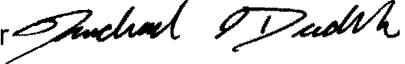




UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 23, 2012

MEMORANDUM TO: David L. Skeen, Director
Japan Lessons-Learned Project Directorate
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Michael I. Dudek, Sr. Project Manager 
Policy and Support Branch
Japan Lessons-Learned Project Directorate

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ORDERS AND THE TITLE 10 OF
THE *CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS* 50.54(F) LETTER
ISSUED, RELATED TO FUKUSHIMA DAI-ICHI NUCLEAR
POWER PLANT ACCIDENT

On May 18, 2012, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducted a Category 2 public meeting with senior-level industry representatives and interested members of the public. During this meeting, the established "Steering Committees" (SCs) from the NRC and the nuclear industry, convened to primarily discuss unresolved issues related to the Fukushima-related lessons-learned Tier 1 actions. The NRC's presentation outlining these items discussed during the meeting can be found in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), under Accession No. ML12143A225. The industry representatives did not prepare any written communications for the meeting; however, they reiterated their key message that the greatest benefit (for industry and the public) is the continued concentration, execution, and implementation of Tier 1 actions. Industry reiterated that shifting the focus to executing the Tier 2 and Tier 3 actions at this time could be a distraction that could delay completion of the Tier 1 actions. These representatives also emphasized the considerable progress already made towards achieving established milestones. NRC staff acknowledged the industry's concern; however, they reaffirmed that the NRC remains focused on completing the Tier 1 items, but must also begin working on the Tier 2 and Tier 3 actions, as directed by the Commission. Other specific, notable items discussed during the meeting are addressed below.

The industry and NRC representatives discussed the need for the NRC to issue safety evaluation reports (SERs) and/or Confirmatory Orders associated with the industry's actions in response to the Tier 1 Orders. While both sides agreed with regard to the need to accurately document the NRC's assessment of the industry's actions, the industry representatives expressed concerns about the impact on NRC resources and the amount of time needed for NRC to issue SERs/Confirmatory Orders, and stated that they may propose alternatives for NRC consideration.

Regarding the quality assurance standards to be imposed on equipment associated with the industry's FLEX approach in response to the Tier 1 Order for Mitigating Strategies of Beyond-Design-Basis External Events, the NRC representatives noted a desire for the industry to consider the use of existing consensus standards when applicable, for the procurement, testing, etc., of this equipment. The industry representatives expressed a concern that implementation of unnecessary requirements for FLEX equipment would force licensees to utilize a small number of suppliers and potentially create supply-chain issues, but committed to providing additional information regarding such requirements in their proposed implementation guidance associated with FLEX.

Regarding the inclusion of backup power supplies for Mark III and ice condenser containment hydrogen igniters as part of the industry's FLEX equipment, the NRC representatives reiterated the position that the installation of such backup power supplies is an important defense-in-depth strategy for the protection of containment functionality in the event of a severe accident. The industry representatives proposed to delay the installation of backup power supplies for hydrogen igniters until the Tier 3 work associated with hydrogen control is undertaken and stated that this item will be addressed, in part, through the work on the Severe Accident Mitigation Guidelines.

Regarding the development of guidance associated with seismic walkdowns in response to the NRC's request for information issued in March 2012, the industry representatives noted the need for further clarification regarding the intent of having a "peer review" included as part of the walkdown process. The NRC representatives noted that, in this case, the objective being sought by the implementation of a "peer review" was to ensure, at a high level, the consistency of walkdown results. It was understood that further clarification of this issue could be left to the NRC and industry technical working groups developing the walkdown implementation guidance.

On the topic of filtered vents for BWR Mark I and II containments, the industry representatives noted their position that the question of filtered vents should be separated from the timeline associated with the Order on Reliable Hardened BWR Vents and addressed from the perspective of "filtering strategies" (which may include other actions, such as containment sprays to retain radionuclides within containment) in lieu of a strict focus on filtered containment vents. The NRC representatives noted the need for the industry to provide more specific information/recommendations on what "filtering strategies" might be implemented, in order for the NRC staff to consider such alternatives as it develops a future Commission paper on this topic. The industry representatives committed to providing the NRC staff with additional information regarding their "filtering strategies" proposal.

At the conclusion of the meeting, members of the public were invited to provide any comments or suggestions that they had regarding the specific actions being taken by the NRC or by the industry regarding the Fukushima lessons learned items. One non-governmental organization spoke out in favor of the expeditious implementation of backup power supplies for Mark III and ice condenser containment hydrogen recombiners, as well as for near-term action on filters for containment vents.

The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> on the NRC's public website. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS, or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC's Public Document Room reference staff at (800) 397-4209 or by e-mail at PDR.Resource@nrc.gov.

Enclosures:

1. List of Attendees
2. NRC Staff Slides

Sign In Sheet

Fukushima SC to SC Meeting

DATE: May 18, 2012

Name	Organization
William Freeborn	Platts / NuclearWeek
Mohammad Shuaibi MASAUB KHAN	NRC/NRO BECHTELPOWER
Kohsei Iikuta	Chubu Electric
R. Dudley	NRC/OIR/DPIR
Chris Cook	NRC/NRO/NEA
Rob Taylor	NRC/JLD
Wei-Wu Chao	AEC, Taiwan
David Bram	NRC/NRR/JLD
Eileen McDevine	NRC/NRO/DSS
Charles Ader	NRC/NRO/DSEA
John Cowley	NRC/NRO/SCD
Barry Miller	NRC/NRR/JLD
Edward Williams	NRC/OGC
USA BEGNER	NRR/JLD
STEVEN DOWNEY	NRC/NRO
Matthew McConnell	NRC/NRR
Steve Jones	NRC/NRR/DSS
Tania Martinez Navedo	NRC/NRO/DE
DAVID HARRIS	DOMINION NUCLEAR
Tom Houghton	CERT EC
MILT MURPHY	NRC/NSIC
STEVEN KRAFT	NEI
Bill Kuland	NRR/DSS

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