12 pages Total

To: John Cassidy Fax (630) 515-1249

From: Joe Stuldavant

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Exemptions

FORMPA 2000 00 9



Situation Analysis: In late 2005, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the nuclear industry identified groundwater tritium as an emerging issue, though neither entity could specify the scope of the issue. Subsequently, several nuclear plants identified groundwater tritium issues or potential issues, including Exelon's Braidwood Plant in Illinois. None of the incidences of tritium found in groundwater on site or off site at these plants exceeded limits set by the NRC and none posed a significant increase in risk to the environment or the public. Nonetheless, in the interest of maintaining strong credibility and relations with local communities, the industry and FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC) adopted a zero-tolerance standard for unplanned releases of tritium at commercial nuclear power facilities. Also, FENOC will continue its policy of keeping local officials, the news media and the public apprised of any plant-related activities that might significantly impact the environment or public, or appear to do so.

The purpose of this guidance is to provide uniform criteria to the FENOC nuclear fleet, which is consistent with the current draft Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) guidance, regarding implementation of the Nuclear Energy Institute Industry Initiative on Managing Situations Involving Inadvertent Radiological Releases into Groundwater (Industry Initiative). This Industry Initiative, which is being implemented by all U.S. nuclear utilities, contains requirements for documenting groundwater sample results and spills or leaks into groundwater and for making formal and informal communications to state and local officials and to the NRC. NEI is in the process of finalizing guidance on these aspects of the Industry Initiative.

It is emphasized that the intent of this guidance applies to conditions or situations that are inadvertent, unexpected and unplanned/unmonitored. This guidance does not apply to conditions or situations that are expected, planned and monitored as authorized effluent releases in accordance with the Offsite Dose Calculation Manual (ODCM). This guidance also does not apply to leaks or spills from systems that are considered non-contaminated systems such as Pressurized Water Reactor (PWR) secondary and auxiliary systems not impacted by active or residual primary-to-secondary leakage or cross-contamination from other radioactive sources.

Objective:

Execute, as necessary, a strategy as laid out in this plan for ensuring local communities and other key audiences are informed of any significant groundwater tritium issues at FENOC facilities.

Goals:

Monitor external interest, particularly by news media, in the tritium issue.

- Keep abreast of actions FENOC and the industry are taking to manage and respond to tritium issues, i.e., monitoring groundwater, preventive measures to prevent unplanned releases of radioactive materials, etc.
- Should an issue emerge at a FENOC facility, take pre-emptive action to inform the audiences listed below.

Audience Identification:

- FENOC and FE employees
- FE Legal, Investor Services and senior FE executives
- Local, state and federal officials and agencies (see Appendix A)
- NEI and other industry groups
- Area news media

Messages:

- Note: While the following messages are general in nature, more specific messages would be developed to address a specific tritium issue, such as was done for Perry.
- FENOC sites do not have the kind of tritium issue that occurred at Braidwood.
- FENOC sites adhere to the industry guidelines for monitoring and preventing unplanned spills of water containing tritium.
- In 40 years of commercial operation, no U.S. nuclear plant has released tritiated water that has posed a significant increase in risk to the environment or the public.
- Tritium traces in groundwater related to nuclear plant operations have never exceeded the NRC limits of one microcurie per liter of water.
 - o If an individual drank ½ gallon of water containing one microcurie of tritium per liter every day for a year, the radiation dose would equal 50 mrem, or about 1/6th of the 300-350 mrem of exposure Americans get from the natural sources in the environment.
 - o By way of perspective, one transcontinental airplane flight exposes passengers to 4 mrem, as does eating one potato a day for a year.

Strategies, Tactics & Timeline:

- Participate in Morgan Lewis teleconference seminar Tritium: Managing the Regulatory and Litigation Challenges Nuclear Communications, 4-06.
- Ongoing participation on NEI Executive Task Force on Community Relations and Incident Response which is charged with developing initiatives to better keep local officials updated on plant operations and issue. – Nuclear Communications.
- Confer with Regulatory Affairs at each site re: past spills, reported or unreported Nuclear Communications, completed 5-06.

- Draft communication plan re: the tritium issue Nuclear Communications, drafted 11-06.
- Discuss issue with Area Managers at each facility to determine the level of knowledge and interest among local elected officials - Nuclear Communications, ongoing, but initial contact was 7-06.
- In the event of an unmonitored tritium release from a FENOC facility, develop specific talking points as was done for Perry in April 2006 and inform government officials and agencies using telephone contact list for each specific plant
- Identify and have on reserve third-party tritium expert Nuclear Communications.

