

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Public Meeting Summary

Title: Considerations Surrounding Security Oversight for Nuclear Power Plants in Relation to the COVID-19 the Public Health Emergency (PHE)

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, June 16, 2020

Location: Teleconference

Type of Meeting: Category 2 Public Meeting

Purpose of the Meeting: The purpose of this meeting was to have discussions with Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and industry stakeholders regarding considerations surrounding security oversight for nuclear power plants in relation to the COVID-19 PHE.

Simplified List of Attendees:

NRC Presenters: Brian Holian, Sabrina Atack, Danté Johnson, Todd Keene

Industry Presenters: Ken Peters (Luminant Power), Glen Kaegi (Exelon), Aldo Capristo (STP)

NEI: Sue Perkins, AJ Clore, Lisa Hogg

NextEra: Mark Fencel

Entergy: Jon LaPlante, Mandy Halter, John Cherubini

Union of Concerned Scientists: Dr. Ed Lyman

General Details:

The office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR) staff hosted a public meeting with representatives from NEI, NextEra, Entergy, the Union of Concerned Scientists, and the other relevant stakeholders to discuss considerations surrounding security oversight for nuclear power plants in relation to the COVID-19 PHE. During the meeting, licensees and industry representatives expressed concerns related to resuming certain force-on-force (FOF) inspection activities given the anticipated duration of the PHE and the need to protect the health of security personnel. NSIR staff discussed considerations for resuming inspections and potential measures that could be implemented to mitigate certain safety concerns. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff also identified that multiple factors would be considered in making decisions regarding the resumption and prioritization of inspection activities, including state, local, and site-specific conditions.

Summary of Presentation:

During this meeting, the NRC provided a brief overview of the NRC response to the PHE, including Enforcement Guidance Memorandum (EGM) 20-002. NRC staff then gave a summary of the Baseline Security Inspection Program, a description of the specific actions taken regarding the FOF inspection program, and potential considerations for resuming FOF inspections. Industry representatives discussed the unique characteristics of FOF inspections, including the size and scope, which would inhibit a site's ability to minimize the risk to employees at this time. Industry then provided entry criteria and specific conditions that would allow licensees to minimize risk while still implementing a challenging and effective exercise. The meeting was then opened for discussion and questions from NRC staff, industry representatives, and public stakeholders.

Action Items/Next Steps:

- NRC staff will evaluate the information presented during the meeting to determine the appropriate level of oversight while still maintaining the health of the NRC and industry
- NRC staff will continue to engage industry, as needed

Attachments:

- Meeting announcement - ML20167A118
- NRC Presentation – ML20167A109
- Meeting transcript - ML20169A688