

Process Overview for Flooding Reevaluations

Summary:

The NRC is reviewing plant-specific flood hazard reevaluations to verify that U.S. nuclear power plants are adequately protected against floods.

Background:

- NRC's 50.54(f) letter dated March 12, 2012, (ADAMS Accession No. [ML12053A340](#)) requested nuclear power plant licensees to reevaluate flood hazards using present day information and guidance.
- The NRC has worked with stakeholders to issue and endorse acceptable guidance on several topics:
 - Prioritization and reevaluations submittal (ADAMS Accession No. [ML12097A509](#)).
 - Performing an integrated flooding assessment ([JLD-ISG-2012-05](#)).
 - Letter describing assessment scenarios (ADAMS Accession No. [ML12326A912](#)).
 - Assessing tsunami, surge, or seiche hazards ([JLD-ISG-2012-06](#)).
 - Content of flooding reevaluation submittals (ADAMS Accession No. [ML13044A561](#)).
 - Dam failure flooding hazards ([JLD-ISG-2013-01](#)).
- The NRC staff is currently reviewing and receiving flood hazard reevaluations.
- The majority of sites that have submitted reevaluated flood hazard reports have indicated that they will perform integrated flooding assessments.
- The NRC staff proposed in [COMSECY-14-0037](#) that flooding hazard reevaluations be integrated with Mitigation Strategies for Beyond Design-Basis External Events:
 - The Commission provided direction regarding development of guidance for the integrated assessment, and for determining regulatory actions.
- In [COMSECY-15-0019](#), the NRC staff provided an action plan to complete the flooding reevaluations. This was approved by the Commission and is currently in effect.

Process Overview:

The action plan to address Flooding Hazard Reevaluations includes:

- Consideration of how mitigation strategies address the reevaluated flooding hazard:
 - Industry guidance will be provided for licensees to ensure proper consideration
 - The NRC staff will issue letters to licensees concerning their reevaluated flood hazards so those plants have appropriate feedback to facilitate following the rest of the staff's plan.
 - If necessary, licensees are to modify their mitigation strategies to ensure they can be implemented under the reevaluated flood hazard condition.
- Development of a graded approach to identify the need for, and prioritization and scope of, plant-specific integrated assessments and evaluation of plant-specific regulatory actions.
 - Licensees will perform a focused evaluation or a broader integrated assessment of the plant's protection capabilities against flood mechanisms.
 - The NRC staff will review and determine the need for further actions.

References:

Additional information about flood reevaluations can be found on the "[Implementation Status](#)" page under the Japan Lessons Learned section of the NRC public Web site.