Issues/Opportunities:

- The class action suit filed in federal court on behalf of 14,000 residents near the Braidwood plant has sensitized regional news media, regulators and tort attorneys to the tritium issue.
- The above-mentioned suit also has sensitized the industry to the issue, enabling a pre-emptive approach to managing it.
- While at this time, there seems to be little interest in this issue among local
 officials near FENOC facilities, such activities as drilling groundwater test
 wells on site, or testing the drinking water of local residents could spark interest
 in the nearby communities, particularly with the news media. It will be
 imperative to inform and educate local officials regularly, but especially prior to
 any highly visible activities.

Cost/Benefit Analysis:

- Initially, any cost associated with managing this issue, from a communications
 perspective, will be feathered in to the FENOC normal budget. A long and
 highly visible communications campaign sparked by a spill or by inordinate
 media interest could increase costs.
- The benefit of keeping local officials informed of our activities was proved time and again during the extended outage at Davis-Besse. Those benefits include maintaining high credibility and support from local officials and the communities and a greater likelihood of heading off a dramatic backlash like the one at the Braidwood Plant.

Measurement:

Measurement of effectiveness of this plan includes achieving the milestones and an ongoing analysis of the response by local officials, the communities and news media regarding any tritium event our one of our sites.

FENOC FLEET INFORMAL NOTIFICATIONS GUIDANCE

Condition 2.1

"Document all onsite groundwater sample results and a description of any significant onsite leaks/spills into groundwater for each calendar year in the Annual REMP Report, beginning with the report covering the calendar year 2006;"

Implementing Guidance:

- i. The required reporting elements contained in the Industry Initiative, which are effective beginning July 31, 2006, will be reflected in the appropriate plant procedures.
 - 1. Communications elements will be incorporated into the appropriate procedures by July 31, 2006.
 - Changes to the ODCM and/or other plant procedures necessary to implement the annual reporting requirements will be completed in a timeframe to support submittal of the 2006 data in the 2007 reports.
- ii. The information required by the Industry Initiative will be documented as follows:
 - 1. All <u>onsite</u> and <u>offsite</u> groundwater sample results taken in support of the Industry Initiative will be documented.
 - a. Sample results that are from groundwater wells which are described in the ODCM as part of the REMP, should be reported in the Annual Radiological Environmental Operating Report.
 - b. Sample results that are from groundwater wells that are not described in the ODCM as part of the REMP should be reported in the Annual Radioactive Effluent Release Report.
 - 2. A description of all spills or leaks that have been communicated to State and local officials per 2.1 and 2.3 of the Industry Initiative shall be included in the Annual Radioactive Effluent Release Report.

¹ The reporting guidance provided herein incorporates recommendations provided by the RETS/REMP Steering Committee for reporting via the Annual Radiological Environmental Monitoring Report or the Annual Radioactive Effluent Release Report, as appropriate for the sample and circumstances. The RETS/REMP Steering Committee recommendation has been endorsed by NEL.

3. Any dose calculations that need to be performed as a result of releases from the site must be included and described in the Annual Radioactive Effluent Release Report.

Condition 2.2

"Submit a 30-day report to the NRC for any water sample result for <u>onsite</u> groundwater that may be used as a source of drinking water that exceeds the criteria in the licensee's existing REMP for 30-day reporting of <u>offsite</u> water sample results. Copies of the written 30-day reports for both onsite and offsite water samples will also be provided to the appropriate State agency".

Implementing Guidance:

- i. All groundwater samples taken for the Industry Initiative will be analyzed and compared to the standards and limits contained in the station's REMP/ODCM. A written 30-day NRC report is required for all sample results (either onsite or offsite) that exceed the REMP/ODCM reporting criterion and could potentially reach a source groundwater that is used as a source of drinking water or, if not currently used as drinking water, is potable and therefore could potentially become a future source of drinking water.
- ii. The initial discovery of groundwater contamination greater than the REMP/ODCM criterion is the event documented in a written 30-day report. It is not expected that a written 30-day report will be generated each time a subsequent sample(s) from the same "plume" identifies concentrations greater than the REMP/ODCM criterion. However, after a notification has been made, a significant adverse change of conditions from those previously measured should be communicated to State and local officials and the NRC.
- iii. All written 30-day NRC reports generated under item 2.2.i are to be concurrently forwarded to the designated state/local officials.

