



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

May 11, 1999

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Jackson

FROM: William D. Travers 
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: UPDATE TO STAFF RESPONSE TO TASKING MEMORANDUM AND
STAKEHOLDER CONCERNS

Attached for your information is the staff's May update to the plan of short- and long-term actions to respond to selected issues raised during the July 30, 1998, hearing before the Senate Subcommittee on Clean Air and Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety and the July 17, 1998, Commission meeting with stakeholders.

Additions and changes to the April 1999, update are marked in redline and strike out. Minor editorial changes have not been highlighted. Explanations for changes are provided in the associated remarks.

In this update, the staff has removed the portion of the short-term actions that were completed prior to January 28, 1999. In addition, some areas have been completed in their entirety, for example Area VI, Issue C7. In this update, the action matrixes have been removed for those areas where staff actions are complete and have been documented completed in previous updates to the Tasking Memorandum. Since the April update, the following significant milestones have been completed:

- I. ACRS and CRGR review of the final 10 CFR 50.59 rulemaking package
- II. Public meetings with the NEI Task Force on design bases criteria
- III. Submission of a commission paper (SECY-99-117) on the use of industry operational experience in lieu of Information Notices
- IV. Public meeting with NEI, industry, and other stakeholders to integrate milestones for decommissioning initiatives
- V. Submission of a proposed rule (SECY-99-119) on reporting requirements (10 CFR 50.72 and 50.73)
- VI. Submission of a commission paper (SECY-99-012) on revising guidance for expanding disposal capability of uranium mill tailings (SECY-99-012)
- VII. Direct final rule modifying 10 CFR 50.54(a) requirements associated with quality assurance program change processes
- VIII. Implementation of strategies to achieve supervisory ratio targets

Chairman Jackson

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Attachment: As stated

cc: Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
OGC
CFO
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Chairman Jackson


2

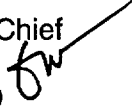
Attachment: As stated


cc: Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
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STAFF RESPONSE TO TASKING MEMORANDUM AND STAKEHOLDER CONCERNS

as of May 3, 1999

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I. TOPIC AREA: Risk-Informed and Performance-Based Regulation

SES Managers: Gary Holahan, Director, DSSA/NRR, and Thomas King, Director, DST/RES

A. Specific Issue: Evaluation of Industry Proposals and Rulemaking

Objective: The objectives are enhancing safety decisions, efficiently utilizing NRC resources, reducing unnecessary conservatism, as well as soliciting industry insights.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1.2. Conduct discussions with ACRS on risk-informed, performance-based Regulation initiatives	Ongoing 4/8/99C	R. Barrett, DSSA/ M. Cunningham, RES
2.4. Public workshop to discuss risk-informed options for 10 CFR 50.59	TBD (see note)	M. Drouin, RES
3.5. Final report to NRR with recommendations on approach to making 10 CFR 50.59 risk-informed	TBD (see note)	M. Drouin, RES
4.6. Develop Rulemaking Commission paper based on Commission response to options paper (9800154) (NRR)	TBD (see note)	R. Barrett, DSSA/ M. Cunningham, RES
5.7. Report to the Commission on the status of proposed revision to Safety Goal Policy (9700262)	4/30/99 5/17/99 (see note)	J. Murphy, RES

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
6.8. Conduct meetings between Industry PRA Steering Committee and NRC Steering Committee	Ongoing	T. King, RES
7.9. Conduct meetings between Industry RI Licensing Panel and NRC RI Licensing Panel	Ongoing 2/17/99C	G. Holahan, DSSA
8.10. Meet with ACRS Subcommittee and request ACRS letter on views and recommendations on Rulemaking Commission Paper for modifying Part 50 to be risk-informed per SRM	TBD	R. Barrett, DSSA

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
9.11: Conduct public meetings to discuss staff response to SRM on modifying Part 50 to be risk informed	TBD	G. Holahan, DSSA / T. King, RES
10.12: Proposed revision to Safety Goal Policy (9700262) RES	7/99	J. Murphy, RES

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
11.13: Issue safety evaluation on EPRI ISI topical report	10/31/99	S. Ali, DE NRR
12.14: Endorse ASME RI-ISI code cases via Regulatory Guide 1.147, contingent upon ASME completing code case by 12/31/99.	9/00	D. Jackson, RES / S. Ali, DE, NRR

Comments:

~~2.~~

~~9a., b.~~

~~9 and 13. Some items budgeted in DSSA, such as support for SMs, use of PRA in generic issue resolution, events assessment (except for high risk events) participation in planned or reactive inspections, quarterly updating of PRA plan (9500047, RES) (move to annually), and IPE follow-up, may be deferred in order to meet the above schedules in developing an options paper. Work suggested to be dropped to support these milestones is the modification of Part 52 regarding use of PRAs beyond Design Certification.~~

~~112 and 123. These tasks and their corresponding completion schedules may be modified or deleted depending on the Commission's response to the staff's paper identifying options for modifying Part 50 to be risk-informed (Milestone 9.b).~~

~~134. Schedule depends upon Commission response to options paper at Milestone 9b.~~

~~145. An extension was granted to permit staff to focus on high-priority CSIS activities. Slippage in schedule due to unanticipated challenges in the concurrence process.~~

2011. The staff schedule to issue its safety evaluation report (SER) by 9/30/99 was based on presentation of its draft SER to the ACRS in August 1999. The ACRS presentation is now scheduled for September, 1999, since ACRS does not have a scheduled meeting in August. Based on this change, the staff schedule to issue its SER has been revised to 10/31/99. This

schedule is also contingent upon EPRI providing its revised Topical Report by April 15, 1999. The staff had a two-day meeting (March 2-3, 1999) with EPRI to discuss EPRI's responses to NRC RAIs related to the EPRI Topical Report.

~~2-12~~ 2-12. The staff schedule to endorse ASME RI-ISI Code Cases via RG 1.147 was contingent upon ASME completing Code Cases by 6/31/99. The staff had a meeting with NEI and industry representatives on October 8, 1998. In that meeting, the ASME representatives informed the staff that the ASME plans to complete revisions of the RI-ISI Code by 12/99. Based on this, the staff schedule to endorse ASME RI-ISI Code Cases via RG 1.147 has been revised to 9/00.

Additional Activities: The Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) is conducting a study of the NRC regulatory process. Chairman Jackson and Commissioner McGaffigan are members of the Steering Committee. Ashok Thadani is on the working group. The CSIS schedule calls for a final report by 4/15/99.

I. TOPIC AREA: Risk-Informed and Performance-Based Regulation

SES Manager: Gary Holahan, Director, DSSA/NRR

B. Specific Issue: Pilot Applications

Objective: The goal of the pilot programs is to complete first of a kind risk-informed licensing reviews such that lessons learned may be utilized for future staff reviews. The pilot applications have provided a forum for developing guidance documents for both the staff and the industry.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Risk-Informed Licensing Panel (RILP) Meetings - assists in focusing management attention, as necessary, to identify other pilots and ensure lessons learned are developed from pilots	Ongoing 2/17/99C	G. Holahan, DSSA
2. Issue safety evaluation on SONGS H2 Recombiner	6/30/99 (See note)	M. Snodderly, DSSA

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
3. Issue safety evaluation on ANO-1 ISI pilot	07/99 (see note)	S. Ali, DE

Comments:

2 and 3. All licensing actions dates are contingent upon timely, technically acceptable industry responses to staff inquiries.

72. The staff held a public meeting with San Onofre on March 17, 1999. The staff believes that although the recombiners and hydrogen purge is not a risk significant system they are needed to support the severe accident management guidelines but do not rise to the level of a maintenance rule risk significant system. The licensee is expected to develop an appropriate reliability and availability control which will provide justification for no longer including these systems in technical specifications.

