

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Public Meeting Summary

January 23, 2015

Title: Public Meeting to Discuss Design Certification Information Tier 2* Designation

Meeting Identifier: 20141848

Date of Meeting: Thursday, November 13, 2014

Location: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Headquarters

Type of Meeting: Category 3

Purpose of the Meeting(s):

The purpose of the meeting was to obtain input from public, industry, and Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) representatives on criteria proposed by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in a previous meeting for Tier 2* designation of information and for the NRC to respond to questions from the public and NEI. The notice for this public meeting is available in the Agencywide Document Access Management System (ADAMS) under ADAMS Accession Number ML14254A010.

General Details:

This was the third meeting in a series of discussions with industry, members of the public, and the NRC on the topic of Tier 2* designation of information within a design certification. This topic was identified as Lessons Learned 1 in the Post-Combined License Part 52 Implementation Self-Assessment Working Group Report, dated July 2013 (ADAMS Accession Number ML13196A403). The NEI provided additional information on this topic in its December 2013 letter (ADAMS Accession Number ML13350A604). Prior to the meeting, the NEI provided a white paper on the topic of Tier 2* designation to be discussed at the meeting (ADAMS Accession Number ML14316A404). During an October 6, 2014 meeting, the NRC staff proposed potential options for the Tier 2* designation for future design certification applicants. The proposed options were as follows:

- 1) No action, augment training of staff
- 2) Establish a Tier 2* criterion from historical basis, retaining Tier 2* designation
- 3) Displace Tier 2* to Tier 1 or Tier 2, using the 50.59 change process with Tier 2 information, and
- 4) Develop a new Tier 2* criterion

Summary of Presentations:

Mr. Nishka Devaser, Office of New Reactors (NRO), opened the meeting with a brief history of the NRC Tier 2* working group effort and a description of the working group's path forward. The NRC staff then provided responses to questions from previous meetings and the meeting participants discussed the NRC responses.

Following some opening comments from Mr. Russ Bell, NEI, Mrs. Kati Austgen, Project Manager for New Plant Licensing at the NEI, presented an NEI white paper on the nuclear industry's perspective of other appropriate methods for controlling changes to Tier 2* information. The white paper intended to demonstrate that, given the existence of other change controls, there is no need to apply the Tier 2* change control process to ensure that changes which may adversely affect safety are subject to NRC review and approval. The meeting participants then discussed the white paper. The NRC staff provided feedback on the contents of the white paper.

The meeting closed with a brief description of path forward. Mr. Devaser stated that the NRC's Tier 2* working group expects to finalize proposed Tier 2* designation criteria with the NRO Division Director level concurrence in early 2015, which will be followed up by a Commission paper regarding the path forward.

Public Participation Themes:

Though members of the public were present, no comments were made or questions asked during the meeting.

Action Items/Next Steps:

There were no action items identified during the meeting.

Attachments:

- ML14295A052 - Meeting agenda
(<http://meetings.nrc.gov/pmns/mtg?do=details&Code=20141848>)
- ML14316A404 - NEI White Paper on the topic of Tier 2* designation
- ML13196A403 - Lessons Learned 1 in the Post-Combined License Part 52 Implementation Self-Assessment Working Group Report, July 2013
- ML13350A604 - December 2013 NEI letter regarding Tier 2* designation

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML15013A021

***via e-mail**

NRO-001

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