RESPONSE SHEET

TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary

FROM: COMMISSIONER SVINICKI

SUBJECT: COMGBJ-11-0002 – NRC ACTIONS FOLLOWING THE EVENTS IN JAPAN

Approved XX Disapproved _____ Abstain _____

Not Participating _____

COMMENTS: Below ___ Attached XX None ___

SIGNATURE

03/22/11
DATE

Entered on "STARS" Yes ✓ No ___

Commissioner Svinicki's Comments on COMGBJ-11-0002
NRC Actions Following the Events in Japan

I approve the proposal advanced by the Chairman to establish a senior level task force to review our processes and regulations in light of the recent earthquake and tsunami in Japan. The devastation in Japan constitutes an unprecedented tragedy for that nation. We need to keep in mind, however, that this crisis has not created an emergency in the United States, and the Commission and the staff should adhere to existing protocols.

The staff should conduct their review in ways consistent with the agency's goals of regulatory stability and predictability. To date, agency representatives have consistently communicated that, based on what is known so far, there is no reason to believe that the NRC's current practices, protocols, and regulations are not effective. In addition, the Near Term Review should have a clearly stated objective of confirming the safety of currently operating plants and identifying regulatory gaps that require immediate attention. I have attached to this vote some additional, minor edits. Finally, I support, in their entirety, the edits that Commissioners Apostolakis and Magwood included in their votes on this matter.

Kristine L. Svinicki 03/22/11

COMGBJ-11-0002

March 21, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO: Commissioner Svinicki
Commissioner Apostolakis
Commissioner Magwood
Commissioner Ostendorff

FROM: Chairman Jaczko /RA/

SUBJECT: NRC ACTIONS FOLLOWING THE EVENTS IN JAPAN

The tragic events in Japan have reinforced the importance of this agency's mission and efforts. The NRC's existing licensing and oversight process have provided us with a robust framework for assuring safety at our existing facilities. I also believe that one of our greatest assets as an agency is our ability to analyze and learn from new information. This tragedy requires us to do just that. Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me in directing the Executive Director for Operations to establish a senior level agency task force to conduct a methodical and systematic review of our processes and regulations to determine whether the agency should make additional improvements to our regulatory system and make recommendations to the Commission for its policy direction. I believe the review must necessarily unfold with near term and then longer term objectives.

Near Term Review

- This task force should evaluate currently available technical and operational information from the events in Japan to identify potential or preliminary near term/immediate operational or regulatory issues affecting domestic operating reactors of all designs in areas such as protection against earthquake, tsunami, flooding, hurricanes; station blackout and a degraded ability to restore power; severe accident mitigation; emergency preparedness; and combustible gas control.
- The task force should develop recommendations, as appropriate, for potential changes to inspection procedures and licensing review guidance, and recommend whether generic communications, orders, or other regulatory requirements are needed.
- The task force efforts should be informed by some stakeholder input but should be independent of industry efforts.
- The report would be released to the public per normal Commission processes.

To ensure the Commission is both kept informed of these efforts and called upon to resolve any policy recommendations that surface, I believe the task force should, at a minimum, be prepared to brief the Commission on a 30 day quick look report; on the status of the ongoing near term review at approximately ~~a~~ the 60 day ~~interval~~ point; and then on the 90 day culmination of the near term efforts. Additional specific subject matter briefings and additional voting items that request Commission policy direction may also be added during the Commission's agenda planning meetings. ~~and thus, the staff should be prepared in advance to adapt to the Commission's requests following those agenda planning sessions in this dynamic environment.~~

Longer Term Review

- The task force's longer term review should begin as soon as NRC has sufficient technical information from the events in Japan with the goal of no later than the completion of the 90 day near term report, and the task force should provide updates on the beginning of the longer term review at the 30 and 60 day status updates.
- This effort would include specific information on the sequence of events and the status of equipment during the duration of the event., to the extent they are known from sources in Japan, who may still be addressing mitigative measures as their highest priority.
- The task force should evaluate all technical and policy issues related to the event to identify ~~additional~~ potential research, generic issues, changes to the reactor oversight process, rulemakings, and adjustments to the regulatory framework that should be conducted by NRC.
- The task force should evaluate potential interagency issues such as emergency preparedness.
- Applicability of the lessons learned to non-operating reactor and non-reactor facilities should also be explored.
- During the review, the task force should receive input from and interact with all key stakeholders.
- The task force should provide a report with recommendations, as appropriate, to the Commission within six months from the start of the evaluation for Commission policy direction.
- The report would be released to the public per normal Commission processes.

