

February 17, 2012

MEMORANDUM TO: Rani L. Franovich, Chief
Performance Assessment Branch
Division of Inspection and Regional Support
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Jocelyn Lian, Reactor Operations Engineer */RA/*
Performance Assessment Branch
Division of Inspection and Regional Support
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS WORKING
GROUP PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 19, 2012

On January 19, 2012, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff hosted the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Working Group public meeting with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) ROP Task Force and other industry representatives. Enclosure 1 contains the meeting attendance list, Enclosure 2 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML12030A121) contains the industry handouts, and Enclosure 3 (Accession No. ML12030A133) contains the NRC handouts. Meeting attendees discussed topics related to inspection, operating experience, assessment, and performance indicators (PIs).

The Reactor Inspection Branch staff informed industry that it is getting ready for inspections that may result from Fukushima task force activities later this year.

The Operating Experience Branch staff informed industry that (1) it has a new branch chief, Mr. Harold Chernoff; (2) it will chair a breakout section in the Regulatory Information Conference (RIC) on conservatism in decision making; (3) it has issued two smart samples, "High Wind Generated Missile Hazards" and "Technical Specification Interpretation and Operability Determination;" (4) it evaluated the scram trend and CY 2011 has the lowest number of scrams; and (5) it is conducting a study on end of life failures of important to safety equipment and will communicate with industry if further action will be taken by the staff.

The Performance Assessment Branch (IPAB) staff informed industry that the SRM for the Public Radiation Cornerstone SECY paper directed the staff to continue to work with stakeholders to explore possible improvements to this cornerstone. The staff informed industry that IMC 0305 is being revised to effect security reintegration and offer increased flexibility for stakeholder outreach. The revised draft of IMC 0305 may be available by the March public meeting. The staff also informed the industry that the Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) for the security reintegration might be delayed because OMB was reviewing the document for Congressional Review Act clearance. The staff indicated it would defer the date the integration is in effect if needed. The staff further indicated that the RIS would address logistical matters associated with the ROP Action Matrix.

The staff presented the status of its efforts to draft a SECY paper to provide options and recommendations for risk-informing the ROP for new reactors. Internal alignment on approach had been achieved and the paper was being drafted and reviewed by internal stakeholders. The draft paper presented three options: (1) use the existing risk-informed ROP tools without making any changes, (2) augment the existing tools with deterministic backstops to ensure an appropriate regulatory response, and (3) develop new deterministic tools to replace the existing tools. The staff informed stakeholders that a draft of the paper will be made publically available prior to a public meeting that will provide external stakeholders the opportunity to share their comments and perspectives on the draft paper. February 27 or 28 were discussed as potential dates for the public meeting.

In the area of Performance Indicator (PI) program, the staff (1) discussed the white paper on PI validity during extended shutdown and start-up conditions; (2) discussed PI validity during Fort Calhoun's extended shutdown, and Industry recommended expanding the note on the public Web sites to explain why other indicators are invalid; and (3) requested industry to provide a basis for its view that the IE01 and IE03 PIs should become valid four quarters after start-up.

The staff noted that the NEI 99-02 guidance on numerical reporting criteria should be clarified so as to not confuse significant figures with decimal places. The staff and industry agreed that NEI 99-02 needs to be clarified regarding how to validate the basis for estimates of demand and run hours in MSPI, especially for estimates that were formed using actual data, and industry agreed to take the lead for this task. The staff and industry also agreed that NEI 99-02 guidance could be improved to establish expectations for maintaining PRA quality for the purposes of implementing the MSPI, and the staff agreed to take the lead for this task. In addition, the staff and industry will discuss the proposed guidance for the Emergency Preparedness PIs at a future working group meeting.

Staff and industry discussed the following PI FAQs.

- FAQ 11-10: The FAQ resolution was approved as final and is effective as of January 19, 2012. The staff will provide its written final resolution to the industry. The resolution to FAQ 11-10 will not be publicly available because of plant-specific security-related information. Industry agreed to submit a generic FAQ to clarify NEI 99-02 guidance.
- FAQ 11-12: The FAQ resolution was approved as final and is effective as of January 19, 2012. NRC staff will provide its written final resolution to the industry.
- FAQ 11-13: Staff and industry discussed this generic FAQ related to suspension of siren testing because of weather-related issues for the alert and notification system reliability PI (EP03). The staff will provide its tentative resolution to industry before the next ROP working group meeting.

The next ROP working group public meeting will be held on February 23, 2012. NEI proposed future meeting dates (Enclosure 2) for calendar year 2012. Both NEI and NRC agreed to remove the proposed meeting on May 31, 2012, because of a concurrent Commission meeting. In addition, both agreed to utilize other means of communication between meetings, such as teleconference calls, if needed to further progress on white papers and/or FAQ resolution.

Enclosures:

1. Attendance List – January 19, 2012
2. Handouts by NEI
3. Handouts by NRC

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ADAMS ACCESSION NO: ML12030A117 Package: ML12030A134

OFFICE	NRR/DIRS	BC:NRR/DIRS/IRIB	BC:NRR/DIRS/IOEB	BC:NRR/DIRS/IPAB
NAME	JLian	TKobetz	MChernoff (J. Thompson for)	RFranovich
DATE	2/3 /2012	2/7/2012	2/7/2012	2/ 17/2012

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**REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS PUBLIC MEETING
ATTENDANCE LIST**

January 19, 2012

Michael Balazik	NRC
Bethany Cecere	NRC
Chris Earls	NEI
Ronald Frahm	NRC
Ron Gaston	Exelon
Randy Hart	Duke Energy
Ken Heffner	Progress Energy
Audrey Klett	NRC
Roy Linthicum	Exelon
Gary Miller	Dominion
Bruce Mrowca	ISL
Larry Parker	STARS Reg Affairs
Jim Peschel	NextEra Energy
Kevin Roche	NRC
Eric Schrader	NRC
Carlos Sisco	Winston & Strawn
Jim Slider	NEI
Steve Vaughn	NRC
Brian Yip	NRC
Tony Zimmerman	Progress Energy
Dave VanDerKamp	NPPD
Mark Reidmeyer	Certrec
Chris Earls	NEI
Molly Keefe	NRC
Jeff Circle	NRC
John Thompson	NRC
Jocelyn Lian	NRC
Erick Sweat	SNC
David Midlik	SNC
Don Dube	NRC
Jim Isom	NRC
Rani Franovich	NRC