFPA 805 narrows the definition of a recovery action with respect to deterministic compliance (Section 4.2.3). Section 4.2.3.1 states that

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	has not surfaced that would invalidate the original finding).	one success path be free from fire damage without the use of recovery actions. Therefore, actions that do not involve the credited success path do not invalidate the deterministic approach as defined by NFPA 805. Previously R. G. 1.205 stated that "Operator manual actions credited for protection of redundant trains, in lieu of Appendix R III.G.2 protection, do not meet deterministic requirements in chapter 4 of NFPA 805. Consequently, unless specifically approved by the NRC, these operator manual actions should be addressed as plant changes." This concept from R. G. 1.205 should be incorporated into DG-1218.
36	The NRC's approval of the licensee's request to implement an FPP based on NFPA 805 should reference the valid exemption as the basis for demonstrating an equivalent level of fire protection as permitted under Section 2.2.7 of NFPA 805. The NRC will ordinarily rescind the original exemption in the license amendment, since the NRC's approval to use 10 CFR 50.48(c) and NFPA 805 in most cases effectively negates the licensee's need for the exemption.	This section does not address post-1979 plants which do not have exemptions from Appendix R requirements.
37	to demonstrate equivalency to the deterministic requirements in cases where an exemption was not granted, provided the following are true: a. The EEEE demonstrates an equivalent level of fire protection 4.	Recommend changes:
		a. The EEEE demonstrates an equivalent level of fire protection compared to the deterministic requirements in NFPA 805, Chapter
		·
	compared to the deterministic requirements in NFPA 805, Chapter 4.	b. The EEEE is <u>not</u> based <u>solely on risk-informed</u> en
	b. The EEEE is based on deterministic and not performance-based methods.c. The EEEE does not include any recovery actions as defined in	deterministic and not performance based methods. c. The EEEE does not include any recovery actions as defined
		in NFPA 805, Section 1.6.52.
1	NFPA 805, Section 1.6.52.	The bulleted list provides acceptance of EEEEs. This differs from
	One type of EEEE, commonly referred to as a "Generic Letter 86-10 (GL 86-10) evaluation" (Ref. 14), permits licensees that have adopted	Regulatory Guide 1.205. DG-1218 states that the EEEE must be deterministic and not performance based while Regulatory Guide
	the GL 86-10 fire protection license condition to make changes to their	1.205 states that the EEE must be deterministic and not based on risk
	approved FPP without prior NRC approval if those changes would not adversely affect the ability to achieve and maintain safe shutdown in	calculation. Regulatory Guide 1.205 is correct. The determination of equivalency is a performance based type of analysis (e.g. the existing
	the event of a fire. These changes may not have been reviewed and	FPP feature performs equivalent to the compliant FPP feature). It is acknowledged that the use of risk is not permitted. Suggest adopting

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	equivalent level of fire protection compared to the deterministic requirements required by Section 2.2.7 of NFPA 805. A GL 86-10 evaluation that meets the three conditions listed above for EEEEs, shows no adverse effect on safe shutdown, and is permitted under the licensee's current licensing basis, is one acceptable means of meeting the EEEE acceptance criterion above.	the words from Regulatory Guide 1.205
	NEI 04-02, Section 4.1.1, notes that the licensee should review EEEEs during the transition process to ensure that the quality level and basis for acceptability are still valid. Except as noted above, satisfactory results from this review should provide an adequate basis to show that the EEEEs meet the deterministic requirements of Chapter 4 of NFPA 805. Guidance for acceptable EEEEs appears in Section 9.5.1 of NUREG-0800, Revision 5, "Standard Review Plan for the Review of Safety Analysis Reports for Nuclear Power Plants," issued March 2007 (Ref. 15), and in Regulatory Guide 1.189, "Fire Protection for Nuclear Power Plants," issued March 2007 (Ref. 16).	
	EEEEs that support deviations from the requirements or methods of NFPA 805 must be submitted for NRC approval in accordance with 10 CFR 50.48(c). Of the EEEEs that the NRC must approve, those that are preexisting and those performed during the transition to an NFPA 805 licensing basis should be submitted with the fire protection license amendment request.	
38	2.4 Recovery Actions	Recommended changes:
	Recovery actions as defined in NFPA 805, Section 1.6.52, do not meet the deterministic requirements in Section 4.2.3 of NFPA 805. Consequently, the licensee must address recovery actions, whether or not previously approved by the NRC, using the performance-based methods in Section 4.2.4, as required by NFPA 805, Section 4.2.3.1, and must evaluate the additional risk of their use according to NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4.	Recovery actions as defined in NFPA 805, Section 1.6.52, do not meet the deterministic requirements in Section 4.2.3 of NFPA 805. Consequently, the licensee must address recovery actions, whether or not previously approved by the NRC, using the performance-based methods in Section 4.2.4, as implied required -by NFPA 805, Section 4.2.3.1, and must evaluate the additional risk presented by ef their use according to NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4.
		Section 2.4, first paragraph: the requirements for risk evaluations and risk increases can cause future confusions as to the specific extent of the requirements. The following wording change is recommended to avoid such potential future confusion:

