

October 1, 1998

MEMORANDUM TO: All NRR Employees

FROM: Samuel J. Collins, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: PRIORITY FOR NRR REVIEW OF RISK-INFORMED LICENSING
ACTIONS

By memorandum dated June 6, 1993, Thomas E. Murley defined a general framework for determining the priority of NRR review activities. This memorandum supplements the previous guidance by providing specific guidance for review of risk-informed licensing actions. For the purpose of this guidance a risk-informed licensing action is defined as "any licensing action that uses quantitative or qualitative risk assessment insights or techniques to provide a key component of the basis for the acceptability or unacceptability of the proposed action." Within the priority framework provided by the previous guidance, risk-informed licensing actions shall be assigned as Priority 2 unless the previous guidance would assign Priority 1 due to safety significance or the need for immediate action. This priority elevation is intended to highlight the licensing action that uses risk assessment insights from among the routine licensing actions. Licensing actions and activities that are assigned Priority 2 on the basis of safety significance or the need for prompt action should be given review precedence over risk-informed licensing actions of lesser safety significance or immediacy that have been assigned Priority 2 on the sole basis of this guidance.

This guidance is effective immediately. The staff is currently contracted with Arthur Andersen to evaluate work prioritization and workload management in NRR. This guidance will be considered as part of that effort and incorporated into a future policy document on workload prioritization and management.

By copy of this memorandum, Project Managers are requested to inform their licensing counterparts of this staff guidance. Licensees will be formally notified of this policy in an Administrative Letter in the near future.

CONTACT: J. Randall Hall
415-1336

DISTRIBUTION:

Central File L. Callan J. Moore
PUBLIC W. Travers
DRPE R/F H. Thompson

DOCUMENT NAME: P:\RILA_PRI.WPD

TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT, INDICATE IN THE BOX: "C" = COPY; "N" = NO COPY

* - See previous concurrence

OFFICE	LA:PDI-1*	TA(A):DRPE	ADPR(A):NRR	ADT(A):NRR	D:NRR
NAME	SLittle	DDorman	BBoger	BSheron	SScott
DATE	9/29/98	9/30/98	9/30/98	9/30/98	10/1/98

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

9810070154 981001
PDR ORG NRRRA
PDR

98-798
FILE CENTER COPY

111-8-3-2-2C
XID-R-5 LNTS



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 1, 1998

MEMORANDUM TO: All NRR Employees

FROM:

for Samuel J. Collins, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Frank J. Miraglia

SUBJECT:

PRIORITY FOR NRR REVIEW OF RISK-INFORMED LICENSING
ACTIONS

By memorandum dated June 6, 1993, Thomas E. Murley defined a general framework for determining the priority of NRR review activities. This memorandum supplements the previous guidance by providing specific guidance for review of risk-informed licensing actions. For the purpose of this guidance a risk-informed licensing action is defined as "any licensing action that uses quantitative or qualitative risk assessment insights or techniques to provide a key component of the basis for the acceptability or unacceptability of the proposed action." Within the priority framework provided by the previous guidance, risk-informed licensing actions shall be assigned as Priority 2 unless the previous guidance would assign Priority 1 due to safety significance or the need for immediate action. This priority elevation is intended to highlight the licensing action that uses risk assessment insights from among the routine licensing actions. Licensing actions and activities that are assigned Priority 2 on the basis of safety significance or the need for prompt action should be given review precedence over risk-informed licensing actions of lesser safety significance or immediacy that have been assigned Priority 2 on the sole basis of this guidance.

This guidance is effective immediately. The staff is currently contracted with Arthur Andersen to evaluate work prioritization and workload management in NRR. This guidance will be considered as part of that effort and incorporated into a future policy document on workload prioritization and management.

By copy of this memorandum, Project Managers are requested to inform their licensing counterparts of this staff guidance. Licensees will be formally notified of this policy in an Administrative Letter in the near future.

CONTACT: J. Randall Hall
415-1336