

March 29, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO: Doug Weaver, Deputy Director
Licensing and Inspection Directorate
Division of Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

FROM: Chris Staab, Project Manager **/RA/**
Licensing Branch
Division of Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MARCH 14, 2011, MEETING WITH NEI AND
INDUSTRY REGARDING ISSUE RESOLUTION PROTOCOL AND
PILOT ISSUE

Background. On March 14, 2011, the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), utility representatives, and cask vendors met with staff to discuss NEI's Regulatory Issue Resolution Protocol (RIRP), pilot issue screening form, and issue resolution plan for the marine atmosphere corrosion pilot issue. No regulatory decisions were requested nor made at the meeting. The list of meeting attendees is Enclosure 1. The agenda is Enclosure 2. Handouts are Enclosure 3.

Discussion. The discussion addressed revisions to the documentation of the pilot issue and revisions to the protocol.

- High Level Summary of Meeting. The pilot issue pertains to when stress corrosion cracking could be occurring in spent fuel casks located in a marine atmosphere. NEI will submit a letter to the NRC by April 11, 2011 with the proposed screening form and resolution plan, based on input received during the public meeting. The problem statement developed during the meeting is "sufficient data does not exist to determine when and where stress corrosion cracking in stainless steel storage casks could exist." The success criteria developed during the meeting is "obtain sufficient data to determine when stress corrosion cracking in stainless steel storage casks could exist and obtain sufficient data to determine where stress corrosion cracking in stainless steel storage casks could exist." Staff, NEI, utility representatives, and cask vendors also began work on the resolution plan at the public meeting. Staff will hold another public meeting devoted to the RIRP and this pilot issue by June 14, 2011.
- Resolution Plan. Staff, NEI, utility representatives, and cask vendors developed the following resolution plan:
 - Hold a public meeting to discuss industry's preliminary screening criteria for determining when and where stress corrosion cracking could exist on stainless steel storage casks.
 - Industry write a white paper with developed screening criteria for determining when and where stress corrosion cracking could exist on stainless steel storage casks.

- NRC will consider the impact and appropriately respond to industry's white paper.
 - Hold a public meeting to discuss preliminary results from industry's screening and other actions.
 - Licensees evaluate sites and casks to the developed screening criteria to determine whether stress corrosion cracking is a potential issue.
 - EPRI and industry perform appropriate inspections or other methodologies to validate evaluations.
 - Industry submits letter on findings.
- NRC Comments on NEI's Issue Resolution Protocol, NEI 10-03, Revision 0 dated April 2010. The specific comments were provided subsequent to the meeting, are provided below, and are located at ML110870058:
 - On the ASTRACT page, consider adding NRC KEY MESSAGES, which are:
 - 1) This NEI guidance document could be a way to achieve the consistency and issue management as proposed by NEI.
 - 2) A fully developed problem statement is essential to achieve timely resolution of issues.
 - 3) Recommended and NRC endorsed solutions will ensure issue closure and timely resolution.
 - 4) Industry commitment to implement Issue Resolution Protocol solutions is required to ensure consistency and timely closure.
 - 5) NRC may deviate from solution plans based on new information.
 - 6) NRC "concurrence" on issue summary forms is not formal or official and indicates NRC is aware of and will in good faith work on solution plans.
 - On page 3, under principles number 3 the following is stated: "If yes, Industry and NRC continue working until agreement on the actions is achieved." This implies closure is when industry and the NRC reach agreement on the resolution plan. However, this contradicts the closure definition on page 7 under 2.2.4.2. Please revisit the definition of Closure and add the definition to the Key Terms and Definitions at the end of NEI 10-03.
 - Consider adding "spent fuel" between "or" and "transportation" in the first screening criteria on the screening form for clarity.
 - Consider adding "NRC" in between "another" and "process" in the fifth screening criteria on the screening form for clarity.
 - On page B-4, explanation under 4, replace "without" with "while" for correctness.
 - Edit: Add an "s" after "need" in the first sentence, second paragraph under Success Criteria on page B-4.
 - Consider adding: "Success criteria is always the inverse of the problem statement." in Section III on page B-4.
 - Consider adding in the protocol that letters between NEI/industry and the NRC will document NRC endorsement of screening, planning, and closure forms.

TAC No. LA0233

Enclosures: 1. Meeting Attendees
2. Agenda
3. Handouts

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NAME	CStaab		MDeBose		MWaters	
DATE	3/22/2011		3/23/2011		3/29/11	

MEETING ATTENDEES
Meeting Between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
NEI, and Industry
March 14, 2011

Mike Waters	NRC/SFST
Bob Einzinger	NRC/SFST
Dave Pstrak	NRC/SFST
Geoff Hornseth	NRC/SFST
Sara DePaula	NRC/SFST
Appajosula Rao	NRC/SFST
Chris Staab	NRC/SFST
Tae Ahn	NRC/HLWRS
Tom Matula	NRC/HLWRS
Marc Nichol	NEI
Andrew Sowder	EPRI
William Bracey	TN
Mike Floyd	Exelon
Adam Levin	Exelon
Heidi Valenta	Constellation
John Massari	Constellation
Carl Friant	Constellation
Glenn Schartz	PSEG Nuclear
James Connell	Maine Yankee
Randy Robins	Dominion

Agenda
Meeting with Nuclear Energy Institute
and Industry
March 14, 2011

1. Call to Order and Introductions (5 min)
2. Introductory Remarks (5 min)
3. Discussion of Pilot Issue regarding Stress Corrosion Cracking of storage casks in a marine atmosphere using Regulatory Issue Resolution Protocol:
 - Discuss protocol (10 min)
 - Discuss revised problem statement on screening form for pilot issue (50 min)
 - Discuss issue resolution plan for pilot issue (95 min with break)
4. Open Discussion/Public Comments and Conclusion (15 min)