

CHAIRMAN Resource

From: Tom Gurdziel <tgurdziel@twcny.rr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:03 PM
To: Bridget Frymire
Cc: techols@psc.state.ga.us; qainfo@nsr.go.jp; 'Ed Stronski'; Screnci, Diane; Esberg, John R:(GenCo-Nuc); BarclaW@assembly.state.ny.us; Lyon, Jill:(NMP); Holden, Tammy L:(GenCo-Nuc); Terry Wilbur; CHAIRMAN Resource
Subject: [External_Sender] NRC Rule Explanation

Good morning Bridget,

After the Fukushima accidents, it was realized that science knowledge had continued to advance from those earlier days when commercial nuclear power plants were designed. The US NRC called for up-to-date flooding studies for US commercial nuclear power plants. (I think this was expected of seismic events also, but I have not followed that at all.) The studies were to be based on codes and models not yet complete. A lot of time passed. A real lot of time passed. Eventually the industry was given a December 2018 deadline to meet (for flooding studies.) I don't know if everybody met it.

Just recently the commission directed the agency to write a "Rule" to cover Fukushima-related changes. I am not certain but it seems that, by a majority vote of 3 to 2, the US NRC Chairman and Commissioners have removed any requirement to actually make plant/site changes necessary to endure the newly determined flooding heights/conditions.

The situation is best explained in the part from 1:52 to 5:46 of the first 12:02 minutes of the recorded NRC meeting: "Affirmation Session/Commission Meeting" of 1-24-2019.

(Remember how to get there:

NRC Home page, click on "Photos & Video" which is under "NRC Library" found at the upper right of the Home page

On the "Photos & Video page, click on "Webcast Portal/Video Archive"

On the "NRC Webcast Portal", make sure you have Archived Video for 2019, then click on Affirmation Session/Commission Meeting:

It starts muted. Click on "x MUTED" at the upper right)

After 12 minutes (and 2 seconds) they are into their commission meeting, which is not related to the information above.

Thank you,

Tom

What makes me feel a little better is the thought that the NRC prescribes minimum requirements. They do not (as far as I know) actually PREVENT a plant owner from making improvements to meet modern (today's) External Event conditions.



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