The proposal described above is intended to provide high-level guidance to a new agency task force. I look forward to reaching Commission consensus on an appropriate approach on this important issue as soon as possible.

SECY, please track.

cc: CFO
EDO
OGC
SECY

RESPONSE SHEET

TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary

FROM: Commissioner Apostolakis

SUBJECT: COMGBJ-11-0002 – NRC ACTIONS FOLLOWING THE EVENTS IN JAPAN

Approved X **Disapproved** _____ **Abstain** _____

Not Participating _____

COMMENTS: **Below** X **Attached** X **None** ___

I approve COMGBJ-11-0002 subject to the edits by Commissioner Magwood and the attached further edits.

SIGNATURE

3/22/11

DATE

Entered on "STARS" **Yes** X **No** ___

Commissioner Apostolakis' Edits to COMGBJ-11-0002

March 21, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO: Commissioner Svinicki
Commissioner Apostolakis
Commissioner Magwood
Commissioner Ostendorff

FROM: Chairman Jaczko **/RA/**

SUBJECT: NRC ACTIONS FOLLOWING THE EVENTS IN JAPAN

The tragic events in Japan have reinforced the importance of this agency's mission and efforts. The NRC's existing licensing and oversight process have provided us with a robust framework for assuring safety at our existing facilities. I also believe that one of our greatest assets as an agency is our ability to analyze and learn from new information. This tragedy requires us to do just that. Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me in directing the Executive Director for Operations to establish a senior level agency task force to conduct a methodical and systematic review of our processes and regulations to determine whether the agency should make additional improvements to our regulatory system and make recommendations to the Commission for its policy direction. I believe the review must necessarily unfold with near term and then longer term objectives.

Near Term Review

- This task force should evaluate currently available technical and operational information from the events in Japan to identify near term/immediate operational or regulatory issues affecting domestic operating reactors of all designs in areas such as protection against earthquake, tsunami, flooding, hurricanes; station blackout and a degraded ability to restore power; severe accident mitigation; emergency preparedness; and combustible gas control.
- The task force should develop recommendations, as appropriate, for changes to inspection procedures and licensing review guidance, and recommend whether generic communications, orders, or other regulatory requirements are needed.
- The task force efforts should be informed by some stakeholder input but should be independent of industry efforts.
- The report would be released to the public per normal Commission processes.

To ensure the Commission is both kept informed of these efforts and called upon to resolve any policy recommendations that surface, I believe the task force should, at a minimum, be prepared to brief the Commission on a 30 day quick look report; on the status of the ongoing near term review at approximately a 60 day interval; and then on the 90 day culmination of the near term efforts. Additional specific subject matter briefings and additional voting items that request Commission policy direction may also be added during the Commission's agenda planning meetings and thus, the staff should be prepared in advance to adapt to the Commission's requests following those agenda planning sessions in this dynamic environment.

Longer Term Review

- The task force's longer term review should begin as soon as NRC has sufficient technical information from the events in Japan with the goal of no later than the completion of the 90 day near term report, and the task force should provide updates on the beginning of the longer term review at the 30 and 60 day status updates.
- This effort would include specific information on the sequence of events and the status of equipment during the duration of the event.
- The task force should evaluate all technical and policy issues related to the event to identify additional research, generic issues, changes to the reactor oversight process, rulemakings, and adjustments to the regulatory framework that should be conducted by NRC.
- The task force should evaluate interagency issues such as emergency preparedness.
- Applicability of the lessons learned to non-operating reactor and non-reactor facilities should also be explored.
- During the review, the task force should receive input from and interact with all key stakeholders.
- The task force should provide a report with recommendations, as appropriate, to the Commission within six months from the start of the evaluation for Commission policy direction.
- The report should be provided to ACRS for review prior to it being submitted to the Commission.
- The report would be released to the public per normal Commission processes.

The proposal described above is intended to provide high-level guidance to a new agency task force. I look forward to reaching Commission consensus on an appropriate approach on this important issue as soon as possible.

SECY, please track.

cc: CFO
EDO
OGC
SECY

RESPONSE SHEET

TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary

FROM: COMMISSIONER MAGWOOD

SUBJECT: COMGBJ-11-0002 – NRC ACTIONS FOLLOWING THE EVENTS IN JAPAN

Approved X **Disapproved** _____ **Abstain** _____

Not Participating _____

COMMENTS: **Below** ___ **Attached** X **None** ___

I approve COMGBJ-11-0002 as edited in the attached.

