## Concerned Scientists

### Subsequent License Renewal

May 8, 2014

David Lochbaum

Director, Nuclear Safety Project
Union of Concerned Scientists

www.ucsusa.org

### Issues

- One-time SAMA evaluations
- Safety by queue position
- Current licensing bases

### **Preface**

## Neither license renewal nor subsequent license renewal is inherently unsafe.



Improperly maintained and operated reactors can get into trouble in less than 40 years.

Properly maintained and operated reactors can avoid trouble beyond 40 years.

### **One-time SAMA evaluations**

Severe accident mitigating alternative (SAMA) evaluations are required with initial license renewal application, unless already done for other reason and are not required to be redone for subsequent license renewal.

### **One-time SAMA evaluations**

# SAMA evaluations are good ideas for ALL license renewals:

- safety innovations may have emerged during past two decades
- populations may have increased during past two decades
- costs just may have changed during the past two decades

## Safety by queue position

05-19-2004 Ginna relicensed

09-30-2005 GALL Rev. 1 issued

12-23-2005 Point Beach relicensed

Point Beach had to develop an Alloy 600 aging management program before being relicensed.

Ginna was not and still is not required to have one.

## Safety by queue position

If safety required Point Beach and later relicensed reactors to have Alloy 600 aging management programs, than 10 CFR 50.100 and 10 CFR 50.109 require Ginna and other relicensed reactors to also have Alloy 600 aging management programs.

Position in line <u>cannot</u> determine safety levels.

### **Current licensing bases**

12-13-1991: License renewal regulation revised to presume, not verify, that reactors comply with all CLB requirements

01-21-1997: AEOD reports 313 LERs involving design errors annually from 1985 to 1995

12-21-2013: Fort Calhoun restarts following 30-month outage to remedy CLB shortcomings

### **Current licensing bases**

License renewal regulation's presumption of CLB compliance has shown to be invalid many times since 1991 and has never yet been proven valid

### Recommendations

One-time SAMA evaluations

Require SAMA evaluations with all license renewal applications

Safety by queue position

Enforce 10 CFR 50.100 and 50.109

Current licensing bases

Verify compliance with CLB

## **Acronym List**

**AEOD** – Office for Analysis and **Evaluation of Operating Data (now** defunct) CFR – Code of Federal Regulations **CLB** – current licensing bases **GALL – Generic aging lessons** learned report LER - licensee event report **NRC - Nuclear Regulatory Commission** SAMA – Severe accident mitigating alternative