
From: Dentel, Glenn
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2014 11:27 AM
To: 'AriHerzog@gmail.com'
Subject: NRC Public Meeting Response

Mr. Herzog,

At the December 18, 2013, public meeting, you raised a question regarding Seabrook's Severe Accident Management Guidelines (SAMGs). Specifically, you requested whether they had been updated since 1998. Seabrook Station has emergency operating procedures (EOPs) to address emergencies within the design basis of the plant to which it was licensed by the NRC. These have been in-place since the facility began operation and are regularly updated. For severe or unusual events beyond the design basis of the plant, such as those involving numerous failures of safety equipment, the SAMGs were developed as a voluntary industry initiative.

The SAMGs were developed using a standard guidance document prepared by the Nuclear Energy Institute, or NEI, the industry's trade group. The SAMGs at Seabrook were in-place by 1998. As part of the Fukushima Lessons Learned effort in April/May 2011, the NRC conducted additional inspection activities of the status of the SAMGs at all the facilities in the USA using Temporary Instruction 2515/184, "Availability and Readiness Inspection of Severe Accident Management Guidelines (SAMGs)." During this review at Seabrook, we identified that while the SAMGs are readily available in critical locations, are controlled and maintained by NextERA, and operators receive training on the SAMGs once every two years, they had not undergone a comprehensive three-year review when due in November 2010. This observation was placed in NextERA's corrective action program for resolution.

Since the plant's installed safety equipment has not changed significantly since 1998, nor have the basic strategies to deal with a severe, beyond design basis accident, the current version of the SAMGs in use at Seabrook are sufficient to deal with a severe accident.

Going forward, NextERA plans to update the SAMGs consistent with the industry revision to the guidance document recently published, and to reflect the additional equipment that will be available in the near future (e.g., remote spent fuel level monitoring, portable pumps and electric generators, as well as the necessary connections to use this equipment) following the implementation of the Fukushima Lessons Learned modifications.

We appreciate your interest and participation in the meeting. I believe this answers your specific concern; however, if you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact me at the number below or via email.

Glenn Dentel
Branch Chief responsible for oversight of Seabrook, Salem and Hope Creek
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