

August 2, 2016

MEMORANDUM TO: Robert Lukes, Acting Branch Chief
Construction Inspection Program Branch
Division of Construction Inspection
and Operational Programs
Office of New Reactors

FROM: Michael Webb, Senior Reactor Operations Engineer **/RA/**
Construction Inspection Program Branch
Division of Construction Inspection
and Operational Programs
Office of New Reactors

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF JULY 19, 2016, PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS THE
CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION PROGRAM

On July 19, 2016, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) held a public meeting with industry and members of the public to discuss the Construction Inspection Program. The following summarizes each of the presentation topics from the meeting agenda:

- a. The meeting began with a presentation by NRC Office of New Reactors (NRO) staff on the transition of regulatory oversight and licensing AP1000 plants from construction to operations. The staff has developed a draft implementation plan for the transition and plans to solicit public comments on the plan in the near future. The presentation went on to provide a detailed description of the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) for new reactors, including the framework, Performance Indicator Program, Significance Determination Process, Assessment Program, and Cornerstones. The detailed overview of the ROP for new reactors is provided in the slide package (ADAMS Accession No. [ML16197A125](#)). In addition, the staff provided a handout, "Initial Project Plan - ROP for New Reactors," (Accession Number [ML16145A086](#)).
- b. In the second presentation, the NRO staff gave an overview of the proposed merger of NRO and NRR. The presentation noted that the merger was included in the Project Aim ([SECY-15-0015](#)) recommendations. The proposal ([SECY-16-0075](#)) providing the business case and transition plan was sent to the Commission on June 8, 2016, with a commission decision forthcoming. The proposal's key points included that the timing of the merger should be based on workload, bridging actions should start now, and the merger complements ongoing in-process initiatives, including other Project Aim activities and process improvements. Further details are available in the NRC staff presentation (ADAMS Accession No. [ML16200A296](#)).

CONTACT: Michael Webb, NRO/DCIP/CIPB
301-415-1347

- c. The NRO staff gave an overview of the results of its review of NEI 08-02, "Corrective Action Process for New Nuclear Power Plants during Construction." The presentation noted that the staff and the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) had been working on staff endorsement of NEI 08-02 since 2010. By letter dated October 28, 2015 (ML ML153016A510), NEI submitted for NRC's review and endorsement NEI 08-02, Draft Revision 4 (ML153016A511). The revision proposed to reflect experience gained from construction of new nuclear power plants in several areas, including implementing multiple corrective action processes on-site, establishing and implementing consistent thresholds for problem identification, screening and evaluation to identify significant conditions, and analyzing for adverse trends. The staff's review resulted in its recommendation to its management to discontinue the expenditure of resources to review and potentially endorse NEI 08-02 because the guidance document fails to provide sufficient additional clarity to ensure a robust corrective action program (CAP) beyond NRC-endorsed NQA-1 standard, "Quality Assurance Requirements for Nuclear Facility Applications." Part of the staff's determination was also based on its perception of a lack of evident stakeholder interest in additional CAP guidance. Following the presentation, industry (representatives from South Carolina Electric & Gas (SCE&G) and Southern Nuclear Corporation (SNC)) provided comments that they believed the NEI guidance document went beyond NQA-1 and they were interested in receiving NRC endorsement of the NEI document. Further details are available in the NRC staff presentation (ADAMS Accession No. [ML16196A378](#)).
- d. The NRO staff gave an overview of Inspection Procedure (IP) 81811, Protection of Safeguards Information by Design Certification Applicants and Vendors. The purpose of the IP is determine if the information protection systems implemented by NRC authorized entities effectively protects Safeguards Information (SGI). The presentation discussed which regulations apply, what the inspectors will be looking for, what information is considered to be SGI, and who will be performing the inspections (NRO Vendor Inspection branches). The NRC slide package is available at ADAMS Accession No. [ML16196A379](#).
- e. The next portion of the meeting involved three discussion related to Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC). The NRC staff provided a brief discussion of several emergency planning and security ITAAC contained in Appendix C of the Plant Vogtle license. There were no slides associated with this discussion. The NRO staff then gave an update on the Uncompleted ITAAC Notification Pilot Project. The purpose of the pilot project was to evaluate the potential benefits of reviewing early UIN submittals (i.e., those that are submitted months ahead of the 225-day regulatory requirement). The early UINs would provide earlier communication to public stakeholders of the UIN information and may allow earlier identification of issues related to ITAAC completion. A total of 23 UINs were submitted as part of the pilot project; seven UIN/ICN pairs were submitted and evaluated. The NRC staff found value in the early identification and communication of issues related to the proposed methodologies and level of detail contained in the UINs. The staff determined that it will review UIN submittals although the official review of them will not begin until the internal infrastructure is implemented. The staff anticipates it will begin the official reviews in September or October 2016 using an NRO Office Instruction,