I. TOPIC AREA: Risk-Informed and Performance-Based Regulation

SES Manager: Gary Holahan, Director, DSSA, NRR

C. Specific Issue: Plant-Specific Licensing Reviews

Objective: The use of probabilistic risk assessment in risk-informed decision making for changes to plant-specific licensing basis is intended to enhance safety decisions, efficiently utilize NRC resources and reduce unnecessary conservatism. The goal is to complete first of a kind risk-informed licensing reviews such that lessons learned may be utilized for future staff reviews.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Risk-Informed Licensing Panel (RILP) Meetings - assists in focusing management attention, as necessary, on risk-informed licensing actions.	Ongoing 2/17/99C	G. Holahan, DSSA
2.13: Issue safety evaluation on Sequoyah proposal on EDG AOT extension	12/18/98C	O. Chopra, DE DSSA support
3.2: Issue reliefs from augmented examination requirements for various licensees on BWR reactor pressure vessel circumferential welds	06/99	G. Carpenter, DE
4.3: Issue safety evaluation on Browns Ferry 2/3 proposal on EDG AOT extension	06/99	O. Chopra, DE DSSA support

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
5.4: SER to be issued on CE Owners Group Joint Applications Report for HPSI system AOT extensions for 6 sites (see note)	9/99	W. Lyon
6.5: SER to be issued on CE Owners Group Joint Applications Report for CS system AOT extensions for 6 sites (see note)	8/99	R. Goel
7.6: SER to be issued on B&W Owners Group Topical Report for LPI/RBS systems AOT extensions for 5 sites (see note)	8/99	S. Brewer

Comments:

~~143.~~ The staff issued Generic Letter 98-05, dated November 11, 1998, which informed BWR licensees that the staff had completed its review of the "BWR Vessel and Internals Project, BWR Reactor Pressure Vessel Shell Weld Inspection Recommendations (BWRVIP-05)," and that BWR licensees may request relief from the inservice inspection requirements of 10 CFR 50.55a(g) for the volumetric examination of circumferential reactor pressure vessel (RPV) welds. These reliefs will not only be effective for the remaining term of operation under the current license. The staff will continue to expeditiously review these requests as they are received.

~~14-153~~ and 4. Dates to be evaluated during prioritization of risk-informed licensing actions.

~~16. --18.5-7.~~ SER issuance dates for these tasks depends on resolution of ongoing discussions on use of Maintenance Rule / Configuration Risk Management Program (CRMP) for the purpose of configuration management and the individual plant amendment requests.

I. TOPIC AREA: Risk-Informed and Performance-Based Regulation

SES Manager: Gary Holahan, Director, DSSA, NRR and Thomas King, Director, DST/RES

D. Specific Issue: Guidance Documents

Objective: To provide guidance for the staff and the industry which will enhance consistency and provide a infrastructure for use in risk-informed regulation.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Initiate work on Phase 2 PRA draft standard	TBD 6/99 (see note)	M. Drouin, RES
2. Issue GQA temporary instruction inspection procedures for use following at the discretion of the Regions to verify the implementation of South Texas GQA program on an as-needed basis.	54/99 (see note)	J. Peralta, DIPM
3. Phase 1 PRA standard comments received and final draft developed	6/99	M. Drouin, RES
4. Report to the Commission on development of risk attributes for revising enforcement policies. Input to II.C. 9.	TBD	Dave Nelson, OE G. Kelly, DSSA

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
5. Integrate risk attributes into revised licensee performance assessment process (9700238) (NRR), (SECY-99-007)	TBD (see note)	DISP G. Parry, DSSA

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
6. Phase 1 PRA standard issued as final by ASME	12/99	M. Drouin, RES
7. First Phase 2 PRA standard developed	TBD	M. Drouin, RES
8. Completion of Phase 2 PRA standard	TBD	M. Drouin, RES

Comments:

~~112.~~ A draft TI has been developed and was review by RIV. The inspection guidance is being re-written pursuant to direction received during a meeting with the NRR Associate Directors on 3/19/99. Since an inspection of the South Texas GQA program implementation is not anticipated in the immediate future, and as licensees are no longer constrained by regulations (see 64 FR 9029 for recent revisions to 10 CFR 50.54(a) requirements) from adopting a GQA program similar to South Texas', the staff concluded that an inspection procedure is now more appropriate for this purpose.

~~134.~~ Actions to be taken under review pending Commission feedback from Reg Significance/Risk Paper (SECY-99-087)

95. There will be a follow-on SECY paper providing additional information, ~~date TBD.~~

~~146.~~ ACRS & Commission review, a public workshop, and PRA Steering Committee meeting required.

~~4a-d, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16.1, 3, 4, 7, and 8.~~ Phase 1 is a standard for full power operation, internal events only. Phase 2 is for external events and shutdown. Dates are tentative due to uncertainty associated with the number and nature of comments that may be received. This is an ASME initiative and, therefore, the schedules are set by ASME. ASME extended the review and comment period to 5/1/99. Due to the number of comments anticipated, ASME anticipates resolution with final draft developed by 6/99 to start through the internal ASME consensus process. ASME anticipates issuance of Phase 1 standard at the latest by 12/99; however, believes it may be sooner.

~~10, 16.1 and 8.~~ Phase 2 of the PRA standard covers internal fire, external events and low power shutdown. ANS will be developing a standard for low power shutdown conditions and external events (i.e., seismic). ANS anticipates initiating work in early June 1999.

II. Topic Area: Reactor Inspection and Enforcement

SES Manager: William M. Dean, PIPB/DIPM/NRR and J. Lieberman, Director, OE

A. Specific Issue: Risk Informed Baseline Inspection Program

Program Manager: Alan L. Madison, NRR and John Flack, RES

Objective: To develop and implement a more risk informed, efficient, and effective baseline inspection program. By risk informed, it is meant that the inspection program's scope will be defined primarily by those areas that are significant from a risk perspective and that the inspection methods used to assess these areas will take advantage of both generic and plant specific risk insights.

Coordination: Issues II.A. "Risk Informed Baseline Inspection Program," II.B. "Enforcement Program Initiatives," II.C. "Escalated Enforcement Program," III.A. "Performance Assessment Process Improvements," and VI. F "Event Reporting Rulemaking," require close coordination and the integration of specific tasks by the NRC staff. Responsible project managers are coordinating these activities by assessing the impact of proposed program changes with the other ongoing activities and ensuring that the overall objectives for each project are achieved. Examples include, intra-project task force participation, workshop attendance, concurrent review of projects and periodic senior management briefings. In addition, industry-developed initiatives such as the NEI New Regulatory Oversight Process are being reviewed by all project groups and evaluated for impact.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Begin drafting program changes and start conducting training of staff	2/99C	A. Madison, DIPM
2.a. Begin pilot implementation of new baseline inspection program	6/99	A. Madison W. Dean, DIPM

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
2.b. Monitor pilot implementation of new baseline inspection program and review results	7/99-9/99	A. Madison, DIPM

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
3. Complete pilot implementation of new baseline inspection program	12/99	A. Madison, DIPM
4. Complete transition to risk informed baseline inspection program	1/00	W. Dean, DIPM

Comments:

Status: All milestones are on track, there are no schedule changes, and no expected delays. A Commission briefing was held on March 26, 1999. The staff is looking at possibility of extending the start date for full implementation in consideration of various communication training, development, and program modification activities.

Deferrals and Suspensions:

SALP Program.

The SALP process suspension will be continued indefinitely.

RES and NRR work assessing the effectiveness of the station blackout and anticipated transient without scram rules and generic safety issue A-45 (decay heat removal) ~~will be~~ has been deferred from 12/98 to a later to be determined date. The assessment of the Station Blackout Rule will be completed by 9/99, and the assessment of the ATWS Rule and resolution of USI A-45 (Decay Heat Removal) will be completed by 9/00. Personnel commitments supporting timely revision of the reactor oversight process (SECY-99-007) and the ongoing reorganization of RES require rescheduling the work to assess the effectiveness of the station blackout rule, the rule on anticipated transients without scram, and the generic safety issue A-45 (decay heat removal) resolution. (9700346) (RES)

II. Reactor Inspection and Enforcement

SES Manager: James Lieberman, Director, Office of Enforcement

B. Enforcement Program Initiatives

Issues/Lead Individual:

- 1) NRC-licensee documentation and disposition of non-risk significant violations (C)
Mark Satorius
- 2) Severity Level IV violations
David Nelson
- 3) Industry Enforcement Process Proposals
Renee Pedersen

Due to the manner that these three issues are linked, all are being considered under one Plan of Action.

