

September 17, 2015

ORGANIZATION: National Organization of Test, Research, and Training Reactors

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF AUGUST 18, 2015, MEETING WITH THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF TEST, RESEARCH, AND TRAINING REACTORS

On August 18, 2015, a Category 2 public meeting was held between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff and the National Organization of Test, Research, and Training Reactors (TRTR) at NRC Headquarters, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, via teleconference. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss NRC personnel changes, rulemaking, generic communications, upcoming meetings, and other items of interest to the TRTR community. The meeting notice and agenda, dated August 8, 2015, are available in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at Accession No. ML15195A583. A list of attendees is provided as an enclosure. The following is a description of the topics covered by the NRC staff and the TRTR community.

**Personnel Changes and Management Items:** Patrick Isaac will be moving from the Research and Test Reactors Oversight Branch to the Research and Test Reactors Licensing Branch as a Senior Project Manager. Michael F. Weber, NRC Deputy Executive Director for Materials, Waste, Research, State, Tribal, and Compliance Programs spoke at the Pennsylvania State University Breazeale Reactor 60th anniversary celebration.

**Rulemaking:** The third formal request for comment period will open soon for Chapter 7 in NUREG-1537 on Digital Instrumentation and Control. There will be a public meeting on Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 73 rulemaking after the proposed rule is released to the public. However, the NRC staff plans to make available to the public sections of the proposed rule as they are completed. Category 3 fixed site and transportation rule language will be completed first. NRC staff will notify the community when it is available.

**Generic Communications:** NRC staff expects to issue the final Generic Letter on Monitoring of Neutron Absorbing Materials in Spent Fuel Pools soon. On July 9, 2015, the NRC staff issued RIS 2015-09, "Implementation of Fingerprinting Requirements for Non-Power Reactors," for unescorted access at research and test reactors.

**Licensing:** Initial and renewal licensing backlogs and efforts to improve/streamline were discussed. Following direction from the Commission's Staff Requirements Memorandum to SECY-13-0124 dated April 24, 2014, NRC staff began development of a regulatory basis to amend 10 CFR 50.33(f), which requires, in part, "Each application shall state...information sufficient to demonstrate to the Commission the financial qualification of the applicant..." and Appendix C to 10 CFR Part 50. The purpose of the regulatory basis is to make NRC's financial qualifications demonstration requirements conform to the standards in 10 CFR 70.23(a)(5) which state, in part, that "an application for a license will be approved if the Commission determines that...the applicant appears to be financially qualified to engage in the proposed activities..." The draft regulatory basis does not suggest any changes to the financial qualification requirements for research and test reactors; however, based on comments

received from the public during the open comment period, staff is considering potential changes to research and test reactor financial qualification requirements.

Oversight: NRC staff released an Information Notice (IN) on July 15, 2015 (ADAMS Accession No. ML15194A401). The purpose of the IN was to inform the public that the Electronic Questionnaires for Investigations Processing (e-QIP) system had been temporarily shut down, and that the NRC was not processing any new security clearances (internal or external). This affected all licensees, contractors, vendors, et al. However, the e-QIP system has since returned to its normal operation and is currently functional. NRC staff discussed the applicability to non-power reactors of the requirements in 10 CFR Section 73.81, "Criminal penalties," and related posting requirements in 10 CFR Section 73.75, "Posting." The NRC staff continues to work on cyber security initiatives. The oversight branch asked for fiscal year 2016 operator exam requests.

Meetings relevant to the interests of the TRTR community:

- August 31 - September 3, 2015, U.S. Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration will hold a Mo-99 Topical Meeting at the Hilton Boston Back Bay, Boston, Massachusetts.
- October 5-9, 2015, TRTR Annual Conference, will be hosted in Brewster, MA by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. NRC Day is planned for Tuesday, October 6, 2015. Proposed NRC Day topics include digital instrumentation & control, physical security, licensing amendments, status of license renewals, cyber security, Moly-99, and thermal hydraulic analysis. The NRC staff plans to hold a public meeting at the conference on Thursday, October 8, 2015 to discuss streamlining relicensing for non-power production and utilization facilities.
- November 17, 2015, Final 2015 public meeting between NRC and TRTR.

Please direct any inquiries to me at 301-415-3398, or via email at [Cindy.Montgomery@nrc.gov](mailto:Cindy.Montgomery@nrc.gov).

*/RA/*

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Division of Policy and Rulemaking  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:  
As stated

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**ADAMS Accession Nos.: Package: ML15195A616; Meeting Notice: ML15195A583;  
Meeting Summary: ML15258A266; \*concurred via e-mail**

**NRC-001**

<b>OFFICE</b>	NRR/DPR/PLPB	NRR/DPR/LA*	NRR/DPR/PLPB	NRR/DPR/PLPB
<b>NAME</b>	CMontgomery	NParker	AAdams	CMontgomery
<b>DATE</b>	09/17/2015	09/17/2015	09/17/2015	09/17/2015

LIST OF ATTENDEES

THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF TEST, RESEARCH, AND TRAINING REACTORS

AUGUST 18, 2015

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Thomas Newton	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Dan Cronin	University of Florida
Brian Shea	University of Florida
Jere Jenkins	Thermo-Fischer
Dan Thomas	General Electric
Steve Reese	Oregon State University
Les Foyto	University of Missouri-Columbia (MURR)
Ralph Butler	MURR
Mike Rlage	MURR
John Fruits	MURR
Melinda Krahenbuhl	Reed College
Cliff Stanley	Idaho National Laboratory
Cameron Goodwin	Rhode Island Nuclear Center
Tim DeBey	US Geological Survey
Ruth Thomas	Not affiliated
Ossy Font	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
Patrick Isaac	NRC
Elizabeth Reed	NRC
Alexander Adams, Jr.	NRC
Michael Takacs	NRC
Mirela Gavrilas	NRC
John Adams	NRC
Xiaosong Yin	NRC
Eben Allen	NRC
William Schuster	NRC
Patrick Boyle	NRC
Duane Hardesty	NRC
Kevin Hsueh	NRC
Michele DeSouza	NRC
Richard Turtill	NRC
Robert Krsek	NRC
Sara Kirkwood	NRC

Enclosure

Addressee List for Research and Test Reactor Licensees

cc:

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