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		Recovery actions as defined in NFPA 805, Section 1.6.52, do not meet the deterministic requirements in Section 4.2.3 of NFPA 805. Consequently, the licensee must address recovery actions, whether or not previously approved by the NRC, using the performance-based methods in Section 4.2.4, as required by NFPA 805, Section 4.2.3.1, and must evaluate the additional risk of their use according to NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4. However, such evaluations are not Change Evaluations that would otherwise be required to meet NFPA 805, Section 2.4.4 and any quantified risk need not be aggregated with other results arising from Change Evaluations.
		The statements in the DG appear to be based a very idealized interpretation of how Appendix R was implemented. This "interpretation" ("opinion" really) is not supported by actual plant design, or Licensing history regarding Appendix R compliance.
		The statements appear to reflect a preference that it is possible to construct an "ideal" Remote Shutdown capability that provides a train free of fire damage and ALSO intercepts all non-credited circuits on the other trains that could cause inadvertent actuations that could complicate the shutdown. There is no way to construct such a Remote Shutdown panel without making the safe shutdown provisions for a fire at the RSP from being as complex (or more complex) than the Main Control Room.
		In the spirit of "safe today, safe tomorrow", it would seem that every site's pre-existing remote/alternative shutdown capability "is what it is", and was required to be approved by the NRC as part of the licensing of the "Dedicated/Alternative" provisions in the existing licensing basis
		This seems like all it is doing is penalizing plants for complying with Appendix R.
		This section describes the definition of recovery actions per NFPA 805 Section 1.6.52. However, it ignores the qualification provided by NFPA 805 Section 4.2.3.1. Section 4.2.3.1 states that one success path be free from fire damage without the use of recovery actions. Therefore, actions that do not involve the credited success path do not invalidate the deterministic approach as defined by NFPA 805. This section then

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		attempts to describe alternate shutdown areas and the requirements. Alternate shutdown areas were typically approved by the staff during the original Appendix R compliance efforts. Therefore, they constitute prior NRC approval and are compliant with the current FPP regulations. Based on this they are not considered a change and the risk associated with these areas does not have to be reported as part of the change in risk for the transition to NFPA 805. It is acknowledged that the risk of any recovery actions has to be evaluated.
39	NFPA 805, Section 1.6.52, defines a recovery action as "activities to achieve the nuclear safety performance criteria that take place outside of the main control room or outside of the primary control station(s) for the equipment being operated, including the replacement or modification of components."	None
40	For components that have controls in the main control room, operation of that component from any other location would be considered a recovery action if such operation were needed to achieve the nuclear safety performance criteria. For components that do not have controls in the main control room, the primary control station is that location from which the component would normally be operated.	There needs to be an endorsement of the FAQ 07-0030 process for determining the scope of recovery actions.
41	Therefore, the following applies to primary control stations: a. The control station for a system or component is considered to be primary if it is the location where that system or component is normally operated. This situation applies to various auxiliary systems that are normally operated at a local control station by in-plant operators. NFPA 805 allows the use of this equipment using the local control station without considering it a recovery action.	The benefit of providing these explicit criteria is not evident. There are a number of different configurations at nuclear plants and the benefits of performing an extensive categorization based on these criteria are not understood, given that characterization of fire risk is actually performed at a broader level in "state of the art" Fire PRAs.
	b. The controls for a system or component specifically installed to meet the "dedicated shutdown" option of Appendix R, Section III.G.3, are also considered to be primary. A system or component that has been specifically installed under the dedicated shutdown concept is a system or component that is operated from a location outside the control room (normally the remote, or alternate, shutdown panel) and is fully separated from the fire area where its use is credited. Similar	

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	to the previous item, this component <u>cannot</u> be operated from the control room. Operation of dedicated shutdown equipment from the remote, or alternate, shutdown panel would not be considered a recovery action since this would be the primary control station.	
42	A special case exists for the controls for systems and components that have been modified to meet the "alternative shutdown" option in Appendix R, Section III.G.3, to 10 CFR Part 50, to provide independence and electrical separation from the control room to address a fire-induced control room evacuation. (This configuration is normally referred to as either a "remote shutdown panel" or "auxiliary shutdown panel.") These systems and components rely on a recovery action to achieve the design intent. This recovery action includes the decision to abandon the main control room and transfer control to the remote shutdown panel, as well as any actions needed to make the transfer (e.g., electrical transition). Once the recovery action is completed, the remote shutdown panel may be considered a "primary control station" under NFPA 805 rules. Note that this is only after the recovery action has electrically isolated the panel. The additional risk of this recovery action must be evaluated according to NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4. This risk assessment should consider such factors as the time required to: detect the fire; reach untenable conditions in the control room (or reach a challenging fire in another fire area where the remote shutdown panel is credited); make the decision to proceed to the remote, or auxiliary, shutdown panel; and complete the transfer to an alternative shutdown configuration.	The benefit of providing these explicit criteria is not evident. There are a number of different configurations at nuclear plants and the benefits of performing an extensive categorization based on these criteria are not understood, given that characterization of fire risk is actually performed at a broader level in "state of the art" Fire PRAs.
43	To be considered a primary control station as discussed above, the remote, or alternative, shutdown panel should meet the following criteria:	The benefit of providing these explicit criteria is not evident. There are a number of different configurations at nuclear plants and the benefits of performing an extensive categorization based on these criteria are
	a. The location should be considered the primary command and control center when the main control room can no longer be used. The control room team will evacuate to this location and use its alternative shutdown controls to safely shut down the plant.	not understood, given that characterization of fire risk is actually performed at a broader level in "state of the art" Fire PRAs.
	b. The location should have the requisite system and component	

