

OCT 27 1982

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director
Division of Licensing

THRU: Frank J. Miraglia, Assistant Director
for Safety Assessment
Division of Licensing

FROM: Cecil O. Thomas, Acting Chief
Standardization & Special Projects Branch
Division of Licensing

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF OCTOBER 21, 1982 MEETING WITH
EPRI ON ITS LWR STANDARDIZATION PROGRAM

On October 21, 1982, Gus Lainas, Frank Miraglia and I met in Bethesda with Karl Stahlkopf, Robert Nickell and Jack Berga of the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) to discuss its LWR standardization program. Among the subjects discussed were the objectives and general features of EPRI's program, the NRC resources EPRI believes are needed to proceed with the first phase of its program and EPRI's plans for future activities.

The objectives of EPRI's program are to develop up to three light water reactor plant "baseline designs" and the "approach" which could be used by vendors in obtaining NRC certification of plant designs based on these baseline designs. Baseline designs would be developed for at least one BWR plant and one PWR plant. The "approach" would include specification of the licensing issues which must be resolved and the level of design detail which must be provided to obtain NRC certification.

EPRI's program consists of several phases. Phase I, which is expected to take approximately one year to complete, involves the development of a list of "utility betterments," i.e., design features which are expected to improve plant reliability and availability; the determination of the licensing issues which must be resolved and the level of design detail which must be provided to obtain NRC certification; and the establishment of detailed procedures for resolving the licensing issues. The procedures for resolving the licensing issues would be established through interaction with NRC on three or four representative issues such as possible revision to Appendix K to 10 CFR 50, decay heat removal, inservice inspection and systems interactions.

Following the completion of Phase I of the program, EPRI would issue Requests for Proposals from nuclear steam supply system vendors and architect-engineering firms for plant designs to be submitted by the vendors/firms for NRC certification. These designs would be based on the specifications developed during Phase I of EPRI's program. During NRC's review of these designs, EPRI's role would be limited to that of a facilitator.

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Darrell G. Eisenhut

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The EPRI representatives referred to their September 15, 1982 letter to Mr. Denton (see Enclosure 1) for a description of the NRC resources it believes are needed to proceed with the first phase of its program. As indicated in their letter, EPRI believes a Policy Committee and a Program Group are necessary in order for NRC to complement the industry's commitment to the initial phase of its program. The EPRI representatives stated their expectation that the Policy Committee would consist of one Commissioner, one ACRS Member, and Messrs. Dircks, Stello and Denton. They did not elaborate on their expectations for the Program Group.

We pointed out that we had responded to EPRI's letter by a letter dated October 20, 1982 from Mr. Denton (see Enclosure 2). In our letter, we stated that Mr. Denton will be the lead individual for matters of NRC policy and resource commitments, and Messrs. Miraglia and Thomas will be the individuals to help define the scope, outstanding issues and schedules for reviewing the standard plant design. At the request of the EPRI representatives, we agreed to make sure that Mr. Denton is aware of the discrepancy between the expected and designated compositions of the Policy Committee. Accordingly, we suggest that you discuss this matter with Mr. Denton at your earliest convenience.

The EPRI representatives gave us a copy of a September 29, 1982 letter from R. E. Engel of S. Levy, Inc. to Lou Martel of EPRI. In that letter, S. Levy, Inc., consultant to EPRI for its program, lists and prioritizes approximately 510 licensing issues which it believes need to be considered in the program. The EPRI representatives requested that we review that list for completeness and appropriateness of prioritization. Accordingly, we have prepared for your signature and Mr. Denton's concurrence a memorandum to the other NRR Division Directors requesting their assistance in this effort.

Finally, the EPRI representatives requested that we meet again in 5-6 weeks to consider the completeness and appropriateness of prioritization of the licensing issues and to discuss with the cognizant task managers the three or four representative licensing actions to be considered in Phase I of the program.

Original Signed by:

Cecil O. Thomas, Acting Chief
Standardization & Special
Projects Branch
Division of Licensing

Enclosures:
As Stated

OFFICE	DL:SSPB	DL:AD/OR	DL:AD/SA				
SURNAME	Thomas:cc	Glavin	Miraglia				
DATE	10/26/82	10/1/82	10/1/82				

COMMITTEE CORRESPONDENCE

Committee: EPRI Utility Steering
Committee - Standardized
Light Water Reactor Design

Address Writer at:

Wisconsin Electric Power Company
231 West Michigan Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201
Telephone: (414) 277-2121

September 15, 1982

Mr. Harold Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Denton:

On July 20, 1982, you met with members of the EPRI Utility Steering Committee for the Industry Program for Development of Standardized Light Water Reactor Design for One-Step Licensing. At that time we outlined Phase I of our proposed program, and discussed possible interaction between NRC and the industry program. You expressed a willingness to assign personnel to work with EPRI on the program. Proceeding to Phase II of the program will depend, in some part, upon our ability to work constructively with NRC during Phase I.

