

Joseph D. Hegner

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Joe is a nuclear licensing professional with more than four decades experience in the commercial nuclear industry. He has demonstrated his ability to successfully manage the nuclear regulatory interface and achieve desired outcomes. He has an excellent understanding of NRC requirements, guidance, organization, processes, and expectations and has translated that understanding into successfully completing numerous licensing actions. He maintains a positive, professional relationship with NRC management and staff and is influential as Dominion’s representative on various nuclear industry task forces, working groups, and committees. He creates winning teams and works successfully in a high-pressure deadline-driven environment. He develops and inspires those under his leadership to create quality licensing products and completes assigned work on time and on budget.

Dominion Resources, Richmond, VA

1983 – Present

Manager-Licensing (North Anna 3 Project)

Joe is responsible for acquiring a Combined License from the NRC for a new nuclear unit at Dominion’s North Anna site in central Virginia. He directs and coordinates the employee, vendor, legal, and contractor team that successfully prepared, submitted, and is currently defending the North Anna 3 Combined License Application (COLA) before the NRC. He manages the associated multi-million dollar budget for vendor and contractor licensing support and oversees schedules for all licensing activities and products. He is a member of several NEI task forces involved with new nuclear development.

Under Joe’s leadership, Dominion originally submitted the NA3 COLA on schedule in 2007 incorporating GEH’s ESBWR technology. At the time, it was acknowledged by the NRC as a quality application that had achieved a high degree of standardization with other COL applicants. In 2010, under Joe’s leadership, Dominion revised the COLA to incorporate a different reactor technology, a licensing action not previously attempted under the Part 52 process. At the time, the review of the original application had been on schedule and Dominion had achieved several “firsts” as a COL applicant. In 2013, Dominion announced its intent to return to the original reactor technology. Again, Joe developed the licensing strategy and led the team that revised the application.

Supervisor-Licensing (Early Site Permit Project)

Joe was responsible for acquiring an Early Site Permit (ESP) for the North Anna site. He managed the staff, contractor, and administrative resources that in 2003 submitted a first-of-a-kind ESP application to the NRC on schedule using a bounding plant parameter envelope approach. That effort successfully demonstrated that the North Anna site was suitable for a variety of potential reactor technologies. The NRC issued the North Anna ESP in 2007.

Project Supervisor and Supervisor-Engineering (Operating Fleet)

Joe was responsible for the staff, contractor, and administrative resources that validated and significantly improved the quality of the Updated Final Safety Analysis Reports (UFSARs) for Dominion's operating fleet in response to NRC concerns regarding configuration management of the design and licensing bases. He developed the organization and strategies required to implement improvements to the operating units' UFSARs content and change processes. In parallel, he was responsible for developing improved Technical Specifications for the operating units. He served as licensing lead for the transfer of the Millstone operating licenses from Northeast Utilities to Dominion. Later, he was responsible for maintaining the operating units' current licensing bases and supervised several engineering programs.

Supervisor-Licensing and Licensing Engineer (Operating Fleet)

Joe supervised licensing engineers, contractors and administrative staff to ensure that the licensing activities necessary to support the continued safe operation of Dominion's nuclear units were successfully implemented. He was responsible for written and verbal communications with NRC on a variety of regulatory issues affecting the operating fleet. He was responsible for maintaining and amending the stations' Technical Specifications, UFSARs, and responding to NRC bulletins, generic letters, Notices of Violation, and other NRC communications. He was responsible for special licensing projects and preparing for enforcement and management conferences. Joe represented Dominion on vendor owners' group committees and on industry groups and task forces, including NEI's 50.59 and UFSAR task forces.

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

1975 to 1983

Licensing Project Manager

Joe served as principle point-of-contact and coordinated the performance of NRC licensing actions for several operating BWR licensees. He managed the efforts of diverse NRC staff and contractor technical staff in support of numerous licensing actions. He reviewed proposed Technical Specification changes and prepared safety evaluations in support of license amendments. He served as lead project manager responsible for completing licensing actions on designated generic safety issues.

Resident Inspector

As a certified PWR reactor inspector, Joe conducted safety inspections of NRC licensed activities at operating and construction sites to verify compliance with applicable regulatory requirements. His responsibility included all areas subject to NRC regulation with an emphasis on reactor safety and operations. He identified areas of potential safety significance to licensee and NRC management and documented his findings in periodic written inspection reports.

Technical Specialist

Joe developed, implemented, and maintained major elements of NRC's program for coordinating the agency's response to events at NRC-licensed facilities. He was responsible for coordinating the definition and assignment of emergency responsibilities and functions both within NRC and with other federal agencies. His responsibilities within the NRC Operations Center included duty officer training, procedure development, and program support during actual events. He planned and conducted periodic emergency exercises, directed NRC contractors assisting in program development, and monitored program performance.

Enforcement Specialist

Joe provided technical support to NRC enforcement staff to ensure uniformity of enforcement actions across NRC regions.

United States Air Force

1971-1974

Intelligence Analyst

Joe served as an intelligence analyst in the USAF Directorate of Intelligence and at the National Security Agency.

EDUCATION

B.S., Nuclear Engineering
B.A., Physics

University of Maryland
University of Pittsburgh

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

American Nuclear Society