

Hughey, John

~~3/22/10~~ 3/22/10

after 1:00 pm

From: Guzman, Richard
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2010 3:08 PM
To: Cotton, Karen; Hughey, John
Cc: Kulesa, Gloria; Chernoff, Harold; Salgado, Nancy; Meighan, Sean; Giitter, Joseph; Nelson, Robert; Howe, Allen; Stang, John
Subject: PM Action Request: State-of-the-Art Reactor Consequence Analysis (SOARCA)
Attachments: ML100280027 SOARCA CommPlan PreDecisional 28Jan10.pdf; SOARCA Review-Approval Process - Mar 11 2010.doc

Karen and John,

As we previously discussed, RES requests DORL PM assistance in coordinating a conference call with each of the SOARCA participant plants (Peach Bottom and Surry). Specifically, RES will be requesting the licensee to fact-check the subject Draft NUREG for technical accuracy.

Requested PM Action (** DO NOT FORWARD THIS E-MAIL TO YOUR LICENSEE **):

Please contact your plant licensing POC today (no later than tomorrow) and schedule a conference call to discuss the following:

- RES' expectations/guidance for licensee in support of their review of the SOARCA Draft NUREG
- Content of the Draft NUREG (Appendix A and B w/MELCOR input deck); what to expect in their fact-check review
- Schedule for near term actions; Overview and current activities/status of the SOARCA project; High-Level Q&A
- Expected licensee participants on the call would be a plant licensing manager, plant's lead SOARCA person, their Public Relation Rep, and perhaps a corporate-level executive. From the NRC, Jimi Yerokun (RES Branch Chief and SOARCA Team Manager) will lead the call. Other NRC participants include Scott Elkins (SOARCA PM, RES), Scott Burnell (OPA), and NRR PMs (Rich Guzman and Plant PM)
- You should also inform them that RES is requesting that they complete their fact-check review in a 2-week period to support the current SOARCA schedule, and that we expect to send them a CD by the end of March. RES recognizes this is Spring outage time and there may be resource implications (plant licensing, technical PRA experts, etc) involved in this request; RES will be ready to discuss this concern during the conference call, and provide some flexibility in schedule, as necessary.
- Inform your plant resident inspector/Region of these upcoming licensee-interface activities; there is no expectation for Region support on this specific request; only an FYI item
- Call is NOT intended to be a technical discussion; we can schedule another call w/RES technical folks to support their review on a later date, if needed.

I've attached the latest Communication Plan and SOARCA milestone schedule for your information (both are Pre-Decisional/INTERNAL USE ONLY)

More Background Information can be found on the NRC public website at url: <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/research/soar.html>

Other items for your awareness:

- Jack Grobe is the SOARCA steering committee member from NRR - he has been briefed and has given his green light for this next step; Joe Giitter and Nelson have also been briefed

R/g

- The plan is to send the Draft NUREG w/MELCOR input decks on CD via mail by 3/31; RES will draft the cover letter, plant PMs will issue as a publicly available letter w/enclosed non-public CD.
- The CD will consist of an Appendix of the draft NUREG (App A - Peach Bottom Integrated Analysis, is 179 pages; App B - Surry Integrated Analysis is 306 pages); also, there will be MELCOR deck input information to review. I don't have sizes on that yet.
- The Draft NUREG is pre-decisional and should be handled accordingly (not to be shared w/anyone outside of Surry and Peach Bottom)
- Be advised that your licensing contact may already have gotten the word, as Scott Burnell (OPA) in parallel has contacted his PR reps for the site with the same message.

SOARCA Overview (Internal - Pre-decisional Information from Comm Plan)

The State-of-the-Art Reactor Consequence Analyses (SOARCA) project involves the reanalysis of severe accident consequences to develop a body of knowledge regarding the realistic outcomes of severe reactor accidents. In addition to incorporating the results of over 25 years of research, the objective of the SOARCA study is to include in this updated plant analysis the significant plant improvements and updates (e.g., system improvements, training and emergency procedures, and offsite emergency response) that have been made by plant owners and are not reflected in earlier U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) assessments. These improvements to plant safety also include those enhancements recently made in connection with security-related events.

This initial phase of the SOARCA project analyzes two plants that are typical examples of the two types of commercial nuclear power plants used in the United States today. The Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station (Peach Bottom) is a boiling-water reactor (BWR) near Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and the Surry Power Station (Surry) is a pressurized-water reactor (PWR) near Newport News, Virginia.

The NRC staff completed a detailed technical evaluation of both Peach Bottom and Surry and provided a summary of the preliminary results to the Commission in March 2009. The draft report is currently undergoing review by an independent peer review panel of subject matter experts. The staff will revise the report to address the peer review panel's comments before initiating internal and external reviews. After all comments have been addressed, the staff will provide the SOARCA NUREG to the Commission for review.

Any question, please give me a call.

Thanks,
Rich

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