

June 2, 2009

MEMORANDUM TO: Patricia A. Silva, Chief
Technical Support Branch
Special Projects and Technical
Support Directorate
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

FROM: David L. Rahn, Sr. I&C Engineer /RA/
Technical Support Branch
Special Projects and Technical
Support Directorate
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
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Office of Nuclear Material Safety
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SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE MAY 8, 2009, CATEGORY 2 PUBLIC MEETING
AND TELECONFERENCE WITH THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE
AND INDUSTRY TO DISCUSS TASK WORKING GROUP 7 DIGITAL
INSTRUMENTATION AND CONTROL FOR FUEL CYCLE FACILITIES

On May 8, 2009, Task Working Group (TWG) 7 held a Category 2 public meeting and teleconference to discuss issues related to the development of guidance for the review of license applications for fuel cycle facilities concerning the use of digital instrumentation and control (I&C) equipment in safety applications. Specifically, license review criteria contained in draft Interim Staff Guidance (ISG) were discussed.

During the two weeks prior to this meeting, all of the ISG material developed for TWG 7 had been edited to address comments received from the working group, regularly-attending fuel cycle facility participants, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards personnel, and interested members of the public. The four separate problem statement sections were combined into a single draft ISG document using the Digital I&C Steering Committee nomenclature (DI&C-ISG-07) and distributed to the TWG members and participants a few days before this meeting. The main agenda item for this meeting was to review the ISG and identify any other changes or additions that should be implemented before making the document available for public comments.

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Minor comments were identified throughout the document during the meeting by members of the TWG. Proposed changes and additions were recorded onto a master copy of the document during the meeting. Two topical items required further discussion; one dealt with the example used to illustrate the use of the criteria for acceptance of whether redundant controls can be considered as independent items relied on for safety (IROFS), and the other dealt with the right approach for addressing the use of standards describing how fixed programming languages and limited variability languages may be acceptable for safety applications in process industries. To reach resolution on these two items Mr. Rahn committed to discuss these in a telephone conversation with Mr. Prytherch of the Westinghouse Fuel Fabrication facility in Columbia, SC on the Monday following the meeting.

The next step is to update this guidance with the comments identified above and prepare it for posting onto the NRC public website so that it is available for public comments. A notice of availability will be prepared in the form of a Federal Register notice. To facilitate the collection of comments from industry, Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) will organize and provide member comments to the NRC via a letter at the end of the public review comment period. NRC staff will prepare a spreadsheet depicting public comments and how they will be addressed.

If and when it becomes useful to have another meeting of TWG 7 following receipt of comments resulting from the public review period, the NRC TWG 7 group leader will announce to the participants the plans for this meeting in sufficient time to schedule and post another public meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

Item	Description	Responsibility
1.	Incorporate comments identified at this meeting and from the telephone conversation with Ed Prytherch of Westinghouse, Columbia, SC fuel fabrication facility, and post the document for public review.	NRC Staff

PARTICIPANTS

NRC and external stakeholders, including members NEI, industry representatives, consultants to the nuclear industry, and interested members of the Public:

NRC Staff

D. Rahn, NMSS
P. Silva, NMSS

Industry

Felix Killar, NEI
Janet Schlueter, NEI
Gordon Cleffton, NEI
Ed Prytherch, Westinghouse*
Steve Powers, AREVA*

Public Participants

Gary Bell, AREVA MOX Services*
Brad Pemberton, AREVA MOX Services*
Laurent DeLale, AREVA MOX Services*
Glen MacDougal, AREVA MOX Services*
Iain Lever, Energy Solutions, Richland*
Robert Plappert, Hukari Technical Services
Gary McDonald, Hukari Technical Services

* Attended via teleconference

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