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	controls, plant parameter indications, and communications so that the operator can adequately and safely monitor and control the plant using the alternative shutdown equipment.	
	c. There should be more than one component being controlled from this location (a local control station provided to allow an individual component to be locally controlled, as in the local handwheel on a motor-operated valve, does <u>not</u> meet this definition).	
44	3. NFPA 805 Fire Protection Program	None
	NFPA 805 refers to "the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ)." The NRC is the AHJ for purposes of nuclear health and safety and common defense and security.	
45		Once the language of this standard license condition are agreed upon,
	As specified in 10 CFR 50.48(c)(3)(i), the license amendment request must identify any license conditions to be revised or superseded. Paragraph (c) in 10 CFR 50.48 and NFPA 805 identify aspects of a performance-based FPP that must be specifically approved by the NRC through a license amendment. It is the intent of 10 CFR 50.48(c) to allow certain changes to be made to the FPP without prior NRC review and approval, once the NRC approves the transition to an FPP controlled by NFPA 805. This intent is reflected in the regulatory analysis for 10 CFR 50.48(c), which states, "Licensees choosing to use the flexibilities provided by the rulemaking could use risk-informed and performance-based approaches and methods in NFPA 805, rather than submitting an exemption or deviation request each time they wish to depart from current requirements."	are all transition plants required to use this wording going forward? It is stated that the risk assessment approach, methods, and data shall be appropriate for the nature and scope of the change being evaluated. Further clarification or guidance is needed on the definition of "methods", "data", and "appropriate". Previously approved methods (no mention of the embedded or implied data or assumptions or sources of uncertainties) only was mentioned with respect to no need for prior NRC approval. Given the evolving nature of the methods, clarification of what constitutes NRC approval of generic methods for use in NFPA 805 risk assessments is essential. Are methods used by the pilot plants and other non-pilot plants which receive SERs considered as previously approved methods and can be used without prior NRC approval?
		This license condition differs from that originally proposed by Regulatory Guide 1.205. The key difference is the transition license conditions. Transition condition 1 would bar all FPP changes until full compliance is achieved. By transition condition 2 this is implied when all modifications are complete. This sets up a condition where even risk beneficial modifications cannot be implemented. In addition, even the modification required for compliance may be in this situation if the were not evaluated and approved under the old license condition.

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		Once a LAR is approved, the programmatic aspects of the NFPA 805 will be implemented in the agreed upon schedule but modification may not be complete. Transition condition 3 ensures plant safety by maintaining appropriate compensatory measures. There will also be a list of changes evaluated under the old license condition that occurred in the time from the LAR submittal to the time of approval that will have to be evaluated by the new license condition. The transition condition 1 would prevent that effort and lead to a program that does not meet the as-built, as operated plant. Transition condition 1 should be deleted.
46	The NRC intends to provide this flexibility to make certain changes without prior NRC review and approval in a license condition for	A number of cross references were added to the Regulatory Guide 1.205 Rev. 0 license condition,
	licensees that make the transition to 10 CFR 50.48(c). A sample license condition, which includes acceptance criteria for making changes to the licensee's FPP without prior NRC review and approval,	"and provided no other regulation, technical specification, license condition or requirement would require prior NRC approval"
	is shown below. The application of these risk acceptance criteria requires that the plant have an acceptable fire PRA that is in accordance with the guidance in Regulatory Position 4.3:	These statements appear "open ended". Other processes for license amendment requests should be "stand alone" and not require cross reference within a 10 CFR 50.48(c) license condition.
	(Name of Licensee) shall implement and maintain in effect all provisions of the approved fire protection program that comply with 10 CFR 50.48(a) and 10 CFR 50.48(c), as specified in the licensee amendment request dated and as approved in the safety evaluation report dated (and supplements dated). Except where NRC approval for changes or deviations is required by 10 CFR 50.48(c) and NFPA 805, and provided no other regulation, technical specification, license condition or requirement would require prior NRC approval, the licensee may make changes to the fire protection program without prior approval of the Commission if those changes satisfy the provisions set forth in 10 CFR 50.48(a) and 10 CFR 50.48(c), the change does not require a change to a technical specification or a license condition, and the criteria listed below are satisfied.	
47	Risk-Informed Changes that May Be Made Without Prior NRC Approval	The risk assessment of the change will use methods previously approved by the NRC. Previously approved methods may include
	A risk assessment of the change must demonstrate that the acceptance criteria below are met. The risk assessment approach, methods, and data shall be appropriate for the nature and scope of the change being evaluated, be based on the as-built, as-operated, and	plant-specific NRC approval through a license amendment or NRC approval of generic methods specifically for use in NFPA 805 risk assessments, where the NRC's generic approval clearly states that the method may be applied without a plant-specific license