The objectives of this interaction were to:

Help define scope, degree of detail, and starting point for standardizing design, as well as site-enveloping characteristics.

Identify outstanding issues to be resolved and schedule for resolution.

Develop detailed approach to resolve three typical outstanding issues, including mechanisms, plans, information and appropriate schedule.

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In order to achieve these objectives, it was requested that the NRC provide the necessary resources to complement the industry commitment to the initial phase of the program. It is expected that two levels of NRC participation are required initially: a Policy Committee and a Program Group.

The Policy Committee would provide interpretation of NRC policy regarding standardization and give direction and provide resources for the program. They would also resolve any differing issues that develop at the program level and provide the focal point

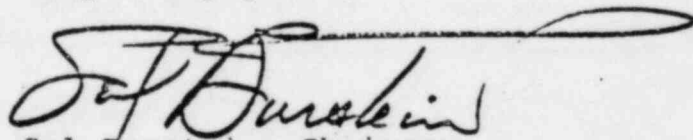
September 15, 1982

for obtaining necessary decisions to enable the program to proceed. As suggested by Chairman Palladino, legal and procedural, as well as technical, input will be needed. I have arranged to enlist the assistance of Barton Z. Cowan, Esq., Chairman of the Legal Committee of the Atomic Industrial Forum, to work with the Utility Steering Committee and interact with the NRC Policy Committee on such matters.

The Program Group is necessary to demonstrate the feasibility of the program. This group would work with industry representatives and be responsible for identifying all current licensing issues of a technical nature whose resolution is necessary for certification of standard light water reactor designs. In addition, three such issues would be selected by the Utility Steering Committee and the NRC Policy Committee to demonstrate the feasibility of reasonably resolving issues independent of specific licensing activities. The Program Group would work with selected industry representatives with the goal of developing a plan and schedule for resolution of these sample issues. Karl Stahlkopf plans to visit Daryl Eisenhut as soon as possible to establish the specifics of near-term activities of the Program Group and EPRI.

As you know, there is considerable divergence of opinion as to the approaches that should be taken both by the industry and by the NRC to further nuclear plant standardization. Some of these differences may affect the scope and schedule of this program. It is believed, however, that the program proposed here by EPRI is consistent with the current views of safety goals, backfitting provisions, one-step licensing, and other programs intended to remove present regulatory uncertainties, stabilize plant designs, and attain the benefits of standardization. NRC participation in this proposed undertaking is necessary if this activity is to have any potential opportunity.

Very truly yours,



Sol Burstein, Chairman
Utility Steering Committee

Copy to Mr. J. Tourtellotte

ENCLOSURE 2

OCT 20 1982

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Mr. Sol Burstein, Chairman
 EPRI Utility Steering Committee
 Standardized Light Water Reactor Design
 Wisconsin Electric Power Company
 231 West Michigan Street
 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

Dear Mr. Burstein:

This is in response to your letter dated September 15, 1982 concerning the Electric Power Research Institute's (EPRI's) standardized light water reactor design program. In that letter you requested that we provide resources to complement the industry's commitment to the initial phase of your program.

I believe that early NRC involvement in a program such as you have outlined will prove beneficial to both of our organizations and will enhance the role of standardization in nuclear power plant design. Accordingly, I will be the lead individual for matters of NRC policy and resource commitments. In addition, I have designated Mr. Frank J. Miraglia, Assistant Director for Safety Assessment and Mr. Cecil O. Thomas, Acting Chief, Standardization & Special Projects Branch, as the individuals to help define the scope, outstanding issues, and schedules for a review of standard reactor designs.

We can meet with you and your representatives as soon as practicable. The objective of that meeting should be to provide us with a better understanding of the details of your program. That understanding will enable us to more definitively plan to meet your needs. To arrange that meeting, please contact Cecil Thomas on (301)492-7130.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
H. R. Denton

Harold R. Denton, Director
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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 PRR

REWRITTEN IN HDENTON'S OFFICE

OFFICE	DL:SSPB	NRR:DIR	EDO				
SURNAME	CThomas	HDenton:dfm	WDircks				
DATE	10/7/82	10/15/82	10/ /82				

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