NRO-REG-103, which is not publicly available. The NRC slide package is available at ADAMS Accession No. [ML16200A295](#). The staff then gave an overview of its deliberations regarding “process based” digital instrumentation and control (I&C) ITAAC closure. The staff stated that after substantial review, it had determined that the industry proposed method to address this issue was unacceptable and in its discussion the staff provided its basis for that determination.

- f. A representative from SCE&G provided construction updates for V.C. Summer Units 2 & 3 (ADAMS Accession No. [ML16195A203](#)).
- g. A representative from SNC provided construction updates for Vogtle Units 3 and 4 (ADAMS Accession No. [ML16200A376](#)).

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Enclosure:
List of Attendess

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ADAMS Accession No: ML16211A407 NRC-001

OFFICE	NRO/DCIP/CIPB	NRO/DCIP/CIPB: BC
NAME	Michael Webb	Robert Lukes
DATE	07/ /16	07/ /16

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NRC Public Meeting to Discuss the Activities Related to the Construction Inspection Program

**Tuesday, July 19, 2016
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
TWFN Auditorium**

Name	Organization
Arora, Surinder	NRC
Austgen, Kati	NEI
Barss, Dan	NRC
Bell, Russ	NEI
Bickley, Brandon	SCE&G
Campbell, Patricia	GEH
Cheok, Mike	NRC
Cozens, Ian	NRC
Curtis, David	NRC
DiTommaso, Sarah	Westinghouse
Fay, Tom	Fluor
Fredette, Tom	NRC
Gigante, Michael	Dominion
Frost, John	NRC
Issa, Al	NRC
Jackson, Terry	NRC
Junge, Michael	NRC
Kozak, Tom	NRC
LeRoy, Peter	CB&I
Lukes, Robert	NRC
Miller, Keith	Dominion
Mott, Ken	NRC
Natividad, Phil	NRC

Pasquale, Dan	NRC
Patel, Raju	NRC
Robillard, Dave	PSEG
Smith, Stacy	NRC
Thompson, Ryder	SCE&G
Torres, Alan	SNC
Webb, Michael	NRC
Weber, Carl	NRC
Willis, Frederick	SNC
Woods, David	SNC
Yox, Michael	SNC
* Bedford, Brian	Westinghouse
* Orthen, Richard	NextEra Energy

*Indicates remote participation via telephone bridgeline or webinar

Construction Inspection Programming Mailing List

(Revised 11/24/2015)

Mr. Edward L. Quinn
Longenecker and Associates
Utility Operations Division
23292 Pompeii Drive
Dana Point, CA 92629

Mr. Carl E. Parry, President
Utilities Service Alliance, Inc.
9200 Indian Creek Parkway
Suite 201
Overland Park, KS 66210

Mr. Lionel Batty
Nuclear Business Team
Graftech
12300 Snow Road
Parma, OH 44130

Mr. Robert E. Sweeney
IBEX ESI
4641 Montgomery Avenue
Suite 350
Energy Program Bethesda, MD 20814

Ms. Michele Boyd
Legislative Director
Public Citizens Critical Mass Energy
and Environmental Program
215 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Mr. Gary Wright, Director
Division of Nuclear Facility Safety
Illinois Emergency Management Agency
1035 Outer Park Drive
Springfield, IL 62704

Mr. Ian M. Grant
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater Street, Station B
P.O. Box 1046
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5S9

Ken Scarola
Nuclear Automation Engineering, LLC
3672 Pine Tree Ln.
Murrysville, PA 15668

Mr. Eugene S. Grecheck
Vice President
Nuclear Support Services
Dominion Energy, Inc.
5000 Dominion Blvd.
Glen Allen, VA 23060

Mr. Brendan Hoffman
Research Associate on Nuclear Energy
Public Citizens Critical Mass Energy and
Environmental Program
215 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Manager
GT-MHR Safety & Licensing
General Atomics Company
PO Box 85608
San Diego, CA 92186-5608

Mr. Ed Wallace, Project General Manager
PBMR Pty LTD
PO Box 9396
Centurion 0046
Republic of South Africa