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	maintained plant, and reflect the operating experience at the plant. The risk assessment of the change will use methods previously approved by the NRC. Previously approved methods may include plant-specific NRC approval through a license amendment or NRC approval of generic methods specifically for use in NFPA 805 risk assessments, where the NRC's generic approval clearly states that the method may be applied without a plant-specific license amendment being granted. (a) Prior NRC review and approval is not required for changes that clearly result in a decrease in risk. The proposed change must also be consistent with the defense in depth philosophy and must maintain sufficient safety margins. The change may be implemented following completion of the change evaluation. (b) Prior NRC review and approval is not required for individual changes that result in a risk increase less than 1 x 10 /yr for CDF and less than 1 x 10 /yr for LERF. The proposed change must also be consistent with the defense in depth philosophy and must maintain sufficient safety margins. The change may be implemented following completion of the change evaluation.	amendment being granted. The current revision, however, only specified that the fire PRA should be acceptable according to a peer review performed against a standard endorsed by the NRC. As the NRC recently endorsed the combined ASME/ANS PRA Standard, which includes criteria regarding the technical adequacy of a fire PRA, a peer review performed using this standard would be considered sufficient under the current form of the RG. It is possible for a licensee to satisfy the criteria that the fire PRA be acceptable according to a peer review using this standard, even without using specific methods approved by the NRC. The current language should remain in the next revision of the RG. Section b. Since the NRC is pushing for more of a bounding FPRA, the criteria should be an order of magnitude higher to accommodate mandated conservatism in the fire PRA.
48	Other Changes that May Be Made Without Prior NRC Approval {Include a plant-specific list of any non risk-informed changes to the FPP.} Transition License Conditions (1) Before achieving full compliance with 10 CFR 50.48(c), the licensee's fire protection program may not be modified as allowed above. (2) The licensee shall implement the following modifications to its facility to complete transition to full compliance with 10 CFR 50.48(c) by {date}: {Include a plant-specific list of any modifications identified by the licensee as necessary to complete transition to its new fire protection license basis.} (3) The licensee shall maintain appropriate compensatory measures in	Recommend the following changes: (1) Before implementation of the NFPA 805 Chapter 2 methodology achieving full compliance with 10 CFR 50.48(c), the licensee's fire protection program may not be modified as allowed above. (2) The licensee shall implement the following modifications to its facility to complete implementation of the NFPA 805 Chapter 2 methodology transition to full compliance with 10 CFR 50.48(c) by {date}: {Include a plant-specific list of any modifications identified by the licensee as necessary to complete transition to its new fire protection license basis.} (3) The licensee shall maintain appropriate compensatory measures in place until completion of the modifications delineated above.

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	place until completion of the modifications delineated above.	
49	3.2 NFPA 805 Plant Change Evaluation Process	Item b, programmatic change includes assumption or analysis that
	3.2.1 Definition of a Change	affects the FPP. Clarification is required to bound the assumption in various PRA tasks. In addition, a threshold (qualitative or quantitative
	NFPA 805 includes provisions for licensees to make changes to their for or clarification of.	for or clarification of what "affects the FPP" should be provided to make the definition of a change practically unambiguous or less
	a. a physical plant modification that affects the FPP;	
	 b. a programmatic change (e.g., change to a procedure, assumption, or analysis) that affects the FPP; or 	
	c. an in-situ condition (physical or programmatic) that is not in compliance with the plant's FPP.	
50	The requirements of 10 CFR 50.48(c) and the guidance provided in this regulatory guide for evaluating changes are applicable regardless of when the noncompliance is identified (during or after the transition to an NFPA 805 license).	None
51	For changes that involve acceptance of an existing unapproved condition (i.e., a noncompliance), appropriate compensatory measures should be established and should remain in place until either the plant is modified to achieve compliance or the condition is found acceptable. Acceptance of the as-found condition may be the result of either the NRC's review and approval or, following implementation of NFPA 805, the self-approval process in the licensee's fire protection license condition.	None
52	3.2.2 Plant Change Evaluations	None
	The licensee should perform an engineering evaluation to demonstrate acceptability of the change in terms of the plant change evaluation criteria and compliance with the fire protection requirements of 10 CFR	

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	50.48(a) and NFPA 805. The plant change evaluation process includes an integrated assessment of the acceptability of the change in risk, defense in depth, and safety margins, regardless of the methods or approaches used to evaluate the change.	
53	Under NFPA 805, Section 1.2, fire protection defense in depth is achieved when an adequate balance of each of the following elements is provided:	
	a. preventing fires from starting;	
	 rapidly detecting fires and controlling and extinguishing promptly those fires that do occur, thereby limiting fire damage; and 	
	c. providing an adequate level of fire protection for structures, systems, and components important to safety, so that a fire that is not promptly extinguished will not prevent essential plant safety functions from being performed.	
54	Nuclear safety defense in depth is achieved when a reasonable balance is preserved among prevention of core damage, prevention of containment failure, and mitigation of consequences. Therefore, consistency with the defense in depth philosophy for fire protection and nuclear safety is maintained if the following acceptance guidelines, or their equivalent, are met:	Items a, b, c, d, e, and f
		It appears that these considerations may make a PRA or risk evaluation superfluous. If a change can meet all these requirements, doing a risk evaluation seems to be an academic exercise, because such an exercise will most likely result in risk numbers so small to the point below the level of resolution of the fire PRA state-of-the-art.
	 a. Overreliance on programmatic activities to compensate for weaknesses in plant design is avoided. 	point below the level of resolution of the fire i to state-of-the-art.
	 System redundancy, independence, and diversity are preserved, commensurate with the expected frequency of challenges, consequences of failure of the system, and associated uncertainties. 	
	 c. Defenses against potential common-cause failures are preserved, and the potential introduction of new common-cause failure mechanisms is assessed. 	
	d. The independence of fission product barriers is not degraded.	
	e. Defenses against human errors are preserved.	
	f. The intent of the GDC in Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 50 is	