SIGNATURE

21 March 2011

DATE

Entered on "STARS" Yes X **No** ___

COMGBJ-11-0002

March 21, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO: Commissioner Svinicki
Commissioner Apostolakis
Commissioner Magwood
Commissioner Ostendorff

FROM: Chairman Jaczko /RA/

SUBJECT: NRC ACTIONS FOLLOWING THE EVENTS IN JAPAN

The tragic events in Japan have reinforced the importance of this agency's mission and efforts. The NRC's existing licensing and oversight process have provided us with a robust framework for assuring safety at our existing facilities. I also believe that one of our greatest assets as an agency is our ability to analyze and learn from new information. This tragedy requires us to do just that. Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me in directing the Executive Director for Operations to establish a senior level agency task force to conduct a methodical and systematic review of our processes and regulations to determine whether the agency should make additional improvements to our regulatory system and make recommendations to the Commission for its policy direction. I believe the review must necessarily unfold with near term and then longer term objectives.

Near Term Review

- This task force should evaluate currently available technical and operational information from the events that have occurred at the Fukushima Daiici nuclear complex in Japan to identify near term/immediate operational or regulatory issues affecting domestic operating reactors of all designs, including their spent fuel pools, in areas such as protection against earthquake, tsunami, flooding, hurricanes; station blackout and a degraded ability to restore power; severe accident mitigation; emergency preparedness; and combustible gas control.
- The task force should develop recommendations, as appropriate, for changes to inspection procedures and licensing review guidance, and recommend whether generic communications, orders, or other regulatory requirements are needed.
- The task force efforts should be informed by some stakeholder input but should be independent of industry efforts.
- The report would be released to the public ~~per normal~~ subsequent to its approval by the Commission ~~processes~~.

To ensure the Commission is both kept informed of these efforts and called upon to resolve any policy recommendations that surface, I believe the task force should, at a minimum, be prepared to brief the Commission on a 30 day quick look report; on the status of the ongoing near term review at approximately a 60 day interval; and then on the 90 day culmination of the near term efforts. Additional specific subject matter briefings and additional voting items that request Commission policy direction may also be added during the Commission's agenda

planning meetings and thus, the staff should be prepared in advance to adapt to the Commission's requests following those agenda planning sessions in this dynamic environment.

Longer Term Review

- The task force's longer term review should begin as soon as NRC has sufficient technical information from the events in Japan with the goal of no later than the completion of the 90 day near term report, and the task force should provide updates on the beginning of the longer term review at the 30 and 60 day status updates.
- This effort would include specific information on the sequence of events and the status of equipment during the duration of the event.
- The task force should evaluate all technical and policy issues related to the event to identify additional research, generic issues, changes to the reactor oversight process, rulemakings, and adjustments to the regulatory framework that should be conducted by NRC.
- The task force should evaluate interagency issues such as emergency preparedness.
- Applicability of the lessons learned to non-operating reactor and non-reactor facilities should also be explored.
- During the review, the task force should receive input from and interact with all key stakeholders.
- The task force should provide a report with recommendations, as appropriate, to the Commission within six months from the start of the evaluation for Commission policy direction.
- The report would be released to the public ~~per normal~~ subsequent to its approval by the Commission ~~processes.~~
- Before beginning work on the longer term review, staff should provide the Commission with estimated resource impacts on other regulatory activities.

The proposal described above is intended to provide high-level guidance to a new agency task force. I look forward to reaching Commission consensus on an appropriate approach on this important issue as soon as possible.

SECY, please track.

cc: CFO
EDO
OGC
SECY

RESPONSE SHEET

TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary

FROM: COMMISSIONER OSTENDORFF

SUBJECT: COMGBJ-11-0002 – NRC ACTIONS FOLLOWING THE EVENTS IN JAPAN

Approved XX **Disapproved** _____ **Abstain** _____

Not Participating _____

COMMENTS: **Below** XX **Attached** ___ **None** ___

I appreciate the efforts of the Chairman and the staff in developing this proposal. As noted during the dialogue with the Executive Director for Operations during today's Commission meeting, I wish to emphasize, though not as an edit to the proposal, that it is important, given the ambitious nature of the proposal, that the task force stay focused on the scope of the review.

_____
SIGNATURE

3/21/2011
DATE

Entered on "STARS" **Yes** XX **No** ___