Objective: Reduce unnecessary licensee burdens associated with responding to non-risk significant violations (Issues Nos. 1 and 2) utilizing initial stakeholder inputs and proposals and soliciting stakeholder feedback following implementation of Enforcement Program changes (Issue No.3), without losing the NRC's ability to detect licensee problems in a timely manner.

Coordination: Issues II.A. "Risk Informed Baseline Core Inspection Program," II.B. "Enforcement Program Initiatives," II.C. "Escalated Enforcement Program," III.A. "Performance Assessment Process Improvements," and VI.F "Event Reporting Rulemaking," require close coordination and the integration of specific tasks by the NRC staff. Responsible project managers are coordinating these activities by assessing the impact of proposed program changes with the other ongoing activities and ensuring that the overall objectives for each project are achieved. Examples include, intra-project task force participation, workshop attendance, concurrent review of projects and periodic senior management briefings. In addition, industry-developed initiatives such as the NEI New Regulatory Oversight Process are being reviewed by all project groups and evaluated for impact.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Following Commission approval of the staff's Enforcement Policy revision, the Revised Policy is published in the Federal Register, with the message to stakeholders that six months after implementation of the Revised Policy, public meeting/workshops will be held for stakeholder feedback.	2/9/99C	M. Satorius

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
2. Conduct video conferencing with Regional managers to outline the changes to the Enforcement Policy and provide agency expectations.	2/22/99C	M. Satorius
3. Implement revised Enforcement Policy.	3/11/99C	M. Satorius
4. Collect enforcement data following the implementation of the Revised Enforcement Policy, for later use in determining the success of the changes in accomplishing the objectives.	Monthly after 3/11/99	D. Nelson

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
5. Solicit feedback from regional management, the inspection staff, and headquarters staff on the successes or failures of the Revised Enforcement Policy.	7/99	R. Pedersen
6. Conduct public meetings/workshops with stakeholders to solicit feedback on the successes and shortcomings of the Revised Enforcement Policy.	10/99	R. Pedersen
7. Assemble the collective views of the staff and stakeholders to determine whether the Revised Enforcement Policy has accomplished the objectives, or whether further staff action is needed. Submit Commission paper. (9800159) (OE)	11/99	R. Pedersen

II. Reactor Inspection and Enforcement

SES Manager: James Lieberman, Director, Office of Enforcement

C. Escalated Enforcement Program Initiatives - "Regulatory Significance"/Risk

Objective: Incorporate clearer risk-informed enforcement guidance in the treatment of escalated violations.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Conduct a second public meeting with stakeholders to discuss application of regulatory significance.	2/9/99C	M. Satorius
2. Conduct a public meeting with stakeholders to discuss application of risk-informed enforcement.	2/9/99C	M. Satorius
3. Submit a Commission Paper that addresses the use of "regulatory significance." (9800069) (OE) (SECY 99-087)	3/24/99C	M. Satorius
4. Develop (proposed) risk-informed (revisions to) the Enforcement Policy.	3/24/99C	M. Satorius
5. Discuss (revisions) with stakeholders and solicit feedback	3/11/99C	M. Satorius
6. Submit a Commission Paper utilizing the input from issue I.D.13, the revisions developed above, and lessons learned from the performance assessment trial to revise the Enforcement Policy. (9800155) (OE)	TBD (see note)	D. Nelson
7. Develop revised enforcement policy for use during trial implementation of Performance Assessment Program.	3/22/99C	B. Westreich

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
None		

Comments:

6. Action pending Commission feedback from Reg Significance/Risk paper (SECY-99-087), submitted 3/24/99 (See Milestones II.C.3 and II.C.4)

III. Topic Area: Reactor Licensee Performance Assessment

SES Manager: William M. Dean, PIPB/DIPM/NRR

A. Specific Issue: Performance Assessment Process Improvements (IRAP, Industry's Proposal, and Performance Indicators)

Program Manager: Alan L. Madison, PIPB/DIPM/NRR

Objective: The objective of this task is to develop and implement improvements to the NRC plant performance assessment process (and the overall reactor oversight process) to make it more risk-informed, efficient, and effective while combining the best attributes of the IRAP effort, the regulatory oversight approach proposed by NEI, and the staff efforts designed to develop risk-informed performance indicators.

Coordination: Issues II.A. "Risk Informed Baseline Inspection Program," II.B. "Enforcement Program Initiatives," II.C. "Escalated Enforcement Program," III.A. "Performance Assessment Process Improvements," and VI. F "Event Reporting Rulemaking," require close coordination and the integration of specific tasks by the NRC staff. Responsible project managers are coordinating these activities by assessing the impact of proposed program changes with the other ongoing activities and ensuring that the overall objectives for each project are achieved. Examples include, intra-project task force participation, workshop attendance, concurrent review of projects and periodic senior management briefings. In addition, industry-developed initiatives such as the NEI New Regulatory Oversight Process are being reviewed by all project groups and evaluated for impact.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Obtain Commission approval for implementation of recommended changes	4/99 5/99 (see note)	W. Dean, DIPM
2. Obtain Industry approval to make public the data used in Industry's proposed Indicators for monitoring plant performance. Begin phase out of current Performance Indicator Program.	6/99	T. Wolf, RES
3. Complete development of implementation plan. Start phase-in (pilot) of the revised reactor oversight process.	6/99	A. Madison, DIPM
4. Begin trial application of risk-based performance indicators.	6/99	T. Wolf, RES

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
5. Continue pilot implementation of new reactor oversight process	7/99-9/99	A. Madison, DIPM

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
6. Complete NRC and licensee training on new reactor oversight process in preparation for full implementation	10/99-12/99	A. Madison, DIPM
7. Complete trial application, brief Commission, and publish candidate risk-based indicators for public comment. (9800160)(RES)	11/99	T. Wolf, RES
8. Commence full implementation of new reactor oversight process	1/00	W. Dean, DIPM
9. Publish last Performance Indicator Report using current PIs	1/00	T. Wolf, RES
10. Hold public workshop on candidate risk-based performance indicators.	2/00	T. Wolf, RES
11. Brief commission on proposed risk-based performance indicators developed cooperatively by NRC and industry (9800161) (RES)	10/00	T. Wolf, RES
12. Implement Commission approved risk-based performance indicators developed cooperatively by NRC and industry	1/01	T. Wolf, RES M. Johnson, DIPM
13. Complete evaluation of implementation and effectiveness of the revised assessment process	6/01	M. Johnson, DIPM

Comments:

1. The SRM for SECY -99-007A is pending.
2. A Commission briefing was held on March 26, 1999, to discuss Recommendations for Oversight Process Improvement (Follow-up to SECY 99-007).
3. A performance Indicator (PI) public workshop was held on April 12-15, 1999, to discuss PIs to be used during the pilot program for the revised oversight process.

Deferrals and Suspensions:

The SALP process suspension will be continued indefinitely.

