



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

AUG 23 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman Hendrie
 Commissioner Gilinsky
 Commissioner Kennedy
 Commissioner Bradford
 Commissioner Ahearne

THRU: Lee V. Gossick, Executive Director for Operations (Signed) T. A. Rehm

FROM: Roger J. Mattson, Director
 Lessons Learned Task Force

SUBJECT: AUGUST 17, 1979 MEETING WITH INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES ON
 ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INSTITUTE FOR NUCLEAR POWER OPERATIONS

On June 28, 1979 four industry groups (APPA, AIF, EEI and NRECA) announced plans for a national institute to establish "benchmarks for excellence" in nuclear power programs. It was also announced that Dr. Chauncey Starr had agreed to assist the industry in formation of the national institute. J. Fouchard in a memo to you of June 28, 1979 forwarded copies of the industry press release.

In my letter of July 31, 1979 to Dr. Starr (copy attached) I indicated it would be useful for NRC management and representatives of the Lessons Learned Task Force to meet with individuals responsible for formation of the operations institute. The August 17, 1979 meeting is a result of that request. A list of attendees is attached. A summary of the meeting is provided below.

Dr. Starr indicated the objectives of the operations institute - Institute for Nuclear Power Operations (INPO) - would be to:

- . Provide a system for monitoring and evaluating reactor operational problems and subsequent corrective actions.
- . Provide seminars and generic training for various utility employees, including instructors, utility executives and upper management, to assure quality in the operation of nuclear power programs.
- . Identify research projects and studies to improve the management and operation of nuclear power programs.

To achieve the stated objectives Dr. Starr indicated INPO might be organized functionally in the following major areas:

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. Education and Training

- INPO expects to provide training to utility chief executives and management level personnel
- INPO expects to develop standardized training programs and accredit instructors and courses for operating personnel (reactor operators, plant supervisory staff, and auxiliary operators) and technical personnel (technicians and maintenance personnel). INPO does not expect to teach courses for operators and technical personnel.

. Criteria Development and Analysis

- INPO expects to develop criteria for personnel qualification (Its relationship to the present ANS-3 standards activities and NRC Regulatory Guide efforts will require clarification.)

. Evaluation and Assistance

- INPO expects to perform evaluations of existing power plant operations programs and provide assistance to utilities in improving present programs
- INPO expects to incorporate feedback from operational experiences in the training programs

. Emergency Preparedness

- INPO expects to provide assistance to utilities pertaining to what must be prepared (personnel, equipment, and services) in advance of accidents.

Specific points discussed at the meeting concerning INPO included the following:

- . INPO is in the formative stages and the organizational structure and functional activities are still tentative
- . INPO expects to be in operation by January 1980
- . Site selection for INPO has not been finalized
- . The permanent staff, including the INPO Director and Board of Directors, has not been selected
- . INPO expects to have a staff of approximately 200 people

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- . 250⁰ chief executives of utilities have to be convinced of the usefulness of INPO. A series of regional meetings will be held by INPO between now and September 6, 1979 to discuss INPO organization with the utilities
- . The ACRS will be briefed on INPO by Bill Lee of Duke during the September Committee meeting
- . A mutual insurance plan to apply to extraordinary costs in the event of a future nuclear accident is being explored by a committee of financial specialists. It is expected participation in INPO would be a prerequisite to participation in the mutual insurance plan.

In my letter of July 31, 1979 to Dr. Starr I indicated my support of the formation of INPO. That support has been strengthened by what I heard of industry's commitment to the idea and Dr. Starr's creative enthusiasm for the institute at the August 17 meeting.

R. J. Mattson / for

Roger J. Mattson, Director
Lessons Learned Task Force

Enclosures:

- 1) R. Mattson Ltr. of 7/31/79
to C. Starr
- 2) List of Attendees

cc: L. Gossick
H. Denton
E. Case
S. Levine
R. Budnitz
R. Minogue
H. Shapar
V. Stello
W. Dircks
D. Ross
D. Eisenhut
D. Vassallo
F. Schroeder
S. Hanauer
SECY
OGC
OPE

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List of Attendees at August 17, 1979 Meeting on
Establishment of an Institute for Nuclear Power Operations (INPO)

NRC Participants

R. Mattson, NRR
D. Skovholt, NRR
C. Stetler, Commissioner Kennedy's Office
E. Jordan, IE
W. Morrison, SD
J. Milhoan, SD

Participants Outside NRC

C. Starr, EPRI
R. Loftness, EPRI
R. Pack, EPRI
R. Eckert, Public Service Electric & Gas Co.
B. Lee Jr., Comm. Edison

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J. Milhoan



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

July 31, 1979

Docket No.: 50-320

Dr. Chauncey Starr
Vice Chairman of Electric Power
Research Institute
3412 Hillview Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94303

Dear Dr. Starr:

We in NRC have read with interest the recent press accounts of the efforts of the nuclear industry to establish a national institute to monitor and improve the operation of nuclear power reactors. I am pleased to learn that you have agreed to assist the industry in the formation of the national institute.

As you may know, a task force was formed early this summer in the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation ("The Lessons Learned Task Force"). Its job is to identify and evaluate safety concerns originating with the TMI-2 accident that require licensing actions for operating reactors as well as for pending operating license and construction permit applications. Attached is a copy of a report by the Lessons Learned Task Force, NUREG-0578, "TMI-2 Lessons Learned Task Force Status Report and Short-Term Recommendations," for your information. Several of the short-term recommendations are related to nuclear power plant operations. Over the next several weeks, the task force will continue its evaluation of the accident by considering broader and more fundamental questions related to the design and operation of nuclear power plants and the licensing process.

It was pointed out in a June 28, 1979, press release that the operations institute will cooperate with the NRC, but will maintain its identity and independence. We generally support such an approach; however, I believe it to be to our mutual advantage that a significant degree of coordination and understanding exist between the operations institute and the NRC.

A member of the Lessons Learned Task Force, Mr. James Milhoan, has been in contact with Mr. Randy Pack of your staff with regard to the development of plans for the operations institute. I think this is valuable and encourage continuance of this type of contact; however, I believe it would be useful to expand the general NRC understanding of the operations institute while plans for its inauguration are being developed. In this

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Dr. Chauncey Starr

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July 31, 1979

regard, I believe it would be useful for the management and several other technical staff of the Lessons Learned Task Force to meet with you and your staff in the near future. We will be pleased to meet at a location of your choice or you may desire the meeting be held in Washington, D.C. where more of the NRC staff is accessible. Please call James Milhoan or me on 301-492-7517 to arrange such a meeting.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:
Robert L. Tedesco

Roger J. Mattson, Director
Lessons Learned Task Force

Enclosure: NUREG-0578

cc: F. Graham, AIF
R. Pack, EPRI

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DATE ▶	7/2/79	7/3/79	7/ /79	7/2/79		