

April 06, 2015

MEMORANDUM TO: File

FROM: Anna Therese McGowan, Chief */RA/*  
User Service Branch  
Customer Service Division  
Office of Information Services

SUBJECT: ADAMS PUBLIC USER GROUP MEETING MINUTES,  
NOVEMBER 4, 2015

This memo accompanies the summary of the public meeting held on Wednesday, November 4, 2015, in the Public Document Room of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. This was the 30th meeting of the ADAMS User Group.

## U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Public Meeting Summary

November 4, 2015

**Title:** Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) User Group Meeting

**Meeting Identifier:** ML15281A037

**Date of Meeting:** Wednesday, November 4, 2015

**Location:** U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Public Document Room, Rockville, MD

**Type of Meeting:** Category 3

### **Purpose of the Meeting(s):**

To provide updates on the ADAMS system and answer questions from public ADAMS users.

### **General Details:**

The meeting began somewhat late, at 2:25 p.m., due to technical difficulties with the conference phone line. Participants introduced themselves, and Anna McGowan made some general announcements. Eight NRC staff members were present. Ms. McGowan introduced Kathleen Dunsavage, a new User Services Branch member.

Approximately two members of the public participated in the meeting remotely using a teleconference line, and one attended in person. Two participants asked questions and provided comments. Meeting participants included representatives of Oak Ridge National Lab and Energy Northwest.

The remaining portion of the meeting was dedicated to issues and questions raised by members of the ADAMS User Group. The meeting ended at approximately 2:50 p.m.

### **Public Participation Themes:**

During the public question and answer portion of the meeting, NRC staff received questions on the topics below. The answers were provided either during the meeting or after the questions were researched.

- *Digitization of older NRC documents*

- *Question: Will the NRC's public documents, currently available on microfiche, be digitized? Members of the public working on next generation nuclear plants should be able to have access to these older documents. NRC-funded work done by national labs should be made available. There are hundreds of NUREGs and other documents referenced in the Standard Review Plan which have not been digitized.*
- Answer: We will suggest this to our management. The Office of the Chief Information Officer is working to digitize older agency documents. The first group that will be digitized are permanent records, as identified by the program office staff; they will continue to reside in ADAMS as they are digitized, reviewed, and released. As the official agency records are digitized, any other items that are located recalled from the archives will also be digitized. The staff of the Public Document Room is willing to work with the public to check to see if other agency documents can be reviewed for public release, as they do currently in response to user requests. In a later e-mail message, a public user provided some more information about specific older documents to be digitization candidates. We would suggest that the user contact the current project officers for those specific cases and explain the value of those older documents for current discussions and decisions. Since the project officer is the one who prioritizes which permanent records should be digitized, informing him or her of the value of these documents for stakeholders will advance their order on the digitization schedule.
- *Cross-linked documents in ADAMS*
  - *Question: Can there be cross-links in ADAMS to NRC-funded documents that are electronically available in OSTI (the Department of Energy's Office of Scientific and Technical Information) or the national labs' Web sites?*
  - Answer: We will suggest that to management, but I'm not sure this can be done in ADAMS. The OSTI database, like ADAMS, contains references to many agency publications. The more recent publications are available in full-text, and the older documents are identified by their bibliographic citation. ADAMS was never designed to connect to other databases like OSTI, and I do not believe that the agency will have the budget to consider this. We do work with the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) in their digitization project and, if there is an NRC report which is publicly available through NTIS, we request that the full document be digitized and placed in the National Technical Report Library (NTRL) so that it is readily available to the public.

- *ADAMS Data Reports*

- *Question: Can the ADAMS data reports for the documents in the search results be changed? Some are redundant.*
- Answer: We can check with the ADAMS developers to see if the reports can be changed or expanded to provide other report options. There is also an option to export the reports to Excel, and they can be customized that way. The system developers have responded that they are willing to consider offering other report formats. If you have any suggestions for reports that you would like to generate for your search results, please send them to the PDR.Resource@NRC.gov mailbox, and we will send them to the developers for consideration. We have also learned that the Public Licensing Support Network will be further developed over the next year to include an advanced search capability that will be based on content analytics. It should be available in the second half of 2016.

**Action Items/Next Steps:**

Ms. McGowan asked if the participants felt that there still needed to be two User Group meetings a year. The response was that the current meeting schedule was fine, so the next ADAMS User Group meeting will be held in Spring 2016.

The meeting ended at 2:50 p.m., when Ms. McGowan thanked the participants for their patience, participation, and endurance.

**Enclosure:**

1. Meeting Announcement - [ML15281A037](#)