IV. Topic Area: Reactor Licensing and Oversight

SES Manager: Chris Grimes, Director, RLSB/DRIP/NRR

A. Specific Issue: License Renewal (includes Calvert Cliffs, Oconee and Generic Process Improvements)

Objective: Demonstrate that license renewal applications submitted under 10 CFR Parts 54 & 51 can be reviewed effectively, efficiently and promptly.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Maintain Calvert Cliffs and Oconee schedules	Ongoing	C. Grimes, DRIP
2. Conduct management meetings with license renewal applicants	Monthly	C. Grimes, DRIP
3. Steering Committee bimonthly meeting with NEI Working Group	2/26/99C 3/30/99C 5/12/99 7/28/99	C. Grimes, DRIP
4. ACRS subcommittee meeting on renewal process	Ongoing	C. Grimes, DRIP
5. Increased emphasis on renewal with EC and LRSC	Ongoing	C. Grimes, DRIP
6. Issue §51.53 rule change to designate HLW transportation as a generic environmental impact for 60-day public comment (9800003)	2/99C	D. Cleary, DRIP
7. Issue Draft Environmental Statement for comment - Calvert Cliffs	2/24/99C	C. Grimes, DRIP
8. Complete Safety Evaluation Report (SER) and identify open items - Calvert Cliffs	3/21/99C	C. Grimes, DRIP
9. ACRS subcommittee meeting on Calvert Cliffs SER and open items	4/29/99 C-4/99	C. Grimes, DRIP
10. ACRS full committee meeting on Calvert Cliffs SER and open items	5/99	C. Grimes, DRIP
11. Issue Draft Environmental Statement - Oconee	6/2/99	C. Grimes, DRIP
12. Complete SER and identify open items - Oconee	6/17/99	C. Grimes, DRIP

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
13. Complete §51.53 final rule change to designate HLW transportation as a generic environmental impact for Commission approval (9800003)	6/99	D. Cleary, DRIP

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
14. ACRS subcommittee meeting on Oconee SER and open items	7/99	C. Grimes, DRIP
15. Upon Commission approval, publish §51.53 rule change designating HLW transportation as a generic environmental impact, to be effective in 30 days	8/99	D. Cleary, DRIP
16. ACRS full committee meeting on Oconee SER and open items	9/99	C. Grimes, DRIP

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
17. Issue Supplemental SER and Final Environmental Statement - Calvert Cliffs	11/16/99	C. Grimes, DRIP
18. ACRS subcommittee meeting on Calvert Cliffs Supplemental SER	1/00	C. Grimes, DRIP
19. ACRS full committee meeting on Calvert Cliffs Supplemental SER	2/00	C. Grimes, DRIP
20. Issue Supplemental SER and Final Environmental Statement - Oconee	2/12/00	C. Grimes, DRIP
21. ACRS subcommittee meeting on Oconee Supplemental SER	3/00	C. Grimes, DRIP
22. ACRS full committee meeting on Oconee Supplemental SER	5/00	C. Grimes, DRIP
23. License renewal decision complete for Calvert Cliffs	5/00	C. Grimes, DRIP
24. License renewal decision complete for Oconee	8/00	C. Grimes, DRIP

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
25. License renewal decision completed within 30-36 months of initial applications	Ongoing	C. Grimes, DRIP
26. Hearing (if request granted)	Per Comm. Sched.	

Comments:

3 & 45 & 6. Steering Committee meetings with industry and ACRS subcommittee meetings with staff will continue periodically to ensure effective resolution of technical and process issues. The Steering Committee will periodically report progress to the Executive Council in accordance with the memo to Chairman Jackson dated 3/6/98.

2533. Clarifies the fact that the license renewal decision (as opposed to just a review) is completed.—Next (third) application expected in 12/99 (ANO-1). Fourth application is expected in early 2000 (Hatch) and the fifth application by the end of December 2000 (Turkey Point).

IV. Topic Area: Reactor Licensing and Oversight

SES Manager: David Matthews, Director, DRIP/NRR

B. Specific Issue: 50.59 Rulemaking

Objective: To provide clarity and flexibility in existing requirements

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Paper to Commission (SECY-99-054) summarizing public comments and forwarding recommendations on final rule language for Commission decision and providing recommendation on scope of 10 CFR 50.59 (9700191) and (9800044)	2/22/99C	E. McKenna, DRIP
2. Commission feedback received at briefing on 3/2/99 and in subsequent SRM on the briefing	3/31/99C	E. McKenna, DRIP
3. ACRS and CRGR review of final rulemaking package	5/5/99C 5/99	E. McKenna, DRIP
4. CRGR review of final rulemaking package	5/6/99C	E. McKenna, DRIP
5. Issue paper containing final 10 CFR 50.59 rule to the Commission (9700191) (NRR)	5/10/99 5/11/99	E. McKenna, DRIP

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
6. Publish final rule change 10 CFR 50.59	SRM date + 1 month 6/99	E. McKenna, DRIP
7. Meeting with industry/staff on guidance development plans.	SRM date + 1 month	E. McKenna, DRIP
8. Issue inspection guidance for internal review	SRM date + 2 months	E. McKenna, DRIP

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
9. Initiate review of NEI 96-07 revision	SRM date + 3 months	E. McKenna, DRIP
10. Issue final inspection guidance	SRM date + 5 months	E. McKenna, DRIP
11. Conduct training for NRC staff on rule and inspection guidance	SRM date + 6 months	E. McKenna, DRIP
12.11. Draft Regulatory Guide for comment	SRM date + 7 months	E. McKenna, DRIP

Comments:

3-4. ACRS and CRGR review are shown as separate milestones with the actual scheduled dates for the meetings.

6. Schedule is contingent on the nature and schedule of Commission review and action on final rulemaking package.

7-12 Milestones added to identify follow on activities after the rule is published. Schedules will be established when the rule is issued. NEI is assumed to provide the revised guidance document within the expected time frames.

~~3, 4, 6-9, 11, 13. Milestones associated with risk-informed options for 50.59 have been integrated with milestones for risk-informed options for Part 50 (Topic I Issue A).~~

~~11. The staff developed a draft comment resolution package that was included as an attachment to the Commission paper in Milestone 12.~~

~~12, 15. Description of milestones revised to reflect that staff provided its recommendation on scope in the 2/22/99 paper.~~

~~14, 15. Milestone dates revised to reflect additional meetings with NEI on criteria (3/23/99 on "minimal" and 3/31/99 on "design basis limits for fission product barriers") and the need for additional time to provide final rule package.~~

IV. Topic Area: Reactor Licensing and Oversight

SES Manager: David Matthews, Director, DRIP/NRR

C. Specific Issue: FSAR Update Guidance

Objective: To provide consistent guidance on information to be contained in FSAR

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Publish draft regulatory guide endorsing NEI 98-03 for comment(ends 4/30/99)	3/17/99C	T. Bergman, DRIP
2. Resolve issues identified during public comment period	5/30/99	T. Bergman, DRIP
3. Receive and review revised NEI 98-03	6/99	T. Bergman, DRIP

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
4. ACRS and CRGR review of final regulatory guide	7/14-16/99 7/99	T. Bergman, DRIP
5. CRGR review of final regulatory guide	7/13/99	T. Bergman, DRIP
6. Submit paper and final regulatory guide to Commission (9700198) (NRR)	8/1/99	T. Bergman, DRIP
7. Publish final regulatory guide	9/99	T. Bergman, DRIP

Comments:

4-5. ACRS and CRGR review are shown as separate milestones with the actual scheduled dates for the meetings.

9. Milestone completed. The 60-day public comment period was shortened to ensure that the schedule for issuance of the final regulatory guide could be maintained, and because of the extensive interaction with stakeholders that has already occurred on this topic.

~~11. New milestone. NEI has indicated that they expect to issue revised NEI 98-03 to address public comments, where appropriate, rather than having the staff address solely through the final regulatory guide. Remaining milestones renumbered accordingly.~~

~~12. Date changed to allow sufficient time for staff to review NEI 98-03 and prepare final regulatory guide prior to meeting with CRGR and AGRS. Date to submit final regulatory guide to Commission (8/1/99) not impacted. Editorial change to note that discussions with AGRS and CRGR are on the final regulatory guide.~~

IV. Topic Area: Reactor Licensing and Oversight

SES Manager: David Matthews, Director, DRIP/NRR

D. Specific Issue: Define Design Basis

Objective: To provide a clear definition of what constitutes design bases information.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Meet with NEI Task Force to discuss draft criteria and additional examples	4/16/99C	S. Magruder, DRIP
2. Send letter to NEI with staff position	5/14/99 5/7/99 (see note)	S. Magruder, DRIP
3. NEI submits revised guidance for review and endorsement	6/1/99	S. Magruder, DRIP
4. Resolve final staff comments and develop draft regulatory guide	6/15/99	S. Magruder, DRIP

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
5. ACRS and CRGR review of SECY and draft regulatory guide	7/99	S. Magruder, DRIP
6. Submit paper with draft regulatory guide to Commission (9800044) (NRR)	7/30/99	S. Magruder, DRIP
7. SRM to direct staff to publish draft regulatory guide for public comment (60 days)	8/30/99	S. Magruder, DRIP

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
8. Resolve issues identified during public comment period	12/30/99	S. Magruder, DRIP
9. ACRS and CRGR review of paper and final regulatory guide	1/00	S. Magruder, DRIP

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
10. Submit paper and final regulatory guide (9800044) (NRR)	2/00	S. Magruder, DRIP

Comments:

2. At the 4/16 meeting with NEI, NEI expressed a desire to docket additional information for staff consideration. This resulted in a schedular delay of one week in the preparation of the staff's position.