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	preserved.	
55	3.2.3 NRC Approval of Fire Protection Program Changes	Recommend the following changes:
	The following FPP changes are examples of changes that must be submitted for NRC review and approval through a license amendment request before implementation:	b. changes that <u>rely on performance-based methods in</u> <u>meeting</u> the fundamental FPP elements and design requirements of Chapter 3 of NFPA 805, <u>and that are not previously</u>
	 a. changes that do not meet the acceptance criteria of the approved license condition; 	approved alternatives allowed by Section 3.1 of NFPA 805, including any request to use performance-based methods for these elements as permitted under 10 CFR 50.48(c)(2)(vii);
	b. changes to the fundamental FPP elements and design requirements of Chapter 3 of NFPA 805, including any request to use performance-based methods for these elements as permitted under 10 CFR 50.48(c)(2)(vii);	
	c. changes that have been evaluated using risk-informed or performance-based alternatives to compliance with NFPA 805, where the alternatives have not been approved for use by a license amendment, as required by 10 CFR 50.48(c)(4); and	
	 d. combined changes where any part would not meet the risk acceptance criteria of the approved license condition. 	
56	3.2.4 Plant Changes Without Prior NRC Approval	The framework established by Regulatory Guide 1.200 indicates that
	The sample standard license condition in Regulatory Position 3.1 sets forth criteria for making changes to the approved NFPA 805 FPP without prior NRC approval. The risk acceptance criteria for plant changes provided in this sample standard license condition are acceptable to the NRC.	the NRC does not "approve" risk assessment methods.
57	Where permitted by the approved fire protection license condition, licensees of plants that have a fire PRA that is in accordance with Regulatory Position 4.3 may make changes without prior NRC review and approval. The types of plant changes that may be approved without prior NRC review and approval will be limited to those for which the risk assessment methods are adequate to demonstrate that any increase in risk will continue to meet the risk acceptance criteria. Risk assessment methods are adequate if the method used to	Recommend the following change: "Risk assessment methods are adequate if the method used to estimate the change is acceptable to the AHJ as defined in FAQ 09-xxxx"has been previously reviewed and approved by the NRC and the PRA meets the guidance in Regulatory Position 4.3."

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	estimate the change has been previously reviewed and approved by the NRC and the PRA meets the guidance in Regulatory Position 4.3. Licensees must also maintain appropriate levels of defense in depth and adequate safety margins.	
58	3.2.5 Combined Changes and Cumulative Risk of Changes Section 2.4.4.1 of NFPA 805 requires licensees to evaluate the cumulative effect of plant changes (including all previous changes that have increased risk) on overall risk. Licensees should evaluate the cumulative risk in accordance with Section 3.3.2 of Regulatory Guide 1.174 (Ref. 13).	There does not appear to be a valid technical or legal reason to "track" the cumulative risk impact against some "Rev 0" snapshot. It becomes a burden on multiple levels. All that is required is to maintain the PRA "as built" to reflect the "as built, as operated plant"
		There does not appear to be any recognition that there are values in the Internal Events PRA (that the Fire PRA is based upon) that change periodically based on plant events, industry operating history, etc. What is the obligation on the licensee, and what process would need to be followed, when the Internal Events PRA is updated with new reliability data, and that new data has a "ripple effect" on the Fire PRA results. This happens all the time. For example, the Northeast blackout affected the LOOP frequency in the PRA model at every plant in the country, due to the way that frequencies of events are calculated in the PRA for very low-frequency events.
59	When a licensee first adopts NFPA 805, the cumulative change in risk is the total risk from all changes made during the transition (see Regulatory Position 2.2.4). After the transition to NFPA 805, the cumulative risk of subsequent FPP changes is the change in risk compared to the post-transition baseline risk (see Regulatory Position 2.2.4). Licensees should only include changes associated with the FPP in the cumulative risk evaluation. In the sample license condition in Regulatory Position 3.1, the NRC chose risk acceptance criteria low enough to provide reasonable assurance that the effect of self-approved changes on cumulative risk would be acceptable. However, when licensees request FPP changes that they may not self-approve after the transition to NFPA 805, their license amendment requests should address the cumulative impact of all previous FPP changes since adopting NFPA 805.	None
60	Section 2.4.4.1 of NFPA 805 further states that, if more than one plant change is combined into a group for the purposes of evaluating	None

