

April 06, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO: Joseph Colaccino, Chief
EPR Projects Branch
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

FROM: James A. Steckel */RA/*
Project Manager
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Office of New Reactors

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MARCH 15, 2011, PUBLIC MEETING WITH
THE U.S. EPR DESIGN CENTER WORKING GROUP

On March 15, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) held a public meeting at 11921 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD, with representatives of the U.S. EPR Design Center Working Group (DCWG). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss cross-cutting issues related to the U.S. EPR Design Center. The meeting agenda is provided as Enclosure 1 and the meeting attendance list is provided as Enclosure 2.

The presentation materials distributed at the meeting are available through the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) system, via Accession Number ML110800398. Documents in ADAMS are available electronically at the NRC Electronic Reading Room at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. If you do not have access to ADAMS or have problems accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) staff at 1 800 397-4209, 301 415-4737, or pdr@nrc.gov.

The meeting was a Category 2 public meeting, during which members of the public were invited to provide comments at specific times identified in the agenda. The meeting lasted from 8:30 a.m. to 10.45 a.m. A summary of the subjects covered and respective findings is provided in the following sections.

Review of Action Items from Previous Meetings

No pending Action Items were identified from the previous meeting. An extension of the previous meeting's discussion on Toxic Gas Monitoring System requirements was on the agenda for today's meeting.

Spent Fuel Cask Handling System Status

Staff from the Balance of Plant Branch provided a presentation on some of the challenges

related to approval of the spent fuel cask handling system. The two part presentation consisted of:

1. A representation of potential options open to design certification (DC) and combined license (COL) applicants, overlain on an approximate time line, that can be considered in meeting the Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 52 and Part 72 requirements for spent fuel cask design and handling
2. A table of current requests for additional information (RAIs) showing a relation to each of the potential options

At the completion of the staff presentation, significant discussion developed over the implications of the various options. Questions were raised over which options would be sufficient to satisfy 10 CFR Part 52 Vs 10 CFR Part 72 requirements, what design details in each of the options would be expected to satisfy Parts 52 and 72, and whether the detailed design of the cask handling system needed to be provided at this time, or if a description of system capability would be sufficient. One DCWG member expressed reservations against providing detailed dimensions at this time as they can end up becoming Tier 1 items.

The dilemma, on the one hand, involves the need for design details to allow for a safety determination, without the necessity for full detailed design development. A question was raised as to when the cask handling design needed to occur, whether AREVA needed to present a full design in the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR), or whether it would be sufficient to present bounding conditions. Another DCGW member asked if there was sufficient regulatory flexibility to permit creation of a license condition for cask handling.

NRC staff offered that a description of the normal system operation is what was needed, and this is interpreted as the need to show the ability for removal of at least one spent fuel assembly. Because today's plants are not licensed with regard to a specific cask design, the focus should not be on the cask, but on the safety of spent fuel in relation to its removal and movement through the opening near the bottom of the spent fuel pool.

A suggestion was made and agreed to that the information provided at today's meeting needs to be thoroughly reviewed, but the initiative to reach a path forward should be maintained, and today's discussion is a start to that conclusion. A series of meetings and telecons on this topic is anticipated and the initial assembly should be in the format of a public meeting. No decision on which cask handling option to follow should occur at least until the first meeting. The NRC Lead PM was assigned to work with one of the DCGW members to develop a meeting schedule.

Toxic Gas Monitor Issue

Control room air intake toxic gas monitors are included in the U.S. EPR design certification application, but the staff wants this removed from the DC FSAR since the presence of toxic gas is site-specific. There is currently, no toxic gas monitor hardware discussion in the design control document. It is up to each site to provide control room habitability protection. AREVA has prepared a draft response and FSAR markup to RAI 462 clarifying that it is the responsibility of the COL applicant to designate any hardware that may be necessary for the detection,

measurement, and isolation of toxic gases that could impact control room habitability. The staff will review the draft response and provide feedback.

Look Ahead

- The NRC Lead PM for the U.S. EPR will work with DCWG counterparts on a proposed schedule for a series of meetings and teleconferences related to options for the spent fuel cask handling system.
- Proposed date for next DCWG meeting: April 27, 2011.

Action Items/Closing Remarks

The NRC staff and DCWG members went through the list of action items to make sure all had been addressed. New action items for the next DCWG meeting:

- Include a discussion on Tier 2* in the next meeting
- Tentative dates for DCWG meetings for the remainder of the year:
 - April 27
 - June 8
 - July 27
 - September 14
 - November 2

No members of the public were in attendance. The attendance list is provided and no public feedback forms were received. Please direct any inquiries concerning this meeting to James.Steckel@nrc.gov.

Docket No.: 52-020

Enclosures:
Meeting Agenda and Attendee List

cc: U.S. EPR DCWG Mailing List

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cc: U.S. EPR DCWG Mailing List

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MEETING AGENDA

U.S. EPR DESIGN CENTER WORKING GROUP PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday, March 15, 2011

8:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Time	Topic	Lead
8:30 a.m.	Introduction and Opening Remarks	NRC/DCWG**
8:45 a.m.	Review of Action Items from Previous Meeting	NRC/DCWG
9:00 a.m.	Spent Fuel Cask Handling System Status	NRC/DCWG
11:00 a.m.	Approach to Address the Toxic Gas Monitor Issue	NRC/DCWG
11:30 a.m.	Action Items/Closing Remarks	ALL
11:45 a.m.	Adjourn*	NRC

Note - All times listed are approximate and for planning purposes only. Adjustments may be made during the meeting as necessary.

* The public will be given opportunities to comment at these points in the meeting.

** DCWG – Design Center Working Group (AREVA, UniStar, and PPL affiliates)

ATTENDANCE LIST

U.S. EPR Design Center Working Group Public Meeting

Tuesday, March 15, 2011
8:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

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ENCLOSURE 2

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(Revised 02/15/2011)

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