~~5-14. NEI's best estimate for submitting a guidance document (either a revision to NEI 97-04 or a new document) is now 6/1/99. The reason for the delay in the submittal is that industry resources have been diverted to the 10 CFR 50.59 rulemaking (Topic IV Issue B). Interim Milestones 5 and 6 have been added (and remaining milestones renumbered) to highlight interactions between the staff and NEI. If NEI decides not to submit a guidance document, the staff will still develop a regulatory guide and meet the revised milestone dates documented above.~~

IV. Topic Area: Reactor Licensing and Oversight

SES Manager: William Beckner, RTSB/DRIP/NRR

E. Specific Issue: Improved Standard TS

Lead: RTSB Lead PM for each facility conversion

Objective: Conversion of facility technical specifications to the appropriate improved standard technical specifications will promote more consistent interpretation and application of technical specification requirements, thereby reducing the need for interpretations and frequent changes to the technical specifications. The goal for each milestone listed below is to complete the conversions currently under review such that the above objectives are met for the affected facilities.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999*		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Issue iSTS Amendments for Comanche Peak 1&2*	2/26/99C	DRIP
2. Issue iSTS Amendments for: a. Wolf Creek* b. Diablo Canyon 1&2* c. Callaway*	3/31/99C 4/99 5/99 5/99	DRIP

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999*		
Milestone	Date	Lead
3. Issue iSTS Amendments for Farley 1&2*	8/99	DRIP
4. Issue iSTS Amendment for Fermi 2*	9/99	DRIP
5. Issue iSTS Amendment for Palisades*	8/99	DRIP

Comments:

2. Review for Diablo Canyon is complete. However, the licensee has recommended a delay of several weeks in order to provide more time for them to review the final product to ensure that a quality product results. Schedule is not of concern since the planned implementation date is a year in the future.

~~4. Issuance of Comanche Peak iSTS amendment marks completion of the first of a joint effort with licensees for three other sites. Subsequent amendments for the other sites will be issued at one month intervals as indicated in Milestone 5.~~

~~5. Consecutive month issuing dates beginning with Wolf Creek on 3/99 were agreed to by the licensee due to the burden of the task. Additional milestone dates were added to more clearly indicate the schedule for Diablo Canyon 1&2 and Callaway.~~

~~6. Schedule consistent with licensee's original request for 9/30/99.~~

~~7. Delay at licensee's request to allow more time to respond to RAIs.~~

*Completion of the milestones as listed depends upon the quality of the licensees' submittals and timeliness of responses to staff RAIs.

IV. Topic Area: Reactor Licensing and Oversight

SES Manager: Tad Marsh, Branch Chief, REXB/DRIP/NRR

F. Specific Issue: Generic Communications

Objective: Ensure the appropriate use of generic communications, increasing the efficiency of issuance, and utilizing the rulemaking process when appropriate.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. (a) Review policy of not taking credit for INPO SEE-IN products (b) Prepare and issue Commission paper (9900001)	2/24/99C 4/19/99 C 4/99	R. Dennig, DRIP J. Lyons , DRIP
2. Review relationship of generic communications to the backfit rule (coordinate with CRGR)	2/25/99C	R. Dennig, DRIP
3. Draft Commission information paper incorporating review of basis for invoking 50.54(f), definition/purpose of generic communication products, and relationship of generic communications to backfit rule. Milestones 5, 6, and 8	3/19/99C	R. Dennig, DRIP
4. Meeting with ACRS	4/7/99 C 4/99	J. Lyons , DRIP
5. Meet with NEI to discuss comments on draft Commission paper	4/22/99 C	J. Lyons, DRIP
6. Issue Commission information paper (9900020) (NRR)	5/99	J. Lyons, DRIP

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
7. Disseminate guidance to staff	7/99	J. Lyons , DRIP

Comments:

1. SECY-99-117, "Use of Industry Operational Experience in lieu of Information Notices," was issued on 4/19/99.

5. Milestone added to reflect additional dialogue with industry.

~~Responsible SES Manager and Lead were changed due to NRR reorganization.~~

~~1. Generic communications discussed with INPO in telephone conference 7/31/98. NRR ET is briefed on proposed generic communications early in development process.~~

~~3. Self-assessment report completed on 11/30/98. SECY-99-005 which transmitted the report was issued on 1/6/99.~~

~~9. NRR Executive Team was briefed on the draft Commission paper on 3/19/99.~~

IV. Topic Area: Reactor Licensing and Oversight

SES Manager: Bruce Boger, Acting Associate Director for Projects, NRR

G. Specific Issue: CALs

Objective: Confirmatory Action Letters (CALs) are issued to emphasize and confirm a licensee's or vendor's agreement to take certain actions in response to specific issues. The NRC expects licensees/vendors to adhere to any obligations and commitments addressed in a CAL and will issue appropriate orders to ensure that the obligations and commitments are met. The goal of the milestones listed below is to ensure that staff guidance on the use of CALs is appropriate and that the staff exercises appropriate discipline in the development and issuance of CALs.

Comments:

All actions associated with this task are complete as denoted on earlier updates of the CTM.

IV . Topic Area: Reactor Licensing and Oversight

SES Manager: Stuart Richards, Director, LPD4/DLPM/NRR

H. Specific Issue: Applicability of Backfit Rule to Decommissioning Activities

Objective: Resolve issue regarding proper interpretation and application of the Backfit Rule to decommissioning activities.

Comments:

All actions associated with this task are complete as denoted on earlier updates of the CTM.

IV. Topic Area: Reactor Licensing and Oversight

SES Manager: Suzanne Black, Deputy Director, Division of Licensing Project Management, NRR

I. Specific Issue: Requests for Additional Information

Objective: To refine/define RAI process and ensure that staff RAI's are adding value to the regulatory process.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Discuss issue of ensuring appropriateness of RAI's with management and staff (including content, quality and continued oversight). Conduct training on revised Office Letter 803 (milestone 9) when issued.	8/20/98C 1/5/99C 1/6/99C 1/14/99C Ongoing	Suzanne Black, DLPM
2. NRR licensing action steering group formed to work with industry steering group on improvements to the license amendment process - conducting periodic meetings.	10/98C 11/23/98C 12/10/98C 1/13/99C Ongoing	Suzanne Black, DLPM
3. Obtain feedback from industry licensing action task force on RAIs and develop metrics for RAIs	6/99	S. Black, DLPM
4. Train staff on management expectations regarding RAIs	Periodic	S. Black, DLPM

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
5. Revise Office Letter 803 to incorporate staff and industry feedback	9/99	S. Black, DLPM

Comments:

~~Milestones 12 and 13 added to track receipt and disposition of feedback from the industry and staff. NMSS was deleted as a stakeholder on milestones 9 and 10 since they have already addressed this problem. NRR consulted with NMSS/SFPO on their procedural enhancements.~~

New item 4 adds continuing training of staff on management expectations regarding RAIs.

