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October 4, 1995

Mr. Donnie H. Grimsley
Director, Division of Freedom of
Information and Publications Service
Office of Administration
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
ACT REQUEST

FOIA-95-418
Rec'd. 10-11-95

ATTN: FOIA Request


Dear Mr. Grimsley:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following documentation be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room:

- 1) IE Manual Chapter 2955 as referenced on page 2 of attached SECY-86-37. (Attachment 1)
- 2) Draft NRC Manual Chapter 0516 as referenced in September 15, 1981 letter from NRC to Northern States Power. (see Attachment 2)
- 3) NRC Manual Chapter 0516 dated July 25, 1986 as referenced in NRR Office Letter 44, Revision 1. (see Attachment 3)

Please let me know if you require any additional information. I can be reached at 202/634-1439.

Sincerely,



Michael O'Mealia

Enclosures:
as stated

ACN: 9207070133
DATE: 810915
DTC: CL/*CORRESPONDENCE-LETTERS
DTC: OUT/*OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE
EST_PAGES: 1
L1: INFORMS THAT SALP REVIEW & ASSOCIATED MGT MEETINGS WILL TAKE
L2: PLACE IN NEAR FUTURE FOR PLANTS.FORWARDS DRAFT NRC MC 0516
L3: WHICH WILL BE USED AS GUIDE FOR PERFORMANCE OF SALP REVIEWS.
L4: W-O DRAFT MC 0516.
KEY: DRAFTS
KEY: GUIDELINES
KEY: ~~MANAGEMENT~~
KEY: MEETINGS
KEY: PERFORMANCE
KEY: REVIEWS
KEY: SALP
KEY: SYSTEMATIC ASSESSMENT OF LICENSEE PERFORMANCE
FICHE: 62248:001-62248:103
PFL: ADOCK-5000263-Q-810915
DKT: 50263F/#MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, NORTHERN STATES
DKT: 50263Q/#MONTICELLO NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, NORTHERN STATES
DKT: 50282F/#PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1, NORTHERN
DKT: 50282Q/#PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1, NORTHERN
DKT: 50306F/#PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2, NORTHERN
DKT: 50306Q/#PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2, NORTHERN
RN#1: GILBERTS D E
AN#1: SPESSARD R L
RA#1: EUTNSP/@NORTHERN STATES POWER CO.
AA#1: NOIR3/@REGION III, IE (720101-810228)
PACKAGE: 810915-9207070133*
OTHER: 9207070133

ACN: 8701050482
DATE: 861222
DTC: CM/*MEMORANDUMS-CORRESPONDENCE
DTC: MEMO/*INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL MEMORANDUM
EST_PAGES: 4
EST_PAGES: 46
L1: REV 1 TO OFC LTR 44 ALERTING NRR STAFF TO AGENCY APPROVAL OF
L2: MANUAL CHAPTER 0516 'SALP' DTD 860725 & SUPERSEDING OFC
L3: LTR 44 DTD 840103.IMPLEMENTING PROCEDURE TO BE UTILIZED TO
L4: PREPARE ALL SALPS & MANUAL CHAPTER 0516 ENCL.
KEY: APPROVALS
KEY: IMPLEMENTATION
KEY: MODIFICATIONS
KEY: PROCEDURES
KEY: REVISIONS
KEY: SALP
KEY: STAFFING
KEY: SYSTEMATIC ASSESSMENT OF LICENSEE PERFORMANCE
FICHE: 46327:315-46327:318
FICHE: 68699:001-68699:047
PFL: FOIA--BOLEY87-830-880711
FIA: 87-830
AN#1: DENTON H R
FNAME: BOLEY
RA#1: NRRC/@OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION, DIRECTOR (85112
AA#1: NRRC/@OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION, DIRECTOR (85112
PACKAGE: 880711-8808010400A
OTHER: 8808010400



POLICY ISSUE
(Information)

February 3, 1986

SECY-86-37

For: The Commissioners

From: Victor Stello, Jr.
Acting Executive Director for Operations

Subject: SYSTEMATIC ASSESSMENT OF LICENSEE PERFORMANCE (SALP)
PROCESS

Purpose: To provide the Commission with information on the SALP program and its current status.

Background: The SALP program was implemented in 1980 in response to Item I.B.2. of NUREG-0660, Volume 1, "NRC Action Plan Developed as a Result of the TMI-2 Accident." A description of the original program was provided in SECY-80-83, dated February 12, 1980. The results of the first round evaluations were reported in NUREG-0834, "NRC Licensee Assessments."

The Commission was briefed on the objectives of the SALP program and the results of the first round evaluations on September 22, 1981. As a result of that briefing, the following changes were made to the SALP program at the request of the Commission: -

- o The first round assessments covered periods up to two years. The staff was requested to improve the timeliness of assessments by targeting the completion of assessments annually. The staff implemented this recommendation.
- o The first round of assessments was done in Headquarters by a board of senior headquarters managers. Responsibility for performing the assessments was shifted from Headquarters to the Regional Offices.
- o For the first round assessment, plants were rated as "Above Average," "Average," or "Below Average" overall as well as in each functional area. Based on the Commission's comment concerning adverse implications of ranking utilities, the assessment criteria were revised such that they do not provide for ranking plants to determine their relative performance.