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	acceptable risk, each individual change shall be evaluated along with the evaluation of the combined change. Any risk increases may be combined with risk decreases when estimating the total risk change. Licensees should address combined changes in accordance with the guidance in Regulatory Positions 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of Regulatory Guide 1.174.	
61	3.3 Circuit Analysis	The process in FAQ 07-0038, Rev. 1 should be referenced
	3.3.1 Identifying and Evaluating Risk-Significant Circuits	
	The industry guidance document NEI 00-01, Revision 1, "Guidance for Post-Fire Safe Shutdown Circuit Analysis" (Ref. 17), used in conjunction with NFPA 805 and this regulatory guide, provides one acceptable approach to circuit analysis for a plant implementing an FPP under 10 CFR 50.48(c). Where the deterministic requirements in Chapter 4 of NFPA 805 are not met for the protection of required circuits, circuit analysis assumptions regarding the number of spurious actuations, the manner in which they occur (e.g., sequentially or simultaneously), and the time between spurious actuations should be supported by engineering analysis, test results, or both that are accepted by the NRC. Aspects of circuit protection that do not conform to the deterministic requirements in Chapter 4 of NFPA 805 and were not previously approved by the NRC in accordance with Regulatory Position 2.3.2 may be evaluated using the plant change process in NFPA 805.	
62	NEI 04-02, Section B.2.1, provides one acceptable approach for identifying and screening multiple spurious actuations when analyzing the post-fire safe-shutdown circuits. Licensees should use the plant change evaluation described in Regulatory Position 3.2.2 for unscreened spurious actuations.	There is no screening process in FAQ 07-0038 Rev. 1. This statement is outdated and needs to reflect pilot plant lessons learned and industry efforts.
63	The nuclear safety capability circuit analysis should address both the possible equipment damage caused by spurious actuation and the inability to restore equipment operability, including the types of failures described in the NRC's Information Notice (IN) 92-18, "Potential for Loss of Remote Shutdown Capability During a Control Room Fire,"	The relevance of Regulatory Guide 1.106 is not evident.

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	issued February 1992 (Ref. 18), and Regulatory Guide 1.106, Revision 1, "Thermal Overload Protection for Electric Motors on Motor-Operated Valves," issued March 1977 (Ref. 19). The type of failure described in IN 92-18 is an example of a failure mechanism that may not have been considered during the post-fire safe-shutdown analysis. Protecting against this one type of failure does not preclude the requirement to address other possible fire-induced failure mechanisms.	
64	3.3.2 High/Low Pressure Interface	This guidance is not consistent with the development and approval of
	Section 1.6.31 of NFPA 805 defines High-Low Pressure Interface as follows: "Reactor coolant boundary valves whose spurious opening could potentially rupture downstream piping on an interfacing system or could cause a loss of inventory that could not be mitigated in sufficient time to achieve the nuclear safety performance criteria."	FAQ 06-0006. Concerns were raised over the closure memo of FAQ 06-0006 (dated 3/12/07) at an NFPA 805 FAQ meeting. The 10/18/07 FAQ meeting summary dated 11/28/07 (ML073200763) addressed the concerns that the closure memo deviated from the FAQ intent and content and stated:
		"The use of the NEI [Nuclear Energy Institute] 00-01, Revision 1, methodology to identify and evaluate high-low pressure interface valves has been previously accepted by the NRC. For the purpose of analyzing high-low pressure boundary valves in conducting the nuclear safety performance criteria methodology review for a NFPA 805 transition, the staff accepts the guidance provided in NEI 00-01, Revision 1, as one acceptable approach."
		The guidance in this section of DG-1218 does not reflect previously agreed upon positions.
65	The first half of this definition is deterministic because it is based purely on the potential for rupture of downstream piping on an interfacing system. The NRC staff has determined that one acceptable approach to addressing the first half of this definition is using the guidance provided in Appendix C of NEI 00-01 regarding High/Low Pressure Interfaces.	See above
66	The second half of the definition is performance-based since it	See above
	criteria. The analyses performed in accordance with NEPA 805	It appears that the text of NFPA 805 is being misunderstood. As stated in Section 1.6.31 of NFPA 805, that a definition of a high low pressure interface is provided (also see NFPA 805 section A.1.6.31 for

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	Section 4.2.4, to demonstrate the ability to meet the nuclear safety performance criteria are sufficient to address the second half of the definition. This part of the definition only applies to fire areas that are addressed using the performance-based approach since a fire area that is compliant to the deterministic rules in NFPA 805, Section 4.2.3, will not experience an inventory loss due to fire damage (at least one valve in each inventory loss pathway should be free of fire damage).	expanded discussion).
		The definition indicates that loss of inventory by itself cannot be mitigated in sufficient time to prevent an unacceptable consequence. This is simply a process of classifying RCS interfaces as High/Low pressure interfaces, and not meant to "invoke" the performance-based portions of the standard. Therefore, there is no inference intended that a "performance based approach per NFPA 805 section 4.2.4" is intended.
		If the NRC believes that how high/low pressure interfaces are identified and classified needs to change, then a change to NFPA 805 would be required, via the Rulemaking process.
67	4. NFPA 805 Analytical Methods and Tools	None
	4.1 General	
	NFPA 805, Section 2.7.3, has requirements for the quality of engineering analyses and associated methods that the licensee applies to demonstrate compliance with the nuclear safety and radioactive release performance criteria.	
68	4.2 Fire Models	None
	Licensees are required to document, in their license amendment requests, that the fire models and methods meet the NRC requirements. The NRC's Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) and the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) have documented the V&V process for parts of five fire models in NUREG-1824/EPRI 1011999, "Verification and Validation of Selected Fire Models for Nuclear Power Plant Applications" (Ref. 20), using ASTM E1355-05a (Ref. 9). The specific fire models documented are	
	(1) NUREG-1805, "Fire Dynamics Tools (FDTs) (Ref. 21); (2) Fire-Induced Vulnerability Evaluation (FIVE), Revision 1 (Ref. 22); (3) the Consolidated Model of Fire Growth and Smoke Transport (CFAST) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) (Ref. 23); (4) the Electricité de France MAGIC code (Ref. 24); and (5) the NIST Fire Dynamics Simulator (FDS), (Refs. 25 and 26). Use of these	

