

May 29, 2013

MEMORANDUM TO: Ho Nieh, Director
Division of Inspection and Regional Support
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: John McHale, Chief **/RA/**
Operator Licensing and Training Branch
Division of Inspection and Regional Support
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE 2013 ANNUAL U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION/INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR POWER OPERATIONS
COORDINATION MEETING ON TRAINING-RELATED ISSUES

On May 8, 2013, a periodic public U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)/Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO) coordination meeting on training-related issues was held at INPO Headquarters, Atlanta, Georgia. Such meetings are conducted in accordance with the NRC/INPO Memorandum of Agreement dated December 10, 2007. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss items of mutual interest concerning INPO's training program accreditation process and other initiatives. Participants included representatives of the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR); Office of New Reactors (NRO); Regional Operator Licensing Branch Chiefs; INPO's Training and Accreditation and Industry Evaluation Divisions, and six members of the public. The list of meeting attendees is provided as Enclosure 1. The meeting agenda is provided as Enclosure 2. A summary of the discussions related to key agenda topics covered during the meeting follows.

Introductions and Opening Remarks

An introduction of the members of the public and NRC and INPO personnel present was conducted. NRC and INPO provided opening remarks. As part of the opening remarks, INPO and NRC discussed organizational changes including the selection of an NRC nominee to the National Nuclear Accrediting Board (NNAB) and the need to fill two additional positions by the end of 2013.

Accreditation Update

INPO conducted 33 Accreditation Team Visits (ATVs) and 38 Accreditation Boards in 2012. The accrediting boards reviewed 227 training programs. As a result of these evaluations, INPO placed a total of 7 training programs at two facilities on accreditation probation in 2012.

INPO reported good industry support, in the form of peer members, for ATVs. INPO has 10 team managers and 12 evaluators. INPO continued to participate in a corporate training director meeting twice a year.

Last year, the NRC observed an initial accreditation ATV and 36 of 38 Accreditation Boards. The NRC plans to observe two ATVs in 2013.

New Reactor Accreditation Update

INPO reported the schedule of completed and planned training actions related to initial accreditation of training programs at new reactor facilities. INPO is updating ACAD 07-001, "Guidelines for the Continuing Training of Licensed Personnel" and requested feedback from the NRC.

Regulatory Issues

The NRC discussed actions related to the Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 8 for onsite emergency response capabilities related to the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident. As part of NRC's effort to develop a new rule in this area, the NRC solicited public comments on a draft regulatory basis for the new rule and is working to issue the final regulatory basis. The NRC discussed issues associated with the strengthening and integration of the accident management procedures, training and qualification of key personnel, command and control, and exercises. The NRC plans to issue the final rule in this area in the third quarter of 2016.

The NRC discussed insights from implementing a revision to Inspection Procedure 71111.11, "Licensed Operator Requalification Program and Licensed Operator Performance" which was updated in 2011 and 2012. The intent of the revisions was to enhance the focus on operator performance within the scope of inspection activities.

The NRC thanked INPO for participating in the Regulatory Information Conference, the update to the knowledge and ability catalogs (NUREG's 1122 and 1123), the Region III operator licensing workshop, and the commission briefing on the operator licensing program in 2012. The NRC stated that it was conducting a review of the consistency of the region's implementation of the operator licensing process and welcomed INPO's perspective.

The NRC commented on possible changes to the licensed operator examination process used for new reactors. No significant changes were identified regarding written examinations; however, the exams will be based on new knowledge and ability catalogs, NUREG's 2103 and 2104. It was noted that some scenarios may need to make expanded use of time compression to test some critical tasks and scenario construction will be more important for new reactors to adequately evaluate both board operators since their consoles have similar capabilities. There was a short discussion regarding the selection of three valid in-plant job performance measures (JPMs) given the relatively small number of JPMs that may be available in the plant during construction. The NRC is revising NUREG 1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors" primarily to clarify issues with new reactors and the updated NUREG is expected to be issued later this year.

Industry Learning Initiatives

INPO provided the status of several initiatives under development including an industry-wide performance indicator to measure the effectiveness of training programs and a case study based on Fukushima Daiichi to be added as a training material for senior managers.