IV. Topic Area: Reactor Licensing and Oversight

SES Manager: Brian Sheron, Associate Director for Project Licensing and Technical Analysis, NRR

J. Specific Issue: 2.206 Petitions

Objective: The objectives of the 2.206 Petition review process include ensuring the public health and safety through the prompt and thorough evaluation of any potential safety problem addressed by a petition filed under 10 CFR 2.206 and to ensure effective, timely communication with the petitioner (Management Directive 8.11). The objective of the actions listed below is to identify and implement measures to improve the timeliness of staff response to petitions.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Show measured improvement in timeliness of resolution of 2.206 petitions	1/28/99C	H. Berkow, DLPM
2. Revise MD 8.11 and implement additional process improvements.	6/99	H. Berkow, DLPM

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
None		

Comments:

~~7. Metrics/statistics of open and closed petitions during period provided to EDO/Chairman's office on 1/28/99 and demonstrated improvements in timeliness.~~

2. A revision to Management Directive 8.11 to address stakeholder issues and to incorporate additional process improvements is scheduled for 6/99. This milestone is on course.

IV. Topic Area: Reactor Licensing and Oversight

SES Manager: Tad Marsh, Branch Chief, REXB/DRIP/NRR

K. Specific Issue: Application of the Backfit Rule

Objective: Ensure that the staff closely adheres to the backfit rule, 10 CFR 50.109, in evaluating all additional requirements, expansion in scope, or unique interpretations against actual impact on public health and safety. Focus will be directed on risk-informed, performance-based regulation; also coordinating with backfit-related concerns on Generic Communications (IV.F), and Decommissioning (IV.H), and Evaluation of Industry Proposals and Rulemaking (I.A).

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. CRGR Yearly Meeting with Nuclear Utility Backfitting and Reform Group (NUBARG) on Backfit Issues	Spring 1999	CRGR

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
2. CRGR Annual Report - Includes Industry Feedback on Effectiveness of Backfitting Process	Summer 1999	CRGR
3. Backfit training at Headquarters and Regions	FY99	RES/NRR/HR

Comments:

~~SES Manager changed to reflect NRR reorganization.~~

~~6b. SECY-98-253, "Applicability of Plant-Specific Backfit Requirements to Plants Undergoing Decommissioning," was issued on 11/4/98. Commission decision on SECY-98-253 was issued on 2/12/99.~~

~~7b. WITS 9800175 canceled. Milestone 4a (AOSC) is being addressed and tracked by RES under WITS 9700353. Milestone 4b (Compliance Exception) is being addressed and tracked in Topic IV Issue F.~~

* Reference Milestone on other Topics/Specific Issues noted.

V. Topic Area: NRC Organizational Structure and Resources

SES MANAGER: Paul E. Bird, Director, HR

A. Specific Issue: Reorganization - Restructuring Line Organizations

Objective: To improve organizational effectiveness and align resources required to carry out NRC planned activities through internal functional realignments and human resource re-allocations.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Partnering process completed for reorganization packages	2/12/99C	M. Fox; Office Directors & Regional Administrators
2. Reorganization plans finalized	3/18/99C	J. McDermott; Office Directors & Regional Administrators
3. Reorganization implementation begins	3/18/99C	J. McDermott; Office Directors & Regional Administrators
4. Reorganizations effective	3/28/99C	J. McDermott; Office Directors & Regional Administrators

Comments:

1. All office partnerships have agreed that the reorganization proposals may proceed subject in some cases to further discussion of issues following implementation of reorganization plans. Post-reorganization implementation activities, such as personnel actions, physical moves, position description and performance plan updates, will occur between April-August 1999.
- 2&3. All pending reorganization/staffing plans were reviewed and accepted by HR as of 3/18/99.
4. All Commission-approved reorganizations became effective on 3/28/99.

V. Topic Area: NRC Organizational Structure and Resources

SES MANAGER: **Paul E. Bird**, Director, HR

B. Specific Issue: Achieving 1:8 supervisor/manager-to-employee ratios

Objective: To reduce supervisory and SES positions to achieve an agency-wide supervisor/manager-to-employee ratio target of one supervisor/manager for every eight NRC employees.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Continue existing supervisor/manager-to-employee ratio reduction efforts	Ongoing	J. McDermott; Office Directors & Regional Administrators
2. Complete implementation of reorganizations developed to achieve streamlining goals	3/31/99C	J. McDermott; Office Directors & Regional Administrators
3. Implement strategies to achieve supervisory ratio targets	4/30/99 4/30/99C	J. McDermott; Office Directors & Regional Administrators
4. Quarterly assessment of supervisor/manager-to-employee ratio	4/30/99 4/30/99C	J. McDermott

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestones	Date	Lead
5. Quarterly assessment of supervisor/manager-to-employee ratio	7/99	J. McDermott
6. Implement strategies to achieve supervisory ratio targets	7/15/99	J. McDermott; Office Directors & Regional Administrators

Comments:

The milestones in the table above focus only on those aspects of the streamlining effort that address the supervisor/manager-to-employee ratio. Activity extends beyond the March 31, 1999, deadline established for the structural changes contained in Issue A to accommodate implementation of personnel placements.

3&4. HR memorandum to the EDO dated 4/30/99.

~~6. Reorganization implementation complete -- see Topic Area V, Special Issue A above.~~

~~7&8. These milestones will both be addressed in a memorandum to be issued at the end of April. The due date has been changed to 4/30/99 in the expectation that computer-generated statistics for the 2nd quarter of FY 99 will not be available until mid April.~~

~~9. NRC progress to date in achieving supervisory ratio targets suggests that a mid-quarter report in the 3rd Quarter of FY 99 will not be necessary or useful.~~

V. Topic Area: NRC Organizational Structure and Resources

SES MANAGER: Paul E. Bird, Director, HR

C. Specific Issue: Increased Employee Involvement

Objective: To enhance organizational effectiveness under the specific conditions imposed by the agency-wide streamlining effort -- including functional realignments, reductions in supervisory/managerial personnel, and increased spans of management control -- by delegating greater responsibility and accountability to individual employees and fostering greater interactive communications between employees and management.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Continue previous general efforts to foster delegations of responsibility and accountability to employees and more interactive communications between employees and managers. Monitor office progress.	Ongoing	J. McDermott; Office Directors & Regional Administrators
2. Provide guidance to managers and supervisors on employee involvement concepts, including direction and assignment of work, delegation of authority, quality control, and responsibility and accountability for outputs and outcomes.	3/25/99C	J. McDermott
3. Begin interactive meetings between office managers/supervisors and staff consistent with EDO memorandum on employee involvement dated 3/25/99.	3/30/99C	J. McDermott; Office Directors & Regional Administrators; supervisors & managers

Comments:

The milestones for this issue establish a time period, consistent with the schedule for restructuring provided in Issue A, for beginning the office/region process of increasing employee involvement and engaging staff in the transformation process to a new culture.

~~3. EDO memorandum to office directors and regional administrators signed on 3/25/99.~~

3. The 3/25/99 EDO memorandum (see item 3 above) requests managers and supervisors in each office and organizational unit that have not already done so to initiate interactive meetings with employees by June 30, 1999.

VI. Topic Area: Other Agency Programs and Areas of Focus

SLS: Robert Wood, RGEB/DRIP/NRR
 SES Manager: Lawrence Chandler, OGC

A. Specific Issue: License Transfers

Objective: To ensure that license transfers are conducted in a timely and technically correct manner and that review and submittal guidance is appropriately disseminated.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Commission provides comments on foreign ownership SRP through issuance of SRM	2/17/99C	S. Hom, OGC
2. Revised foreign ownership SRP sent to Federal Register for solicitation of public comments	2/24/99C	S. Hom, OGC
3. Complete technical review of TMI-1 transfer	3/4/99C	R. Wood, DRIP
4. Revised SRP based on public comments to Commission	6/30/99	S. Hom, OGC
5. Provide Commission with proposed final criteria for triggering a review under 10 CFR 50.80 regarding the transfer of operating authority to non-owner operators (i.e., use of contract service operating companies) (9800015) (NRR)	6/25/99	R. Wood, DRIP
6. Issue lessons learned from AmerGen TMI-1 transfer	6/99	R. Wood, DRIP

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
7. Commission approves final SRP on foreign ownership	8/1/99	S. Hom, OGC
8. Issue final SRP on foreign ownership	9/1/99	S. Hom, OGC R. Wood, DRIP

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
9. Develop SRP on technical qualifications	12/99	DIPM
10. Develop integrated SRP on license transfer process reflecting lessons learned and process improvements (9800195)	12/99	R. Wood, DRIP S. Hom, OGC

Comments:

310. The technical review of the TMI-1 transfer application was completed and sent to AmerGen on 3/4/99. AmerGen's comments on the proposed license conditions were provided to the NRC on 3/15/99. The final order approving the license transfer was signed on April 12, 1999.