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	models to perform the performance-based evaluations in NFPA 805, Section 4.2.4, is acceptable to the NRC if each model used is shown to have been appropriately applied within the range of its applicability and V&V.	·
69	Licensees may also propose the use of other fire models; however, licensees are responsible for providing evidence of acceptable V&V of these fire models using the ASTM E1355-05a standard. The V&V documents for licensee-proposed fire models should be submitted with the license amendment request for NRC review. A license amendment request may use other fire models, documented in topical reports, which the NRC has previously reviewed and found acceptable, if the licensee can demonstrate that the model has been used within the range of its applicability and V&V.	None
70	Appendix C to NFPA 805 and Appendix D to NEI 04-02 contain discussions that may be useful to licensees in determining which fire models to use and applying those fire models within their limitations; however, the NRC only endorses the fire models, methodologies, data, and examples in those appendices to the extent that they have been (or can be) adequately verified and validated or to the extent that they are demonstrated appropriate for the specific application.	None ·
·71	4.3 Fire Probabilistic Risk Assessment The fire PRA used to perform the risk assessments of NFPA 805, Section 2.4.4 (plant change evaluation), and Section 4.2.4.2 (fire risk evaluation), must be of sufficient technical adequacy to support the application. Regulatory Guide 1.200, "An Approach for Determining the Technical Adequacy of Probabilistic Risk Assessment Results for Risk-Informed Activities," issued January 2007 (Ref. 27), provides applicable guidance for determining the technical adequacy of PRA models. Regulatory Guide 1.200 endorses, with certain clarifications and exceptions, industry consensus PRA standards, as available.	It is stated that resolution of potentially risk-significant findings should be submitted. Clarification should be provided for "potentially risk-significant findings". It is important to recognize that different plant configurations, FPP implementation strategies, PRA modeling approach and role of PRA use will affect the significance of the open items.
72	The NRC is in the process of updating Regulatory Guide 1.200 (Revision 2) to endorse Addendum A to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers/American Nuclear Society, "Standard for	None

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	Probabilistic Risk Assessment for Nuclear Power Plant Applications" (ASME/ANS RA-Sa 2009) ("PRA Standard") (Ref. 28), with clarifications and exceptions. The NRC position is that licensees applying fire PRA models to NFPA 805 risk assessments should use the fire PRA portion of the PRA Standard to assess the technical adequacy of their fire PRA even absent endorsement in Regulatory Guide 1.200. Before it issues Revision 2 of Regulatory Guide 1.200, the NRC staff will address any potential issues with the standard, which may ultimately become exceptions in Regulatory Guide 1.200, during its review of a licensee's request to implement NFPA 805. A preliminary set of these issues appears in the draft guide DG-1200, issued June 2008 (Ref. 29).	
73	An industry peer review of the fire PRA should be performed as set forth in the PRA Standard. The licensee should submit the documented high-level findings from the fire PRA peer review with the 10 CFR 50.48(c) license amendment request, including the resolution of potentially risk-significant findings. For PRA Standard "supporting requirements" important to the NFPA 805 risk assessments, the NRC position is that Capability Category II is generally acceptable. Licensees should justify use of Capability Category I for specific supporting requirements in their NFPA 805 risk assessments if they contend that it is adequate for the application. During its review of a licensee's request to implement NFPA 805, the NRC staff may determine that some aspects of the fire PRA require Capability Category III. This will be addressed during the NRC review of the license amendment request.	The current revision allows the licensee to complete actions required as a result of the review later and simply submit a completion schedule for approval. The draft revision does not specify that the resolution of findings may be completed after the LAR is submitted.
74	The NRC and EPRI have documented a comprehensive methodology for conducting a fire PRA in NUREG/CR-6850/EPRI 1011989, "EPRI/NRC-RES Fire PRA Methodology for Nuclear Power Facilities" (Ref. 30). The NRC accepts the use of the fire PRA methods in this document for NFPA 805 risk assessments, including extension of any screening or scoping methods to more detailed plant-specific analyses, when warranted. Licensees should verify that the resulting fire PRA meets the PRA Standard requirements at an acceptable level of quality to support the NFPA 805 risk assessments.	Section 4.3, fourth paragraph: This paragraph should be deleted. It represents a level of detail associated with the preparation of a Fire PRA beyond that stipulated in the PRA Standard and Regulatory Guide 1.200. Further, the implied endorsement of NUREG/CR-6850 could be interpreted to mean that it is currently the only acceptable procedure for the detailed development of a Fire PRA. The earlier paragraphs and discussions are sufficient to invoke the PRA Standard and Regulatory Guide 1.200.

