April 1, 2013

MEMORANDUM TO: Shana R. Helton, Chief
Rulemaking Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Daniel I. Doyle, Project Manager **/RA/**
Rulemaking Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF FORTHCOMING CATEGORY 3 PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS PROPOSED INITIATIVE TO IMPROVE NUCLEAR SAFETY AND REGULATORY EFFICIENCY

DATE & TIME: Wednesday, April 24, 2013
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Eastern Time

LOCATION: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
Executive Boulevard Building
Room: 01-B13
6003 Executive Boulevard
Rockville, MD 20852

PURPOSE: The purpose of this meeting is to: 1) inform external stakeholders of the recent Commission proposed initiative to improve nuclear safety and regulatory efficiency by applying probabilistic risk assessments (PRAs) to determine the risk significance of current and emerging reactor issues in an integrated manner and on a plant-specific basis; 2) describe the NRC staff's current thoughts on ways to address the proposed initiative; and 3) obtain feedback that will inform the NRC's efforts to address the proposed initiative.

MEETING CONTACT: Daniel I. Doyle, NRR/DPR
301-415-3748
Daniel.Doyle@nrc.gov

The Commission has directed[1] the NRC staff to develop a notation vote paper that provides approaches for allowing licensees to propose to the NRC a prioritization of the implementation of regulatory actions as an integrated set and in a way that reflects their risk significance on a plant-specific basis. The Commission also stated that such a proposal would require licensees to develop site-specific Level 1 and 2 PRAs, similar to the requirements for new reactors.

The NRC staff is interested in feedback from stakeholders, such as:

1) Are licensees interested in the proposed initiative? If so, how many? If not, why not?

2) What are the challenges to implementing such an initiative? What are the estimated costs of developing a PRA to meet a requirement similar to new reactors? What are the estimated resources and time to develop guidance to support a prioritization process similar to the maintenance rule or the voluntary risk-informed categorization rule?

3) Are there alternatives to the initiative that licensees are interested in piloting that meet the intent of the Commission's proposed initiative?

4) What are the appropriate risk metrics for such an initiative?

5) What are the appropriate backstops to ensure that issues will be resolved and regulations implemented in a timely matter?

6) What is the public's perception of such an initiative?

The NRC staff also encourages the submission of written comments on the matters to be discussed. Those comments may be submitted via http://www.regulations.gov by searching for Docket ID NRC-2013-0064. The opportunity to submit written comments will begin shortly after the public meeting and comments will be accepted until May 28, 2013.

The NRC staff will consider all views and information provided when developing the staff's recommendation to the Commission, but it will not be preparing and making available to the public a detailed response to views and comments presented at the meeting or received in writing.

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[1] SRM-COMGEA-12-0001/COMWDM-12-0002, "Proposed Initiative to Improve Nuclear Safety and Regulatory Efficiency," dated February 6, 2013 (ADAMS Accession No. ML13037A541)

CATEGORY 3: This is a Category 3 Public Meeting: Public participation is actively sought for this meeting to fully engage the public in a discussion of regulatory issues. No classified, proprietary, or protected information will be discussed.

The NRC's Policy Statement, "Enhancing Public Participation in NRC Meetings," effective May 28, 2002, applies to this meeting. The policy statement may be found on the NRC Web site, www.nrc.gov, and contains information regarding visitors and security.

Pre-registration: Seating may be limited and will be available on a first-come basis. Inform the NRC's meeting contact of your intention to attend by April 18, 2013. This step will ensure that sufficient copies of meeting materials are available.

If you are interested in making a presentation during the "External Stakeholder Comments" portion of the meeting, please notify the NRC's meeting contact or call the NRC's toll-free number, 1-800-368-5642 and ask the operator to be connected to the meeting contact, Daniel I. Doyle. Those interested in presenting at the meeting should notify the meeting contact as soon as possible, but no later than April 18, 2013.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting (e.g., a translator, handicapped accessibility) or need this meeting notice, the transcript, or other information from the meeting in another format (e.g. Braille, large print, a language other than English), please notify the NRC's meeting contact or call the NRC's toll-free number, 1-800-368-5642 and ask the operator to be connected to the meeting contact, Daniel I. Doyle. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodations will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Teleconferencing: Interested members of the public unable to attend the meeting may participate by telephone via a toll-free teleconference. For additional details, please call or email the NRC meeting contact or call the NRC's toll-free number, 1-800-368-5642 and ask the operator to be connected to the meeting contact, Daniel I. Doyle. Those interested in participating in this meeting by teleconference should notify the meeting contact as soon as possible, but no later than April 18, 2013.

Web conferencing: Interested members of the public may participate remotely on the Internet and via a toll-free audio teleconference bridgeline. For additional details, please call or email the NRC meeting contact or call the NRC's toll-free number, 1-800-368-5642 and ask the operator to be connected to the meeting contact, Daniel I. Doyle. Those interested in participating in this meeting by Web conference should notify the meeting contact as soon as possible, but no later than April 18, 2013.

Because meetings are sometimes canceled or rescheduled as a result of unforeseen circumstances such as severe weather, confirm the meeting schedule with the meeting contact.

PARTICIPANTS: NRC staff, interested stakeholders, and members of the public. Participants from the NRC include members of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) and the Office of the General Counsel (OGC). Other participants will likely include the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and the Union of Concerned Scientists.

NRC	External Stakeholders
D. Doyle	NEI
D. Harrison	Union of Concerned Scientists
G. Mizuno	
T. Reed	
M. Snodderly	

Enclosure:
Meeting Agenda

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D. Doyle	NEI
D. Harrison	Union of Concerned Scientists
G. Mizuno	
T. Reed	
M. Snodderly	

Enclosure:
Meeting Agenda

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SHelton	DDoyle	OWFN Receptionist (paper)		

ADAMS Accession No: ML13087A510 *via e-mail

OFFICE	NRR/PRMB:PM	NRR/PRMB:RS*	NRR/PRMB:BC
NAME	DDoyle	CEngland	SHelton
DATE	3/28/2013	3/28/2013	4/01/2013

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Public Meeting Agenda
Proposed Initiative to Improve Nuclear Safety and Regulatory Efficiency
April 24, 2013; 8:30 am – 12 pm

1. Welcome and Introductions 8:30 am – 8:35 am

2. Commission Direction and Background 8:35 am – 8:45 am

    a. COMGEA-12-0001/COMWDM-12-0002, "Proposed Initiative to Improve Nuclear Safety and Regulatory Efficiency," dated November 5, 2012 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML12314A262).

    b. SRM-COMGEA-12-0001/COMWDM-12-0002, "Proposed Initiative to Improve Nuclear Safety and Regulatory Efficiency," dated February 6, 2013 (ADAMS Accession No. ML13037A541).

    c. "Final Policy Statement on Integrated Schedules," issued September 23, 1992 (57 FR 43886)

    d. Cumulative Effects of Regulation (See SECY-12-0137, "Implementation of the Cumulative Effects of Regulation Process Changes," dated October 5, 2012 (ADAMS Accession No. ML12223A162))

3. External Stakeholder Questions and Feedback on Commission Direction and Background 8:45 am – 8:55 am

4. Specific Topics for Discussion 8:55 am – 10:05 am

    a. Comparison to past effort to develop integrated schedules

    b. Possible approaches to implementation including key elements and challenges

    c. Path Forward

5. External Stakeholder Comments 10:05 am – 11:55 am

6. Closing Comments 11:55 am – 12:00 pm

Note: Provided times are estimated and for planning purposes only. Adjustments may be made during the meeting as necessary.

ENCLOSURE