1017. SRP will integrate all license transfer review criteria (financial qualifications, decommissioning funding assurance, technical qualifications, foreign ownership, and antitrust).

VI. Topic Area: Other Agency Programs and Areas of Focus

SES Manager: Chris Grimes, Director, RLSB/DRIP/NRR

B. Specific Issue: AP600 Design Certification Rulemaking

Objective: Issue final design approval (FDA) and design certification rule for AP600.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Submit proposed rule [PRM] to Commission (9200142) (SECY-99-101)	3/31/99C	J.N. Wilson, DRIP
2. Issue PRM for public comment and hearing opportunity	5/99	J.N. Wilson, DRIP

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
3. Receive comments on PRM Issue PRM for public comment and hearing opportunity	8/99-7/99	J.N. Wilson, DRIP

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
4. Submit final rule to Commission (9200142)	10/99-12/99	J.N. Wilson, DRIP
5. Issue final rule (NRR)	12/99	J.N. Wilson, DRIP

Comments:

2-35. The schedule ~~is in accordance with~~ was revised because the project is currently ahead of the schedule in SECY-98-267, "Rulemaking Plan for the AP600," which was approved in an SRM dated 12/4/98, and milestone #3 was added to show completion of the comment period.

4. ~~Milestone added to show that final rule will be submitted to Commission on an expedited schedule to complete rulemaking in 1999.~~

VI. Topic Area: Other Agency Programs and Areas of Focus

SES Manager: Susan F. Shankman, Dep. Director, Licensing and Inspection Directorate, SFPO

C1. Specific Issue: Transnuclear TN-68 (Dual Purpose) Cask Review

Objective: To issue a Part 72 (storage) SER and certificate of compliance (through rulemaking) and a Part 71 (transportation) certificate of compliance for the TN-68 dual purpose cask system (Comment 1)

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Staff issues user need memorandum/rulemaking	03/09/99C	E. Easton, SFPO
2. Staff issues draft SER and CoC for rulemaking	05/99	M. Ross-Lee, SFPO
3. Receive application for transportation cask	05/99	M. Ross-Lee, SFPO

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
None		

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
4. Staff completes rulemaking; issues CoC for use under Part 72	04/00	E. Easton P.Eng, SFPO P. Holahan, IMNS

Comments:

3. New Milestone 3 added - The applicant has committed to submit the transportation application by May 1999. The staff will set the review schedule upon completion of the acceptance review of the application.

VI. Topic Area: Other Agency Programs and Areas of Focus

SES Manager: Susan F. Shankman, Dep. Director, Licensing and Inspection Directorate, SFPO

C2. Specific Issue: BNFL/SNG Fuel Solutions (BFS) TranStor (Dual Purpose) Cask Review

Objective: To issue a Part 72 (storage) SER and certificate of compliance (through rulemaking) and a Part 71 (transportation) certificate of compliance for the BFS BNFL/SNG dual purpose cask system (Comment 1 see comments)

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Staff issues user need memorandum/rulemaking	05/99	E. Easton P.Eng, SFPO

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
2. Staff receives updated SAR from applicant	09/99	T. Kobetz, SFPO

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
3. Staff issues draft SER and CoC for rulemaking	10/99	T. Kobetz, SFPO
4. Staff issues Part 71 (transportation) CoC	02/00	T. Kobetz, SFPO
5. Staff completes rulemaking; issues CoC for use under Part 72	09/00	E. Easton P.Eng, SFPO P. Holahan, IMNS

Comments:

General: On March 22, 1999, BNFL completed the purchase of the commercial nuclear power business of Westinghouse Electric Company. As a result, BFS will combine with Westinghouse Spent Nuclear Fuel Programs to form a single company that will oversee the design and licensing of the TranStor and Westflex dual purpose cask applications.

VI. Topic Area: Other Agency Programs and Areas of Focus

SES Manager: Susan F. Shankman, Dep. Director, Licensing and Inspection Directorate, SFPO

C3. Specific Issue: Holtec HISTAR 100 (Dual-Purpose) Cask Review

Objective: To issue a Part 72 (storage) SER and certificate of compliance (through rulemaking) and a Part 71 (transportation) certificate of compliance for the Holtec HISTAR 100 dual purpose cask system (Comment 1)

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Staff issues transportation (Part 71) CoC	03/31/99C	M. Delligatti, SFPO

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
2. Staff completes rulemaking; issues CoC for use under Part 72	08/99	E. Easton P.Eng, SFPO P. Holahan, IMNS

VI. Topic Area: Other Agency Programs and Areas of Focus

SES Manager: Susan F. Shankman, Dep. Director, Licensing and Inspection Directorate, SFPO

C4. Specific Issue: Westinghouse WESFLEX (Dual Purpose) Cask Review

Objective: To issue a Part 72 (storage) SER and certificate of compliance (through rulemaking) and a Part 71 (transportation) certificate of compliance for the Westinghouse WESFLEX dual purpose cask system (Comment 1)

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Staff receives responses to RAIs	03/29/99C	M. Bailey, SFPO

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
2. Staff issues final RAI, if necessary	07/99 09/99	M. Bailey, SFPO

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
3. Staff receives response to RAI, if necessary	10/99 11/99	M. Bailey, SFPO
4. Staff issues user need memorandum/rulemaking	12/99 02/00	E. Easton P.Eng, SFPO
5. Staff issues draft SER and CoC for rulemaking	01/00 03/00	M. Bailey, SFPO
6. Staff complete rulemaking; issues CoC for use under Part 72	12/00 02/01	E. Easton P.Eng, SFPO P. Holahan, IMNS

Comments:

General: On March 22, 1999, BNFL completed the purchase of the commercial nuclear power business of Westinghouse Electric Company. As a result, BFS will combine with Westinghouse Spent Nuclear Fuel Programs to form a single company that will oversee the design and licensing of the TranStor and Westflex dual purpose cask applications.

The applicant submitted its response to the RAIs on March 29, 1999. The staff is reassessing the overall schedule and workload, since this was a unanticipated delay of approximately three

~~weeks 2-6.~~ Due to a 3-week delay by Westinghouse to respond to the RAI, staff cannot resume review of the Westflex application until April 30, 1999 (a 7-week delay from the original date of March 9, 1999). This allowed the staff to conduct other high-priority work during that period.

VI. Topic Area: Other Agency Programs and Areas of Focus

SES Manager: Susan F. Shankman, Dep. Director, Licensing and Inspection Directorate, SFPO

C5. Specific Issue: NAC-STC/MPC (Dual Purpose) Cask Review

Objective: To issue a Part 72 (storage) SER and certificate of compliance (through rulemaking) and a Part 71 (transportation) certificate of compliance for the NAC-STC/MPC dual purpose cask system (Comment 1)

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Staff issues Part 71 (transportation) CoC	03/25/99C	T. McGinty, SFPO
2. Staff issues draft storage SER and CoC for rulemaking	03/25/99C	T. McGinty, SFPO

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
None		

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
3. Staff complete rulemaking; issue CoC for use under Part 72	02/00	E. Easton P.Eng, SFPO P. Holahan, SFPO

Comments:

VI. Topic Area: Other Agency Programs and Areas of Focus

SES Manager: Susan F. Shankman, Dep. Director, Licensing and Inspection Directorate, SFPO

C6. Specific Issue: NAC-UMS (Dual Purpose) Cask Review

Objective: To issue a Part 72 (storage) SER and certificate of compliance (through rulemaking) and a Part 71 (transportation) certificate of compliance for the NAC-UMS dual purpose cask system (Comment 1)

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Staff issues second storage RAI, if necessary	06/99	T. McGinty, SFPO

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
2. Staff receives second storage RAI response	08/99	T. McGinty, SFPO
3. Staff issues user need memorandum/rulemaking	08/99	E. Easton P.Eng, SFPO
4. Staff issues first transportation RAI	09/99	T. McGinty, SFPO

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
5. Staff issues draft storage SER and CoC for rulemaking	11/99	T. McGinty, SFPO
6. Staff completes rulemaking; issues CoC for use under Part 72	10/00	E. Easton P.Eng, SFPO P. Holahan, IMNS
7. Staff issues second transportation RAI, if necessary or staff issues CoC and SER	4/00	T. McGinty, SFPO
8. Staff receives second transportation RAI response, if necessary	6/00	T. McGinty, SFPO
9. Staff issues transportation CoC and SER	8/00	T. McGinty, SFPO

Comments:

General: New Milestones 4, 7, 8 and 9 added - Milestones added to reflect the review of the transportation package which SFPO will begin in May 1999.

