



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 19, 2021

MEMORANDUM TO: Anthony D. Masters, Chief
Reactor Assessment Branch
Division of Reactor Oversight
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Tekia V. Govan, Project Manager */RA*
Reactor Assessment Branch
Division of Reactor Oversight
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS MONTHLY
PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 20, 2021

On October 20, 2021, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff hosted a public meeting with the Nuclear Energy Institute's (NEI's) Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Task Force executives, and other senior industry executives, to discuss the staff's progress on various ROP initiatives. The topics discussed during this teleconference are described below.

Industry Feedback on the NRC's COVID Lessons Learned Charter

The summary for this topic was provided directly from NEI's industry representative:

"Industry recognizes the value and essential nature of onsite inspections. We believe the NRC's effort is not about de-valuing the role of having inspectors onsite but about applying the many insights we have all collectively learned to consider how we can be smarter in the future on how to best conduct oversight activities either during a pandemic or during the time following this pandemic.

- We are keenly interested in how the NRC adapts to the evolution and changing dynamics within the nuclear industry and better understanding the NRC's vision of a post-pandemic oversight program.
- The nuclear industry has evolved in how daily activities are conducted. In particular, new and innovative ways to support daily plant operations have emerged from the pandemic and are being integrated into our operations. IT solutions and use of technology will have increased roles in how business is conducted and the charter should consider these collective insights to determine how to best conduct oversight activities during a pandemic and how to adapt to the evolving use of technology post-pandemic.

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- Expanding on the following focus areas from the initial COVID LL report issued in January 2021 makes sense. That report was appropriately more tactical, whereas this effort has an opportunity to be more strategic and seek out improvement opportunities for a post-pandemic oversight program.
 - Information Technology (IT) capability and reliability
 - Remote inspection practices
 - Inspection guidance enhancements
- The charter is focused on inspections. We are interested in understanding how other elements of the NRC are reflecting lessons learned (e.g. security, licensing) and how these learnings will be integrated and any opportunities for stakeholder engagement.
- We are interested in understanding what the NRC is considering with a Memorandum of Understanding to capture NRC remote access and IT tools and systems. The NRC's intent is unclear and a better understanding of how an MOU fits into NRC's vision for a post-pandemic oversight program would be valuable.
- The target date of July 2022 for completion with recommendations appears reasonable and we appreciate the opportunity to provide input through the ROPTF."

Next Steps on the Withdrawn SECY-19-0067, "Recommendations for Enhancing the Reactor Oversight Process"

The NRC staff presented an overview of the status of SECY 19-0067 (ADAMS Accession No. ML21291A190) and indicated that they are currently reevaluating the basis for several of the recommendations in the paper. The chart below provides the current status for each recommendation that is being reevaluated.

Recommendation	New Information to Consider
Eliminate 4-quarter requirement for inspection findings	Updated data on licensees moving to Column 2.
Revise treatment of GTG PIs to remain Action Matrix inputs until supplemental inspection complete	Same as above
Revise description of White and Yellow safety significance	No new information.
Revise sample size requirements for several IPs, including IP 71124.02	Staff needs to review inspection data compiled since June 2019.
Revise EP SDP to limit Planning Standards for which a GTG finding would be assessed.	No new information

Revise frequency of PI&R inspection from biennial to triennial

Comprehensive review completed and did not support or refute the frequency change. Highlighted incremental changes that could be made.

By November 2022, the staff plans to update the bases with any new considerations and information. By Summer 2022, the staff will have developed one or more individual Commission paper to address the recommendations identified in SECY-19-0067.

Next Steps on the Withdrawn SECY-18-0113, “Recommendations for Modifying the Reactor Oversight Process Engineering Inspection”

The staff gave a presentation on the “Engineering Inspection Program 2021 and Beyond” (ADAMS Accession No. ML21291A189). This presentation provided a status of SECY-18-0113 and discussed the near-term considerations for the Combined Engineering Team Inspections. The staff also discussed the proposed 4-year Engineering Inspection cycle, which will be included in a new SECY paper to the NRC Commission.

Update on 10 CFR 50.72(b) Rulemaking

The NRC staff provided a brief update on the activities associated with the nonemergency reporting requirements rulemaking for operating nuclear power plants per 10 CFR 50.72(b). A public meeting was held on November 4, 2021, in which the NRC staff requested feedback on several questions to assist in the development of the draft Regulatory Basis (ADAMS Accession No. ML21288A427). The feedback the NRC staff is requesting is informal. The development of the regulatory basis is an early step in the rulemaking process and the draft document will be published Spring or Summer 2022 for formal public comment. NEI stated that it is working to develop data and information for consideration during the NRC’s evaluations, but that it might not be ready by the November 4, 2021 public meeting. NEI requested the NRC to consider another public meeting in December 2021. The NRC staff responded that the schedule to develop the regulatory basis was very tight and it did not plan for two public meetings, but it would consider the request.