Name

Agarwal, Duli
Ainger, Kenneth
Aitken, Steve
Albuquerque, Paulo
Austgen, Katie
Ayres, David
Bagnal, Charles
Beard, James
Bedford, Brian
Bell, Russell
Berger, J. Pierre
Bergman, Jana
Bessette, Paul
Brooks, Marc
Bryant, Barry
Burdick, Stephen
Butler, Skip
Campbell, Patricia
Carnes, William
Carr, Jack
Castell, Curtis
Chandler, Lawrence
Chang, Harry
Clem, David
Clouser, Timothy
Cottingham, Ann
Couture, Gerard F.
Cullington, E.
Cummins, Edward
Danielson, Gustave
Davis, Jim
DeVito, Peter
DiTommaso, Sarah
Dolley, Steven
Ezell, Julie
Fay, Tom
Fertel, Marvin
Fonseca, Carlos
Frantz, Stephen
Fraser, Robert
Freebairn, William
Fuller, Justin

E-mail Address

duli.agarwal@hq.doe.gov
kenneth.ainger@exeloncorp.com
aitkensy@inpo.org
pcalbuqu@southernco.com
kra@nei.org
David.Ayres@nrc.gov
charles.bagnal@ge.com
james.beard@gene.ge.com
bedforbj@westinghouse.com
rjb@nei.org
jean-pierre.berger@edf.com
Jbergman@Curtisswright.com
pbessette@morganlewis.com
marc.brooks@dhs.gov
barry.bryant@dom.com
sburdick@morganlewis.com
skip.butler@ge.com
patricial.campbell@ge.com
carnesws@westinghouse.com
jack.carr@cbi.com
curtis.castell@cbi.com
lchandler@morganlewis.com
hchang@khnp.co.kr
djcllem@southernco.com
timothy.clouser@luminant.com
awc@nei.org
couturgf@westinghouse.com
ecullington@earthlink.net
cumminwe@westinghouse.com
bud.danielson@hq.doe.gov
jtdavis@southernco.com
Peter.devito@cbi.com
ditomms@westinghouse.com
steven_dolley@platts.com
julie.ezell@scana.com
tom.fay@fluor.com
msf@nei.org
carlos.fonseca@cbi.com
sfrantz@morganlewis.com
Robert_Fraser@mnes-us.com
William.freebairn@platts.com
Justin.fuller@nrc.gov

Gaukler, Paul	paul.gaukler@pillsburylaw.com
Giles, M.	mgiles@entergy.com
Gove, Patrick	govepa@bv.com
Grant, Eddie	eddie.grant@excelservices.com
Grant, Eddie	erg-xl@cox.net
Gray, Susan	sgray@dnr.state.md.us
Gresham, James	greshaja@westinghouse.com
Gunter, Paul	paul@beyondnuclear.org
Gwyn, Dealis	dwgwyn@moxproject.com
Haines, Jay	jayhaines@tamu.edu
Halnon, Greg	ghalnon@firstenergycorp.com
Harrelson, Cade	jcharrel@southernco.com
Harvey, Mark	mwharvey1960@yahoo.com
Hastings, Peter	pshastings@duke-energy.com
Head, Jerald	gerald.head@ge.com
Hegner, Joseph	joseph_hegner@dom.com
Heymer, Adrian	aph@nei.org
Hinds, David	david.hinds@ge.com
Horin, W.	whorin@winston.com
Howard, Danny	danny.r.howard@fluor.com
Huss, William	William.Huss@pillsburylaw.com
Jacobson, Shaun	shaun.jacobson@cbi.com
Jaworsky, Mari	mari.jaworsky@duke-energy.com
Jenkins, Susan	jenkinse@dhec.sc.gov
Kellenberger, Nick	Nicholas.kellenberger@scana.com
Keys, Julie	julie.keys@urs.com
Kitchen, Robert	robert.kitchen@pgnmail.com
Kline, Steve	sulkline@bechtel.com
Klinvex, Michael	klinvem@westinghouse.com
Kray, Marilyn	marilyn.kray@exeloncorp.com
Lane, Robert	lanerh@westinghouse.com
Lapish, Charles	lapishcl@westinghouse.com
Laskowski, Lenny	leonard.laskowski@ge.com
LeJeune, Peter	plejeune@balch.com
Lejeune, Peter	plejeune@balch.com
LeRoy, Peter	peter.leroy@cbi.com
Levin, Howard	howard_levin@msn.com
Lewis, David	david.lewis@pillsburylaw.com
Lyman, Ed	elyman@ucsusa.org
Lyons, John	john.lyons@cbi.com
Mahan, Howard	Chmahan@southernco.com
Maher, William	william.maher@fpl.com
Mariotte, Michael	nirsnet@nirs.org
Markert, John C.	cmarkert@nuscalepower.com

