November 3, 2010

MEMORANDUM TO: Mark Salley, Chief
Fire Research Branch
Division of Risk Analysis
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: Kendra Hill ***/RA/***
Fire Research Branch
Division of Risk Analysis
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF NRC-RES/EPRI FIRE PRA COURSE HELD SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 1 & OCTOBER 25 - 29, 2010

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) and the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) conducted a joint public meeting consisting of a fire PRA (Probabilistic Risk Assessment) course on September 27 – October 1 and October 25 - 29, 2010 at the Legacy Hotel and Conference Centre in Rockville, MD. The purpose of the course was to provide detailed, hands-on training on the fire PRA methodology described in the technical document, NUREG/CR-6850 (EPRI 1011989) entitled "EPRI/NRC-RES Fire PRA Methodology for Nuclear Power Facilities." This fire PRA methodology document supports implementation of the risk-informed, performance-based rule 10CFR50.48(c) endorsing National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 805, as well as other applications such as exemptions or deviations to our current regulations and fire protection Significance Determination Process phase 3 applications.

RES and EPRI provided training in four subject areas: Fire Analysis, PRA, Human Reliability Analysis (HRA) and Electrical Analysis. Participants selected one of these subject areas and spent the duration of the course in the module that covered the subject area that they selected. This year a separate HRA module was added to the course covering the newly developed HRA guidance provided in draft NUREG-1921, "EPRI/NRC-RES Fire Human Reliability Analysis Guidelines." For each technical area, the workshop also included a one day module introducing the fundamentals of the subject. The purpose of the fundamentals modules was to assist students without an extensive background in the technical area in understanding the in-depth training modules that followed. Attendance in the fundamentals modules was optional. Another addition to this year's workshop was the inclusion of material in the technical presentations relating the fire portion of the ASME/ANS PRA Standard to the fire PRA methodology. The workshop's format allowed for in-depth presentations and practical examples directed toward the participant's area of interest.

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The workshop drew approximately 80 participants in September and 90 participants in October including NRC employees from NRR, RES and the Regions, licensees and consultants, and representatives from outside the U.S. Participant feedback from the workshop has been overwhelmingly positive. Plans are currently underway to conduct the workshop again in 2011. The 2011 workshop will be hosted by EPRI and supported by RES.

The course slides (Enclosure 1) can be found in ADAMS under ADAMS package accession number ML102530277.

Enclosures:
1. Course Slides
2. Attendance List

cc: C. Lui, RES
D. Coe, RES

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