Status of IMC 0609 Appendix C

The NRC staff provided information regarding the planned revision of the Occupational Radiation Safety Significance Determination Process (SDP) documents: 1) Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 0609, Appendix D, “Occupational Radiation Safety Significance Determination Process;” and 2) IMC 0308, Attachment 3, Appendix D, “Technical Basis for Occupational Radiation Safety Significance Determination Process.” The staff indicated that, currently, the planned revisions are to address NRC internal feedback forms and to make clarifications and administrative changes. The staff stated that the proposed changes include, clarifying that the most recent officially submitted three-year rolling average at the time of the SDP evaluation should be used when evaluating ALARA findings and providing clarification on the difference between an ALARA finding and an ALARA violation. The staff communicated that they would make the proposed changes publicly available at a later time and that they would provide additional information at a future ROP monthly meeting.

Meeting Action Items

No action items.

Communicating with the NRC staff

At the start of all ROP public meetings, the project manager provides contact information for the public to use to provide their name as a participant in the meeting. This contact information is also provided for submitting questions and comments to the NRC technical staff. Please note that any questions and/or comments pertaining to the ROP project can be sent to Tekia.Govan@nrc.gov. Questions and/or comments will be forward to the appropriate NRC staff. The staff also mentioned the role out of the "Contact Us about ROP" page on the new ROP website, which can also be used to submit questions and comments regarding the ROP initiative (<https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/oversight/contactus.html>).

Conclusion

At the end of the meeting, NRC and industry management gave closing remarks. The industry representatives expressed appreciation for the open dialogue and willingness of NRC staff to hear industry views. The NRC management stressed the importance of the NRC being focused on providing reasonable assurance of public health and safety when considering changes to the ROP.

The enclosure provides the attendance list for this meeting.

Enclosure:
As stated

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML21323A046

*** = via email**

OFFICE	NRR/DRO/IRAB/PM	NRR/DRO/IRAB/BC	NRR/DRO/IRAB/PM
NAME	TGovan*	AGarmoe for AMasters*	TGovan*
DATE	11/18/2021	11/19/2021	11/19/2021

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

LIST OF ATTENDEES

REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS MONTHLY PUBLIC MEETING

October 20, 2021, 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Name	Organization¹	Name	Organization
Nicole Good	Star Alliance	Micheal Smith	NRC
John Giddens	Entergy	James Anderson	NRC
Jim Slider	NEI	Robert Krsek	NRC
Deann Raleigh	Unknown	Zachery Hollcraft	NRC
Larry Nicholson	Certrec Corporation	Nicole Fields	NRC
Tony Zimmerman	Duke Energy	Douglas Bollock	NRC
Robin Ritzman	Curtiss-Wright	Chris Speer	NRC
Steve Catron	NextEra	Shakur Walker	NRC
Jonathan Johnson	TVA	Tekia Govan	NRC
R. Keith Brown	Unknown	Caty Nolan	NRC
Linda Dewhirst	Unknown	Christopher Regan	NRC
Carl Collins	Unknown	Ross Telson	NRC
Tim Riti	NEI	Jeffrey Bream	NRC
Carlos Sisco	Winston and Strawn	Anthony Masters	NRC
Isaac Mulhern	Unknown	Robert Kahler	NRC
Lindsey Grissom	Unknown	Lisa Regner	NRC
Wendy Brost	Unknown	Jack Bell	NRC
Terrance Reis	Southern Nuclear	Daniel Merzke	NRC
Brett Titus	NEI	Chanel Stridiron	NRC
Jeffrey Deal	Unknown	Charles Murray	NRC
Adam Goodman	Fleet Regulatory Affairs	Ronald Cureton	NRC
David Mannai	PSEG	David Aird	NRC
Andrew Mauer	NEI	Paul Rades	NRC
David Gudger	Exelon Nuclear	Laura Kozak	NRC
Jared Smith	Exelon Nuclear	Mike King	NRC
Ronnie Surber	Unknown	Christopher Cauffman	NRC
William Reynolds	Exelon Nuclear	Jo Bridge	NRC
Edwin Lyman	Union of Concerned Scientists	Alex Garmoe	NRC
John Hughey	NRC	Eric Duncan	NRC
Joylynn Quinones-Navarro	NRC	Tony Nakanishi	NRC
Doris Lewis	NRC	Kimyata Morgan-Butler	NRC
Ray Azua	NRC	Michael McCoppin	NRC

¹ Unknown organization indicates that the participant's affiliation was not provided by the issuance of this meeting summary.

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Harry Balian	Unknown	Philip McKenna	NRC
Steven Dolley	S&P Global Platts	Amy Hardin	NRC
Cheryl Ann Gayheart	Unknown	Thomas Hipschman	NRC
Kari Osborne	Unknown	Kevin Hsueh	NRC
Margaret Offerle	Unknown	Steven Garry	NRC
Andrew Zach	EPW	Melissa Chui	NRC
Patricia Pelke	NRC	Steven Smith	NRC
Avinash Jaigobind	NRC	Dariusz Szwarc	NRC
Catherine Kanatas	NRC	Edward Stutzcage	NRC
Tom Eck	NRC	Brigit Larsen	NRC
Marc Ferdas	NRC	Julio Lara	NRC
Manuel Crespo	NRC	Reinaldo Rodriguez	NRC
Micheal Montecalvo	NRC	Antonios Zoulis	NRC
Russell Felts	NRC	Karla Stoedter	NRC
Derek Widmayer	NRC	Frances Ramirez	NRC
Bridget Curran	NRC		