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75	In accordance with Section 2.4.3.3 of NFPA 805, the PRA approach, methods, and data must be acceptable to the NRC. Licensees should demonstrate that the methods used in meeting the NFPA 805 requirements are appropriate for each specific application. These analyses may use screening methods or more complex quantitative PRA methods, depending on the specific conditions of the scenario being evaluated. A licensee that has adopted NFPA 805 may use the PRA methods and quality requirements that the NRC approves for generic use in evaluating FPP changes in risk, without requesting plant specific approval, provided that (1) the plant-specific license condition includes this provision and (2) the NRC generic approval clearly states that the method may be applied without a plant-specific license amendment.	Recommend the following change: A licensee that has adopted NFPA 805 may use the PRA methods and quality requirements that are acceptable to the AHJ as defined in FAQ 09-xxxx" the NRC approves for generic use in evaluating FPP changes in risk, without requesting plant specific approval., provided that (1) the plant-specific license condition includes this provision and (2) the NRC generic approval clearly states that the method may be applied without a plant-specific license amendment. A statement is made on the use of screening methods or more quantitative PRA methods. If a screening method is used, or a bounding approach is used, which may be a subset of the PRA, for example certain elements of the fire PRA is accomplished by using/assuming a conservative value resulting in higher risk impact, should it be subject to another peer review?
		A statement is made on PRA methods and quality requirements that the NRC approves for generic use in evaluating the FPP changes in risk. It is clear, given the evolving and dynamic nature of the fire PRA, peer review by the owner's group or a team of peer fire PRA experts should play a critical role. A clarification or inclusion of the peer review role, recognizing the evolving and dynamic nature of fire PRA methods, should be provided.
76	D. IMPLEMENTATION	None
< .	The purpose of this section is to provide information to applicants and licensees regarding the NRC's plans for using this draft regulatory guide. The NRC does not intend or approve any imposition or backfit in connection with its issuance.	
77	The NRC has issued this draft guide to encourage public participation in its development. The NRC will consider all public comments received in development of the final guidance document. In some cases, applicants or licensees may propose an alternative or use a previously established acceptable alternative method for complying with specified portions of the NRC's regulations. Otherwise, the	None

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	methods described in this guide will be used in evaluating compliance with the applicable regulations for license applications, license amendment applications, and amendment requests.	
78	REGULATORY ANALYSIS	It is not clear given that the expected cost of potential modifications
	The NRC staff did not prepare a separate regulatory analysis for this regulatory guide. The regulatory basis for this guide is the regulatory analysis prepared for the amendments to 10 CFR Part 50, "Voluntary Fire Protection Requirements for Light-Water Reactors; Adoption of NFPA 805 as a Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Alternative," dated June 16, 2004 (69 FR 33536), which examines the costs and benefits of the rule as implemented by this guide. A copy of that regulatory analysis is available for inspection and may be copied (for a fee) at the NRC's Public Document Room, located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Room O1-F15, Rockville, MD.	and other implementation costs pre-transition to NFPA 805 and post-NFPA 805 transition programmatic and infrastructure change, plant specific cost-benefit analysis on a case-by-case basis may be required to achieve a more realistic cost-benefit analysis of potential regulatory issues including those identified during inspection.
79	This regulatory guide describes one acceptable approach for implementing the requirements of 10 CFR 50.48(c). That regulation sets forth the requirements governing a risk-informed fire protection program in accordance with NFPA 805. A current nuclear power plant licensee may voluntarily choose to comply with § 50.48(c) and the provisions of NFPA 805 as their approach to satisfy the requirements of § 50.48(a) and General Design Criterion 3 as an alternative to their current compliance approach and the licensee's current fire protection program. As of this date, there are no licensees who have been approved by the NRC to implement NFPA 805 under the requirements of § 50.48(c).	None .
80	The regulatory guide represents a new staff position for compliance with § 50.48(c) and NFPA	None
	805. Accordingly, the staff evaluated the regulatory guide to determine whether issuance of the regulatory guide constitutes "backfitting," as defined in 10 CFR 50.109(a)(1). The staff believes that issuance of the regulatory guide would not constitute backfitting. There are two reasons for the staff's conclusion. First, the regulatory guide provides non-binding guidance as to one acceptable way of complying with the	

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	requirements of § 50.48(c). Applicants that seek to transition to NFPA 805 are free to choose alternative approaches for complying with the requirements of § 50.48(c) and NFPA 805. Second, the regulatory guide can only apply to current and future applicants seeking approval to use NFPA 805. The Backfit Rule, 10 CFR 50.109 does not protect current or future applicants from regulatory changes (except in situations set forth in § 50.109(a)(1) which are not applicable here).	
81	Inasmuch as the issuance of this regulatory guide does not constitute backfitting, the staff has not prepared a backfitting analysis or documented evaluation in support of the issuance of the regulatory guide.	None
82	GLOSSARY	None
	NFPA 805, Section 1.6, contains definitions applicable to the terminology used in the standard. Regulatory Guide 1.189 also contains a substantial list of definitions of fire protection terminology applicable to nuclear power generating stations. Where potential differences or conflicts exist between definitions in NFPA 805 and other fire protection regulatory documents, and where these definitions are important to the licensing basis, the licensee's documentation should clearly identify the definition that is being applied.	
83	REFERENCES	None
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	5. 69 FR 33536, "Voluntary Fire Protection Requirements for Light Water Reactors; Adoption of NFPA 805 as a Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Alternative," <i>Federal Register</i> , Volume 69, Number 115, pp. 33536–33550, Washington, DC, June 16, 2004.	
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