Condition 2.3

"Make informal notification as soon as practicable to community relations representative and appropriate State/Local officials, with follow-up notification to

the NRC, as appropriate, regarding significant² onsite leaks/spills into groundwater (see Item 2.1) and <u>onsite</u> or <u>offsite</u> water sample results exceeding the criteria in the REMP (see Item 2.2)."

Note: The informal notification specified in the Industry Initiative refers to a communication between the station and the State/Local officials per the criteria specified within this initiative. It does not take the place of any notifications required under any other existing State or Federal requirements or regulations.

Implementing Guidance:

- i. Communication by communications staff to designated State/Local officials (See Table A) will be made within 24 hours of recognition if an inadvertent unmonitored leak or spill to the environment that has or can potentially get into groundwater³ and it exceeds one of the following criterion:
 - 1. A leak or spill from a radiologically contaminated source that exceeds 100 gallons; OR
 - A leak or spill from a radioactively contaminated source for which the volume cannot be quantified or be reasonably bounded at less that 100 gallons; OR
 - 3. If actual analysis (of any spill or leak) indicates activity exceeding 2,000 picocuries per liter tritium or gamma emitters (per NUREG-1301 or 1302) or 2 picocuries per liter of Sr-90 in accordance with drinking water standards.
- ii. Notification by Communications to designated State/Local officials (See Table A) will be made within 24 hours of recognition for water sample results if:

- the spill or leak is into, onto, or will reach a pervious land surface, or subsurface strata overlying groundwater
- the spill or leak is into onsite groundwater or surface water hydrologically connected to groundwater
- the spill or leak is into a system, conveyance or structure (i.e. storm water drainage, unlined basin, buildings/ sumps, etc.) that openly discharge or has communication to groundwater or surface water hydrologically connected to groundwater.

^{2 &}quot;Significant" as used in the Industry Initiative is intended to be defined in part as what is of interest to the public. It is not intended to imply or refer back to regulatory terminology nor is it intended to connote that the leak or spill has public health and safety or environmental protection consequences.

³ A spill or leak has the potential to reach groundwater if:

- A water sample from <u>offsite</u> groundwater or surface water exceeds the reporting criterion for water provided in the REMP/ODCM.
- A water sample from an <u>onsite</u> groundwater monitoring well or surface water that is hydrologically connected to groundwater exceeds the reporting criterion for water in the REMP/ODCM.
- iii. Provide a 4-hour non-emergency event notification to NRC, as appropriate, pursuant to 10CFR50.72(b)(2)(xi) for the communication of events described above. The four hour clock starts with the first communication with State/Local officials.

Note: Recent NEI guidance, based on their discussions with NRC, indicate that certain NRC staff agree that informal communications with State and Local Officials under the Industry Initiative may not require a formal notification under 10CFR50.72(b)(2)(xi).

However, since NRC also indicated that no changes in the NRC 50.72 guidance is contemplated, FENOC notifications should be made in accordance with current plant processes and procedures.

Additional Considerations

- i. All communications/notifications (formal or informal) required by the Industry Initiative are in addition to and not in lieu of any formal notifications required under any federal, state or local regulatory requirements. However, it is not necessary to notify a state or local official more than once if he/she has been or will be notified within the same general timeframe under the formal notification process.
- ii. In order to coordinate the communications to state and local officials with the appropriate NRC notification requirements (i.e. 10 CFR 50.72(b)(2)(xi)), the communications will normally be made by the plant. However, the plant may request that responsible individuals in the corporate office, such as site Community Representatives, etc. make the notifications when coordination and compliance with the appropriate NRC reporting requirements can be assured.
- iii. When communicating to the State/Local officials, be clear and precise on quantifying the actual release information as it applies to the appropriate regulatory criteria. Put it in perspective.
- iv. It is suggested that each station review their site specific action plan with the designated State/Local officials and clearly articulate:

- 1. "Why" the action plans were put in place, i.e. industry events.
- 2. Past events that would have triggered this communication.
- 3. Ask if there is additional information that the State/Local officials need to better understand the issue.
- 4. Gain an understanding of "what" the State/Local officials will do with the information.
- iv Ensure all conditions are properly reviewed, documented and maintained in accordance with the requirements of 10CFR50.75(g).

