

June 11, 2009

MEMORANDUM TO: Joelle Starefos, Branch Chief
Construction Inspection & Allegations Branch
Division of Construction Inspection
& Operational Programs
Office of New Reactors

FROM: Demetrius Murray, Reactor Operations Engineer /RA/
Construction Inspection & Allegations Branch
Division of Construction Inspection
& Operational Programs
Office of New Reactors

PARTICIPANTS: Public, Industry, and NRC Staff

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MAY 14, 2009, CATEGORY 3 MEETING WITH THE
INDUSTRY AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC, TO CONTINUE
DISCUSSIONS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONSTRUCTION
SCHEDULING, ASSESSMENT PROGRAM AND INSPECTION
ACTIVITIES DURING CONSTRUCTION

On March 14, 2009, a public meeting was held between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC), Construction Inspection and Allegation Branch of the Division of Construction Inspection and Operational Program (DCIP) and Technical Specifications Branch (CTSB) in the Office of New Reactors (NRO), industry, and the general public. The meeting was held at the Legacy Hotel, 1775 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The purpose of the meeting was to continue discussions on the development of Construction Scheduling, Assessment Program, and Inspection activities during construction.

The category III meeting began with a presentation by Southern Company discussing their preconstruction screening process (ADAMS ML091350275). The presentation detailed the background of the screening process as well as 10 examples of systems that will be screened via the new process. Southern Company's current flow chart was presented; the chart details the decision process with a series of "if – then" decisions.

The NRC presented "Construction Programs Inspection," an overview of on-going changes to Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 2504 (ADAMS ML091350263). The changes to IMC 2504 include streamlining of existing sub-tier inspection procedures, elimination of redundant procedures, and development of new procedures unique to the 10 CFR Part 52 construction environment. Emergent changes to the construction program inspection procedures are expected to be finalized by September 2009 to support expected Limited Work Authorization inspection activities at prospective construction sites. Remaining changes to operational program inspection procedures will be completed by September 2010. Prior to opening the floor to the audience for questions the NRC shared its development schedule of IMC 2504.

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The NRC staff presented "Consideration of Assessment Process Changes" (ADAMS ML091350256). This presentation provided a brief overview of on-going efforts to develop construction assessment program options for consideration by the Commission. The presenter stated that the assessment options are in the early stages of development. The staff is considering the use of traditional enforcement or a significance determination process for use to evaluate the significance of construction findings and has considered development of construction performance indicators with appropriate thresholds. The staff plans to forward a SECY paper with construction assessment program options to the Commission in August 2009.

The NRC continued discussions related to Safety Culture during construction. At previous meetings held to discuss the construction inspection program for new reactors, the concept of Construction Safety Focus Issues (CSFI) was introduced as an input to the construction response table, as outlined in the current version of IMC 2505. However, the actual Construction Safety Focus Components and Aspects that were to be used as an input to the CSFI have not yet been developed or discussed. Fulfilling a commitment made by the NRC to bring this discussion back to a public meeting, a brief presentation on the relevance of Safety Culture during construction was made. A workshop session was conducted to capture stakeholder input to the Aspects and Characteristics being developed for the new reactor construction environment. Illustrative Components (also called Characteristics or Descriptions) were presented and input was sought for potential behaviors (Aspects) that would reflect each Component. During the meeting, stakeholders commented that the existing components in IMC 0305 could be adopted for construction or it might be best to start from scratch. An individual stakeholder offered his personal opinion about the need to strengthen the role that safety culture plays for nuclear power and offered to share a tool to assess safety culture that he has been developing (ADAMS ML091390736).

The staff continued discussions from the May 7, 2009, Category 2 public meeting with NEI regarding ITAAC maintenance (ADAMS ML091350266). The staff proposed changes to Section 3b of the supplemental guidance of NEI 08-01 on ITAAC maintenance. A confidence threshold was proposed that would provide consistency when determining if a supplemental ITAAC closure letter is required. Staff then presented four draft threshold concepts followed by examples for discussion. Staff reiterated that proper notification and threshold consistency add the confidence needed to make an affirmative 10 CFR 52.103(g) finding. At the conclusion of the meeting, stakeholders requested to have another public meeting, preferably in early June 2009, to further discuss remaining open issues.

A list of meeting attendees is attached. Also attached are copies of the slides presented at the meeting (ADAMS ML090970816):

- Preconstruction Screening (ADAMS ML091350275);
- IMC 2504 "Construction Programs Inspection" (ADAMS ML091350263);
- "Consideration of Assessment Process Changes" (ADAMS ML091350256);
- ITAAC Closure/Maintenance (ADAMS ML091350266).

The next Category 3 public workshop will be held on July 23, 2009, location to be determined. The proposed dates, for Category 3 public meetings for calendar year 2009, are:

- September 17;
- November 5;
- December 17.

Members of the public were in attendance, but Public Meeting Feedback forms were not received. Please direct any inquiries to me at 301-415-7646, or demetrius.murray@nrc.gov.

Enclosures: Agenda (ADAMS Accession Number: ML090970816)

cc w/encl: See next page

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Enclosures: Agenda (ADAMS Accession Number: ML090970816)

cc w/encl: See next page

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DATE	06/11/09	06/11/09

**Construction Inspection Assessment and
Inspection Activities During Construction**

May 15, 2009

**Location: Legacy Hotel, Rockville, MD
Meeting Attendees**

Anderson, Victoria	NEI
Arnold, Larry	STPNOC
Bearden, Thomas	MNES
Bell, Russ	NEI
Blamey, Alan	NRC
Blossom, Steve	STPNOC
Boyle, Patrick	NRC
Bryant, Barry	Dominion
Campbell, Andy	NRC
Campbell, Patricia	GEH
Carter, Hamer	Progress Energy
Cottingham, Anne	NEI
Craffey, Ryan	NRC
Faria, Carolyn	NRC
Fries, Eric	Equinox Consulting
Gardner, Ron	NRC
Grant, Eddie	NuStart
Hastie, David	SHAW Group Inc
Houghton, Tom	NEI
Jardaneh, Mahmoud	NRC
Jimenez, José	NRC
Johnson, Debbie	FLUOR
Keithline, Kimberly	NEI
Klett, Audrey	NRC
Kozak, Tom	NRC
Lanksbury, Roger	NRC
Lukes, Robert	NRC
McGovern, Denise	NRC
Murray, Demetrius	NRC
Oddu, John	SHAW Group Inc.
Ogle, Charles	NRC
Ray, Thom	Westinghouse
Rivera, Nilda	NRC
Sinks, Donna	NRC
Spencer, Michael	NRC
Starefos, Joelle	NRC
Szoch, Richard	Unistar
Tappert, John	NRC
Torres, Alan	SCE+G
Wade, Chuck	DOE
Waites, Brandan	Southern Energy
Walters, Doug	NEI
Williams, Matthew	Unistar

ENCLOSURE