

October 19, 2017

MEMORANDUM TO: Victor Hall, 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 SEPTEMBER 21, 2017, PUBLIC MEETING TO
DISCUSS THE CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION PROGRAM

On September 21, 2017, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff conducted a Category 3 public meeting at NRC headquarters with industry and members of the public to discuss the NRC Construction Inspection Program. The staff NRC provided an overview of Emergency Response Data System (ERDS) information needed to support its emergency preparedness programs, provided an update of the staff's readiness to transition AP1000 regulatory oversight from construction to operations, and led a discussion on digital instrumentation and controls (I&C) related to initial test programs. Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) provided an update on the construction status of its Vogtle Units 3 and 4. During the meeting, the NRC also addressed questions from members of the public. The following summarizes each of the presentation topics:

- a. The meeting began with a presentation by NRC staff from the Office of Nuclear Security and Incidence Response (NSIR) regarding NRC emergency response readiness issues. Specifically, the NRC AP1000 Integrated Transition Working Group identified two readiness issues related to NRC's Emergency Response Program: (1) response-related training for NRC Operations Officers and emergency responders on the unique aspects of the AP1000 design and (2) design and site-specific information needed to support NRC incident response software. The staff is developing an AP1000 Emergency Response training course for NRC responders for which the staff needs for industry to identify the key parameters that will be transmitted to NRC during a response. This will allow the staff to train NRC responders regarding what parameters it can expect to receive via ERDS and what parameters the staff will need to request via telephone. The presentation also identified more specifically the information the staff requires for other incident response software. Details are available in the NRC staff presentation (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System) (ADAMS) Accession No. [ML17244A603](#).
- b. In the second presentation, NRC Office of New Reactors (NRO) staff gave an overview of the staff's efforts to plan the transition of regulatory oversight and licensing for AP1000 plants from construction to operations. The presentation noted that in September 2014,

the staff published a report that identifies 21 readiness issues and implementing recommendations, "Assessment of the Staff's Readiness to Transition Regulatory Oversight and Licensing as New Reactors Proceed from Construction to Operation," (ADAMS Accession No. ML14031A387). NRC published a public draft version of the "Implementation Plan" (ADAMS Accession No. ML16070A178) in January 2017. The Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) provided comments in March 2017, which the staff addressed and discussed during a Reactor Oversight Process public meeting held in May 2017. The staff updated the plan and expects to issue the revised document later this month. The NRC staff presentation is available at ADAMS Accession No. [ML17256A163](#).

- c. The next portion of the meeting was an NRO staff discussion related to the AP1000 Initial Test Program, with an emphasis on digital I&C testing and related inspection activities. The presentation noted that the goal of the test strategy should be a rigorous, overlapping testing scheme to maintain integrity between the I&C system design to factory validation/testing and on-site (preoperational) testing. The Updated Final Safety Analysis Report Chapter 14 preoperational test commitments are satisfied by combination of factory testing, component testing and preoperational testing (with overlap between each). A key characteristic of this strategy is using factory testing to satisfy later preoperational testing requirements (e.g. prerequisites and acceptance criteria). Since 2014, the NRC staff held various public meetings, inspection planning meetings, and other interactions to discuss the test strategy (among NRC staff, licensees, and Westinghouse). The NRC staff recognized that enhanced inspection guidance was needed to address preoperational testing of systems controlled by digital platforms (testing that would implement elements of I&C test strategy) and developed this guidance as a new "Appendix A" to Inspection Procedure IP 70702 "Inspection of Preoperational Test Performance." Details are available in the NRC staff presentation (ADAMS Accession No. [ML17256A132](#)).
- d. A representative from SNC provided construction updates for Vogtle Units 3 and 4 (ADAMS Accession No. [ML17017A393](#)).

CONTACT: Michael Webb, NRO/DCIP/CIPB
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SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2017, PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS THE
CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION PROGRAM DATED OCTOBER 19, 2017

Enclosure:
List of Attendees

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ADAMS Accession No: ML17276B315 NRC-001

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|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| OFFICE | NRO/DCIP/CIPB | NRO/DCIP/CIPB |
| NAME | Michael Webb | Victor Hall |
| DATE | 10/05/2017 | 10/19/2017 |

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

**Thursday, September 21, 2017 - 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Commission Hearing Room**

| Name | Organization |
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| Agee, Stephanie | SNC Regulatory Affairs |
| Arora, Surinder | NRC/NRO |
| Baptist, James | NRC/Region II |
| Barss, Dan | NRC/NSIR |
| Bell, Russ | NEI |
| Bergman, Jana | Curtiss Wright |
| Ferguson, Ashley | NRC/NRO |
| Fredette, Thomas | NRC/NRO |
| Frost, John | NRC/NSIR |
| Gwyn, Dealis | MOX Services |
| Hall, Victor | NRC/NRO |
| Hasselberg, Rick | NRC/NSIR |
| Hirmanpour, Bob | SNC |
| Jackson, Terry | NRC/NRO |
| Johnson, Andrea | NRC/NRO |
| Krohn, Paul | NRC/NRO |
| McGinty, Tim | NRC/NRO |
| Merzke, Dan | NRC/NRR |
| Olson, Josh | SNC ITAAC |
| Patel, Raju | NRC/NRO |
| Petrucci, Judy | NRC/NSIR |
| Prescott, Paul | NRC/NRO |
| Pugh, Amanda | SNC |
| Roberts, Kelli | SNC Licensing |
| Roggenbrodt, William | NRC/NRO |
| Simonian, Niry | NRC/NSIR |
| Spivack, Ian | NRC/NRO |
| Waldrup, Steve | SNC/ITP |
| Webb, Michael | NRC/NRO |
| Wilson, Josh | NRC/NRO |
| Wilson, Tim | NRC/OIG |
| * Castelli, Lisa | NRC/Region II |
| * Gibson, Ray | NRC/NSIR |
| * Heisserer, Jamie | NRC/NSIR |
| * Jaworsky, Mari | Duke |
| * Jones, William | NRC/Region II |
| * Mathis, Robert | NRC/Region II |
| * Musser, Randy | NRC/Region II |
| * Stacy, Kara | SNC |
| | |

*Indicates remote participation via teleconference or webinar

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