A	The Arms
Approved:	Date:

APPENDIX A

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE INDUSTRY INITIATIVE ON MANAGING SITUATIONS INVOLVING INADVERTENT RADIOLOGICAL RELEASES INTO GROUNDWATER

Condition 2.3 of the Nuclear Energy Institute Industry Initiative on Managing Situations Involving Inadvertent Radiological Releases into Groundwater requires that notification be made as soon as practicable to appropriate State/Local Officials, with follow-up notification to the NRC, as appropriate, regarding significant onsite leaks/spills into groundwater and onsite or offsite water sample results exceeding the criteria in the REMP. However, discussions with State officials have indicated that notification be made within 24 hours of 2.3.i and 2.3.ii criteria.

Use the following table as guidance for the communications required under the Industry Initiative

	Beaver Valley	Davis Besse	Perry
STATE OFFICIALS	(BV) CONTACT THIS AGENCY FIRST USING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS.	(DB) CONTACT THIS AGENCY FIRST. The telephone number provided below is monitored on a 24-hour basis.	(PY) CONTACT THIS AGENCY FIRST. The telephone number provided below is monitored on a 24-bour basis.
	1. Commonwealth of PA Division of Nuclear Safety: Office: 717-787-2163 Cell: Pager	State of Ohio Radiological Branch Chief: 614-889-7150	1. State of Ohio Radiological Branch Chief: 614-889-7150
-			

	Beaver Valley (BV)	Davis Besse (DB)	Perry (PY)
LOCAL OFFICIALS	Beaver County 24-hour emergency number: 724-775-0880 Columbiana County 24-hour emergency number: 330-424-7255 Hancock County 24-hour emergency number: 304-564-4100 Shippingport Mayor: 304-564-4100 Shippingport Mayor: 24-hour emergency numbers are staffed at all times. The person receiving the call would then contact the appropriate emergency management personnel in all counties.	Ottawa County Commissioners: 419-734-6700 Ottawa County Emergency Management Agency: 419-734-6900 Lucas County Emergency Management Agency: 419-213-6505	Lake County Administrator: Office: 440-350-2749 Cell Lake County Emergency Management Director: Office: 440-350-5455 Home Cell: Pager: Lake County Health Commissioner: Office: 440-350-2555 Cell: North Perry Village Mayor: Office: 440-259-2222 Cell: Home Perry Village Mayor: Office: 440-259-2671 Home Geauga County Emergency Management:
			Office: 440-285-9200 Ashtabula County Administrator: Office: 440-576-3747 Ashtabula County Emergency Management:
			Office: 440-576-9148 Cell

Exb

	Beaver Valley (BV)	Davis Besse (DB)	Perry (PY)
			locals on 01/25/07: Ashtabula Health Commissioner Ray Saporito Office: 440-576-6010 Cell: © Ashtabula Disease Surveillance Specialist Jay Becker Office: 440-576-3021 Cell: © © © © © © © © © © © © ©
NRC	NRC Resident and/or regional representative, as appropriate As appropriate pursuant to 10CFR50.72(b)(2)(xi)	NRC Resident and/or regional representative, as appropriate As appropriate pursuant to 10CFR50.72(b)(2)(xi)	NRC Resident and/or regional representative, as appropriate As appropriate pursuant to 10CFR50.72(b)(2)(xi)
FENOC Internal Notifications	*RP Supervisor/RPM *Chemistry Supervisor/Manager *Site Duty Manager *Site Nuclear Communications *Fleet Duty Manager	*RP Supervisor/RPM *Chemistry Supervisor/Manager *Site Duty Manager *Site Nuclear Communications *Fleet Duty Manager	*RP Supervisor/RPM *Chemistry Supervisor/Manager *Site Duty Manager *Site Nuclear Communications *Fleet Duty Manager