Marshall, Wanda	wanda.k.marshall@dom.com
McCabe, Brian	brian.mccabe@pgnmail.com
Medlock, Clint	mmedlock@southernco.com
Mermelstein, Irv	imermels@bechtel.com
Midlik, Dave	dwmidlik@southernco.com
Miller, Garry	garry.miller@pgnmail.com
Miller, Keith	Keith.j.miller@dom.com
Miras-Wilson, Rachel	rwilson@winston.com
Mitchell, Stanley	stanley.mitchell@exeloncorp.com
Moen, Stephan	stephan.moen@ge.com
Moran, Mike	nucmike2002@yahoo.com
Morgan, Michael	Michael.Morgan5@ge.com
Morrow, Calvin	MEMorrow@southernco.com
Murawski, John	murawski@newsobserver.com
Nesrsta, James	jjnesrsta@cpsenergy.com
Nichol, Marc	mrn@nei.org
O'Neill, John	john.o'neill@pillsburylaw.com
Orthen, Richard	richard.orthen@nexteraenergy.com
Paglia, Al	apaglia@scana.com
Pate, Russell	rwpate@southernco.com
Peterson, Scott	media@nei.org
Pitts, Al	al.pitts@unistarnuclear.com
Pitts, Harold	harold_pitts@mnes-us.com
Pleins, Ed	pleinsel@westinghouse.com
Polich, Timothy	timothy.polich@cbi.com
Popa, Markus	Markus.Popa@Hq.Doe.Gov
Quinn, Vanessa	vanessa.quinn@dhs.gov
Ray, Thom	raytj@westinghouse.com
Repka, David	drepka@winston.com
Rezk, Tamer	tamer.rezk@cbi.com
Riccio, James	jim.riccio@wdc.greenpeace.org
Robillard, Dave	David.robillard@psesg.com
Rolfson, Greg	Greg_Rolfson@mnes-us.com
Romashko, Darryl	dcromashko@tva.gov
Rosenfeld, Elliot	elliott.rosenfeld@dep.state.nj.us
Rubin, Michael	rubinmp@westinghouse.com
Saunders, Thomas	tsaunder@southernco.com
Scarola, Ken	kenscarola@nuclearautomation.com
Schlaseman, Caroline	cschlaseman@mpr.com
Schumitsch, Walter	Walter.schumitsch@ge.com
Smith, Tyson	trsmith@winston.com
Stallings, John	john.stallings@ge.com
Stan, Thomason,	sthomasu@southernco.com
Stevenson, Rick	richard.stevenson@cbi.com

Sutton, Kathryn	ksutton@morganlewis.com
Swanson, Ronald	reswanso@bechtel.com
Tapia, Joseph	Joseph_tapia@mnes-us.com
Taylor, Larry	larry.taylor@pgnmail.com
Taylor, Marlene	marlene.taylor@exeloncorp.com
Temple, Robert	nuclaw@mindspring.com
Thomason, Stan	sthomason@southernco.com
Thompson, Ryder	Ryder.Thompson@scana.com
Torres, Alan	atorres@scana.com
Traiforos, Spyros	satconsult@msn.com
Travieso-Diaz, Matias	matias.travieso-diaz@pillsburylaw.com
Van Wyk, Jake	jacob.vanwyk@scana.com
Vaughn, Lisa	lfvaughn@duke-energy.com
Waites, Brandon	bwwaites@southernco.com
Waltman, C.	cwaltman@roe.com
Warren, Jim	jim@ncwarn.org
Webb, Maria	maria.webb@pillsburylaw.com
Wessel, Ronald	wesselrp@westinghouse.com
Wink, Roger	rwink@ameren.com
Woodlan, Donald	donald.woodlan@luminant.com
Yox, Michael	SNC
Zinke, George	gzinke@entergy.com
Zorn, Jason	zornjc@westinghouse.com
	arp@nei.org
	bpgarde@aol.com
	dashurberg@hpacorp.com
	dwoodla1@txu.com
	ecg@nei.org
	hundrupa@gao.gov
	jfulto1@entergy.com
	jrfergus@duke-energy.com
	llbauman@aol.com
	lynchje@inpo.org
	pdblanch@comcast.net
	sbhaber@hpacorp.com