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- The first round of assessments did not provide a means for taking into consideration licensee input. The revised process established a means for taking licensee responses into account.

Incorporating the above changes, NRC Manual Chapter 0516, "Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance" was issued on March 23, 1982 as a replacement for IE Manual Chapter 2955.

SALP evaluations were performed in accordance with this NRC Manual Chapter until November 15, 1984 when a revision was issued for interim use. That revision was in response to a staff assessment of the SALP process. In conjunction with the issuance of the November 15, 1984 revision, a review group, which included representatives from EDO, IE, NRR, AEOD, NRCSS and the regional offices, was formed to further study the SALP process. The review group finished its assignment and recommended several changes to the SALP Manual Chapter. The recommended changes were included in a proposed revision to NRC 0516 which was issued for review and comment to the appropriate staff offices on June 27, 1985. Comments on the proposed revision were considered in the preparation of the enclosed revision to NRC 0516 which was issued for implementation on November 5, 1985 by the Director, Office of Inspection and Enforcement.

Approximately 325 assessments have been issued since the beginning of the SALP process in 1980.

Discussion:

The objectives of the SALP program as contained in the November 5, 1985 revision remain unchanged from the original objectives. They are:

- o To improve the NRC regulatory program.
- o To permit sound decisions regarding NRC resource allocations.
- o To improve licensee performance.
- o To collect, through an integrated NRC staff effort, available observations on a periodic basis and evaluate licensee performance based on those observations.

While the objectives of SALP have remained the same, several changes in the mechanics of the process have taken place since the issuance of NRC Manual Chapter 0516 on March 23, 1982. The interim revision to the SALP process issued November 15, 1984, contained the following significant changes:

- o Added a new functional area "Quality Programs and Administrative Controls Affecting Quality" for evaluating both operating phase reactors and construction phase reactors.
- o Provided instructions for the Regional Administrator to issue the SALP Board Report to the licensee rather than issuance by the SALP Board Chairman.
- o Changed the periodicity for performing SALP evaluations from annually to a maximum of once per 18 months.
- o Provided that SALP management meetings with the licensee be conducted as open meetings and that members of the public be treated as observers.

The enclosed revision to NRC 0516 includes the following significant changes from the interim revision implemented on November 15, 1984.

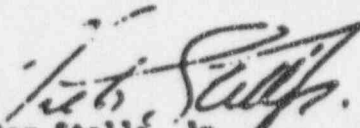
- o The addition of Training and Qualification Effectiveness as a functional area rather than treating Training and Qualification Effectiveness as evaluation criteria in the assessment of other functional areas.
- o A requirement that two SALP evaluations be conducted at approximately 12-month intervals when new operating licenses are issued.

During its recent assessment of the SALP process, the staff explored alternate means for grading licensee performance. However, it was concluded that the Commission's comments made in September 1981 following the first round of SALP evaluations are still valid (i.e., "The adverse implications of ranking utilities can be avoided by adopting three categories for the assessment. The first category should identify those facilities for which more licensee and hence more NRC attention is needed. The second category should identify those facilities for which proper balance of licensee and NRC attention has been achieved. The last category should identify those facilities for which more than adequate attention by the licensee is apparent and hence a reduction in NRC resources for those facilities can be realized.") Therefore, the staff has decided to continue with the current basic method of evaluating utility performance.

As part of our continuing effort to effectively utilize SALP results, IE has recently revised IE Manual Chapter 2515 to make the results of SALP evaluations a primary consideration in the allocation of inspection resources. The revised IE Manual Chapter provides specific guidance for increasing or decreasing inspection efforts in response to the latest SALP evaluations.

As noted in the enclosed revision to NRC 0516, licensee performance which results in functional areas being rated Category 3 is acceptable only on a short term basis. Continued performance at such levels will not be tolerated. Letters transmitting SALP Reports containing Category 3 ratings require the licensee to respond and provide the licensee's planned corrective actions to achieve improved performance in the functional areas rated Category 3. The staff is developing additional guidelines on further actions to be taken when licensee performance is evaluated as Category 3. Staff is also developing a set of objective performance indicators for potential use in evaluating each of the SALP functional areas and for signaling adverse performance trends throughout the SALP evaluation period.

The staff is continuing to monitor the SALP process in order to promote consistency of SALP results between regions and to assess improved and alternate means of evaluating licensee performance. We are also working to further streamline the SALP process and thereby minimize the NRC resources required to perform SALP evaluations.


Victor Stello, Jr.
Acting Executive Director
for Operations

Enclosure:
NRC MC 0516