INPO developed an addendum to INPO 11-005, *Special Report on the Nuclear Accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station*, to identify and share operational and organizational lessons from the accident.

INPO reported that over 1,000 students have completed the industry's Instructor Certification Program.

INPO reported that it continues to see benefits from the National Academy for Nuclear Training e-Learning (NANTeL) and the learning content management system. NANTeL is a national web-based system that provides standardized, generic training for supplemental and utility workforce that satisfies the industry and the insurer. NANTeL contains over 300 generic and utility-specific courses. In 2012, over 100,000 workers completed almost 800,000 courses. INPO is developing training from Fukushima lessons learned. INPO plans to add this training to the learning content management system by the end of 2013.

Operator Fundamentals

INPO reported it continues to see improvement from their focus on operator fundamentals. INPO revised the plant evaluation process to emphasize operator fundamentals and conservative decision making in the control room. INPO reported that the revised process makes training scenarios in the simulator more realistic and challenging. Specifically, scenarios run longer, include scripted distracters, and limit available crew size to actual shift staffing levels. The revised process evaluates more crews and more positions, and adds post scenario technical interviews during plant walkthroughs with licensed and non-licensed operators.

Other Items of Mutual Interest Related to Training

An NRC branch chief mentioned that he was seeing an increase in the number of untimely requests for exemption from NUREG 1021 experience requirements shortly before the scheduled date of NRC administered examinations.

A representative from the Professional Reactor Operator Society discussed concerns he had with the low experience level of new operations instructors and operator trainees, and questioned whether utilities were preconditioning crews when preparing for INPO administered plant evaluations. INPO answered in the negative.

Closing Remarks

In closing, it was decided that additional meetings related to the training and qualification of nuclear power plant personnel will be held. No final positions were taken during the meeting.

CONTACT: David Allsopp, NRR/DIRS/IOLB
301-415-3073

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DATE	05/ 29/2013	05/29/2013

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ATTENDEES

NRC-INPO Coordination Meeting, May 8, 2013

Institute of Nuclear Power Operations

David Igyarto, Vice President Industry Training and Accreditation, and Executive Director of the National Academy

Steve Johnson, Director, Accreditation

Elizabeth Brattin, Director, Industry Learning

Michael Llewellyn, Accreditation Team Manager

Michael Reandeau, Accreditation Team Manager

Robert Coovert, Manager, Learning Development

Sarah Glenn, Accreditation Team Manager

Charlie Brooks, Section Manager, Accreditation

David Hembree, Vice President, Emergency Response

Burl McCosh, Senior Evaluator

Terry Bellocchio, Administrative Assistant

George Hutcherson, Director, Industry and External Relations

NRC

Laura Dudes, Director, Division of Construction Inspection and Operational Programs, NRO

John McHale, Chief, Operator Licensing and Training Branch, NRR

James Kellum, Acting Chief, Operator Licensing and Human Performance Branch, NRO

Mark Franke, Chief, Operations Branch 2, Division of Reactor Safety, RII

Hironori Peterson, Chief, Operations Branch, Division of Reactor Safety, RIII

David Allsopp, Operator Licensing and Training Branch, NRR

Richard Pelton, Operator Licensing and Human Performance Branch, NRO

Other

Mark Verbeck, Vogtle 3 & 4

William Rogers, Lockheed Martin

Donald Ferris, Lockheed Martin

Tom Kuhar, Westinghouse Electric Corporation

Daniel Cronin, University of Florida Training Reactor

Robert Meyer, Professional Reactor Operator Society

AGENDA FOR PUBLIC MEETING
WITH INPO ON TRAINING AND QUALIFICATION

May 8, 2013
9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Institute Of Nuclear Power Operations
700 Galleria Parkway
Room 216
Atlanta, Georgia 30339-5957

TOPICS

- Introductions and Opening Remarks
- Public Input
- Accreditation Update
- New Reactor Accreditation Update
- Regulatory Issues
- Industry Learning Initiatives
- Operator Fundamentals
- Other Items of Mutual Interest Related to Training
- Public Questions and Answers
- Closing Remarks

ENCLOSURE 2