

From: Bower, Fred
Sent: Monday, December 09, 2013 1:36 PM
To: BettyShank
Cc: DiPaolo, Eugene; Barber, Scott; Thompson, Margaret; Pinkham, Laurie; Scott, Michael; Screnci, Diane; Sheehan, Neil; McNamara, Nancy; Tifft, Doug
Subject: RE: Questions - NRC 3-12-12 Seismic Hazard Walkdown Request (EDATS 2013-0325)

Mr. and Mrs. Shank,

Thank you for your email. The purpose of the onsite seismic audits was to gather additional information to allow the NRC staff to complete its review of the seismic walkdown reports submitted by licensees in response to the Japan Lessons Learned Actions associated with Recommendation 2.3 of the Near-Term Task Force Report.

The Limerick units were not one of the sites audited in this sampling audit. The audited sites were selected based on an initial review of all of the walkdown reports by NRC headquarters staff and the staff looked for sites where: the consistency with the walkdown guidance was unclear or the site did not appear to meet the guidance; sites with higher than average seismic risk; the apparent level of effort or experience of licensee staff performing the walkdowns was questioned; or the plant was selected to be representative of the larger population of US nuclear power plants. Although Limerick was considered, other plants were selected because they met more of the selection criteria and the plants were expected to give the staff insights into how licensees, in general, implemented the seismic walkdowns. Based on the insights gained from audits at six sites, the NRC staff issued additional generic questions to most licensees, including Limerick, to get clarification on the seismic walkdown implementation by each licensee. These additional questions can be located at ADAMS Accession No. ML13304B418. Each plant's walkdown report and the additional responses will be reviewed individually and a staff assessment of adequacy will be issued. The staff assessments are expected to be completed in spring 2014 and will be publically available in ADAMS.

During original licensing of the Limerick units, the NRC reviewed earthquake risk in NUREG-0991, dated August 1983, which was the NRC's Safety Evaluation Report (SER) concerning the application for an operating license for Limerick, Units 1 and 2. As discussed on page 2-44 of the SER, the NRC noted that three faults have been mapped and investigated within 2 miles of the site. The closest one is the Sanatoga fault. A panel of experts in Appalachian geology and the NRC staff concluded that that these faults have experienced their last displacements more than 500,000 years ago. This section of the SER concluded that there were no capable faults in the site area.

If you have additional questions regarding the seismic audits, you may contact: me using the below contact information or Lisa Regner, Senior Project Manager, Japan Lesson Learned Project Directorate, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, 301-415-1906, Lisa.Regner@nrc.gov

Fred Bower

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From: BettyShank [mailto:bettyshank@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, November 04, 2013 2:51 PM
To: Bower, Fred
Subject: Questions - NRC 3-12-12 Seismic Hazard Walkdown Request

November 4, 2013

To: Fred Bower, NRC

Subject: Questions - NRC Seismic Hazard Walkdown Request 3-12-12

Thank you for your 10-23-13 e-mail to us regarding Limerick's potential inability to safely shut-down. Mr. Gray's e-mail to us dated 9-4-13 failed to fully answer our questions and concerns, as you have suggested. We are still researching to respond.

In the meantime, we have additional questions based on NRC's 11-1-13 request concerning Seismic Walkdowns.

We noticed that regulatory site audits were conducted at only a "sampling" of plants.

1. Was Limerick Nuclear Plant one of the plants audited in the "sampling"?
2. If so, please e-mail us the results of the audit. PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANOTHER ADAMS REFERENCE WHICH FAILS TO PROVIDE THE INFORMATION WE REQUEST.
3. If Limerick was one of the plants "sampled", please provide the names of the individuals who did the walkdown as well as names of the peer reviewers.
4. If Limerick was not one of the plants audited, why not? There is good reason for Limerick to have been included in the seismic hazard walkdown audit associated with the Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.3 that NRC requested March 12, 2012.

Thank you,

Betty and Charlie Shank