E.6

NOP-L	OP-LP-2001-01 Site: G201								
	(CONDI	TION	REP	ORT		CR Number 03-02360		
TITL	E: EVALUATE OPER	ATING EXPERIEN	NCE 15788 F	OR RELEVA	NCE TO DAVIS-	BESSE			
	DISCOVERY DATE 3/25/2003								
		IPTION Spent Fuel	l Pool Leak D		im	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
EQUIPMENT DESCRIPTION Spent Fuel Pool Leak Detection System FLOC DESCRIPTION OF CONDITION and PROBABLE CAUSE (if known) Summarize any attachments. Identify what, where, why, how. OE 15788 describes a condition at Salem where the leakage detected by their SFP leak detection system gradually diminished to zero over time. Salem uses a system of tell-tale drains similar to the used at Davis-Besse. After workers got contaminated on their shoes, investigation found a "calciu like substance" adhearing to the wall of the room adjoining the Spent Fuel Pool. It was discovered that the leak detection system had pluged with boron over time and caused the water to accumulate until it migrated to other locations. Operators who have performed DB-SP-04400, Spent Fuel Pool, Fuel Transfer Pit, and Cask Pit Leak Detection System Test, over the years, remember getting measurable leakage from various points. Most of those points now have little or no leakage. There have also been accumulations of boron crystals on the ends of the leak detection piping. Some of the valves have had work request written as the boron crystals made the valves difficult to operate. A contamination area has existe for a long time on the south wall of #1 ECCS room with what appears to be boron crystals. In summary, Davis-Besse appears to have all the same signs that Salem had of a plugged SFP Leakage Detection System. Leak Detection data should be evaluated for decreasing trends over the years. IMMEDIATE ACTIONS TAKEN / SUPV COMMENTS (Discuss CORRECTIVE ACTIONS completed, basis for closure).							eak detection ns similar to that ound a "calcium as discovered r to accumulate nd Cask Pit from various cumulations of d work requests ea has existed retals. ugged SFP trends over the		
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	ORIGINATOR	ORGA	ANIZATION	DATE 3/25/2003	SUPERVISOR	makan makan mengelak mengan bermilan Perseb	E PHONE EXT.		
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	CONDITION	I REPO	RT	CR Number 03-02360			
TITL	E: EVALUATE OPERATING EXPERIENCE 15788	FOR RELEVANCE	E TO DAVIS-BESSE				
P L A	SRO EQUIPMENT OPERABILIT REVIEW OPERABLE ASSESSMEN REQUIRED Yes \(\text{No} \text{ No} \text{ No} \text{ No} \(\text{NI} \) \(\text{Yes} \text{ V} \)	IT NOTIFIED	IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION REQUIRED ☐ Yes ☑ No	ORG. MODE CHANGE RESTRAINT			
N T	MODE ASSOCIATED TECH SPEC NUMBER(S)		LCO ACTION STATEMENT				
O P E R A	DECLARED INOPERABLE REPORTABLE? (Date / Time) N/A Eval Required	One Hour N/A	INDERIGUIDIN PRESSITURION	☑ U1			
T	From the description as provided by the originator it appears that DB has some of the indications that Salem experienced. Based on this an evaluation needs to be performed to determine if DB has the same problem as identified in the OE. As stated by the originator the north wall in the ECCS rm 1 has a boron buildup. No buildup of boron has been noticed on the accessible portions of the remaining 3 walls, however the south wall of the SFP is partially covered by the backfill on the outside of the Auxiliary Bldg. If it is determined that the same condition exists at DB as has occurred at Salem then leakage thru the concrete of the south SFP wall needs to be assessed. If the evaluation determines that this conditions exists at DB another CR needs to be written to determine operability/reportability.						
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NOP-LP-2001-05

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	Report provided an in-depth historical discussion of these results. For example a beach well (T-7) near DB tested 960 pCi/L in 1980 while a sample from the lake between the well and DB was tested at 2,737 pCi/L. The report also put these values in perspective of the EPA drinking water guidelines (10CFR141) where 3,000,000 pCi/L is the Maximum Permissible Concentration (MPC). The values from the well near the Auxiliary Building are substantially below those measured at other plants with known fuel pool leakage. For example, at the decommissioning of Connecticut Yankee they initially detected 143,000 pCi/L of tritium in the soil below the basemat. Further testing was performed and numerous wells drilled at various locations and depths. They found tritium plumes that extended out away from the plant structures that were 3,000 pCi/L up to 45,000 pCi/L. (ref. May 19, 2004 industry meeting at MPR Associates on SFP leakage scanned attachment). Based on the tritium values from the ground water near the south wall of the Auxiliary Building compared to other plants that have had leaks and with other water samples in and around DB there does not appear to be leakage from the SFP or CP. NOTE: This response has been reviewed with Radiation Protection and with Environmental and both concur with the conclusion. Corrective Action Implementation Date: 11/2/2004									
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	Completed By:	MURTHA, M		Date: 11/2/2004						
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Justification:		appears that leakage of the pools is being						
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Requestor: MURTHA	A, M	Requestor Date: 6/28/2004						
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QA Acceptance*:		Acceptance Date:	☑ Acce	pt 🗌 Reject				
Approver: HENGGE	E, C	Approver Date: 6/29/2004	✓ Acce	pt 🗌 Reject				

[&]quot;NA if CR is not identified for QA follow-up