VI. Topic Area: Other Agency Programs and Areas of Focus

SES Manager: Susan F. Shankman, Dep. Director, Licensing and Inspection Directorate, SFPO

C7. Specific Issue: TN-West MP-187 (Dual-Purpose) Cask Review

Objective: To issue Part 71 (transportation) certificate of compliance for MP-187 transportation cask system

Comments:

All actions associated with this task are completed, as denoted on earlier updates of the CTM.

VI. Topic Area: Other Agency Programs and Area of Focus

SES Manager: Stuart Richards, Director, LPD4/DLPM/NRR

D. Specific Issue: Decommissioning Decisions

Objective: Provide timely decisions on current issues and provide framework for decommissioning activities.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Meeting with NEI and industry to present Commission integrated milestones for decommissioning initiatives necessary for above rules and existing rules	5/28/99 4/13/99 C See note	S. Weiss, DRIP S. Richards, LPD4
2. Complete the following pending licensing actions:		
2a. Haddam Neck Technical Specification change to seismic monitoring	4/30/99C	T. Fredrichs, DRIP
2b. Maine Yankee Technical Specification change to spent fuel pool water level	3/16/99C	M. Webb, DRPM
2c. Maine Yankee Exemption from 10 CFR 70.24 Criticality Accident Monitoring Requirements	4/15/99 3/24/99 C See note	M. Webb, DRIP
2d. Zion Exemption from 10 CFR 70.24 Criticality Accident Monitoring requirements	4/16/99 2/9/99C See note	T. Markley, DRIP

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
3. Complete the following pending licensing action:		

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
Maine Yankee Modification of License Conditions	7/30/99	M. Webb, DRIP
Technical Specifications change to liquid and gaseous release limits	8/15/99	

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
4. Complete the following pending licensing action:		
Haddam Neck Technical Specification change to refueling and admin requirements	9/30/99	T. Fredrichs, DRIP

Comments:

~~3. SRM on SECY-98-075 (DSI-24) was issued on 2/24/99. NEI requested the 3/12/99 meeting be postponed on 3/10/99 and agreed to propose new dates. During a telephone conversation with NEI, the Deputy EDO (Miraglia) informed them of the staff intent to meet with NEI decommissioning representatives within approximately 2 months to discuss rulemaking activities.~~

1. The staff held a transcribed public meeting on 4/13/99 with NEI to solicit input from NEI and the public that could assist the staff in developing a risk-informed approach to decommissioning regulations. NEI and the public actively participated in the meeting. The staff is preparing a Commission paper that will present a plan for updating its decommissioning regulations on a risk-informed basis.

~~4b. Action completed with the issuance of a license amendment on 3/16/99.~~

~~4c. The licensee is preparing a letter to withdraw their exemption request.~~

2c. The licensee withdrew the exemption request by letter dated 3/24/99.

~~4d. Action completed (terminated). The licensee submitted a letter withdrawing their exemption request.~~

VI. Topic Area: Other Agency Programs and Areas of Focus

SES Manager: Susan F. Shankman, Dep. Director, Licensing and Inspection Directorate, SFPO

E. Specific Issue: PGE-Trojan Reactor Vessel Shipment Application

Objective: To issue Part 71 (transportation) approval to ship the Trojan reactor vessel, with internals, for disposal in the State of Washington

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
None		

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Inspection follow-up prior to and during shipment (Comment 21)	08/99	B. Spitzberg, RIV

Comments:

1. The Trojan reactor vessel has been successfully filled with grout. It was accomplished in two pours (12/03/98 and 12/09/98, and both were witnessed by an NRC inspector. The Trojan reactor vessel shipment is scheduled for August 1999.

VI. Topic Area: Other Agency Programs and Areas of Focus

SES Manager: David Matthews, Director, DRIP/NRR

F. Specific Issue: Event Reporting Rulemaking

Objective: Revise event reporting requirements to reduce the reporting burden associated with events of little or no risk significance, obtain information better related to risk, and extend reporting time limits consistent with the need for prompt NRC action.

Coordination: Issues II.A, "Risk Informed Baseline Core Inspection Program," II.B, "Enforcement Program Initiatives," II.C, "Escalated Enforcement Program," III.A, "Performance Assessment Process Improvements," and VI.F, "Event Reporting Rulemaking," require close coordination and the integration of specific tasks by the NRC staff. Responsible project managers are coordinating these activities by assessing the impact of proposed program changes with the other ongoing activities and ensuring that the overall objectives for each project are achieved. Examples include, intra-project task force participation, workshop attendance, concurrent review of projects and periodic senior management briefings. In addition, industry-developed initiatives such as the NEI New Regulatory Oversight Process are being reviewed by all project groups and evaluated for impact.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. CRGR Briefing	3/11/99C	D. Allison, DRIP
2. ACRS Briefing	3/23/99C	D. Allison, DRIP
3. Proposed rule to the Commission including proposed enforcement policy changes (9800096) (NRR)	4/19/99 C 4/9/99	D. Allison, DRIP R. Borchardt, OE
4. Publish proposed rule (10 CFR 50.72 and 50.73)	2 weeks after Commission approval 5/14/99	DRIP
5. Conduct a public workshop	4 weeks after publication of rule 5/28/99	D. Allison, DRIP

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
None		

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
6. Brief CRGR	11/26/99	D. Allison, DRIP
7. Brief ACRS	12/10/99	D. Allison, DRIP
8. Final rule to Commission (9800096) (NRR)	1/14/00	D. Allison, DRIP
9. Publish final rule	2/00	DRIP

Comments:

3. The proposed rulemaking package was provided to the Commission on 4/19/99. This was 10 days behind schedule because the time required to resolve comments and issues was greater than anticipated.

4-5. Schedule is contingent on Commission review of proposed rulemaking package.

5, 6. Dates changed to reflect the actual dates the ACRS and the CRGR were briefed; no effect on subsequent milestones.

VI. Topic Area: Other Agency Programs and Areas of Focus

SES Manger: David Matthews, Director, DRIP/NRR

G. Specific Issue: Proposed KI Rulemaking

Objective: To Implement Commission decision regarding the use of KI as a protective measure for the general public after a severe reactor accident. In addition, to work with other Federal agencies to revise the Federal policy on the use of KI in the event of a severe nuclear power plant emergency and to develop aids to assist the states in applying the revised Federal policy.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Publish Proposed Rule (9800173) (NRR)	5/31/99 TBD (See note)	M. Jamgochian, DRIP
9. Draft a public brochure on use of KI and provide for Federal agency and public comment	5/99	A. Mohseni, IRO

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
2. Revise KI technical paper (NUREG-1633) to address public comments and provide to Commission (9700193) (IRO)	9/99	A. Mohseni, IRO

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
3. Final brochure on use of KI provided to Commission for review (9700193) (IRO)	10/99 9/99	A. Mohseni, IRO
4. Brief CRGR and ACRS	10/99	M. Jamgochian, DRIP
5. Develop final KI Federal policy FRN reflecting FRPCC review and send to Commission (9700193) (IRO)	10/99 TBD	A. Mohseni, IRO
6. Publish final technical paper (NUREG-1633)	10/99	A. Mohseni, IRO
7. Finalize the public brochure on use of KI and provide to FEMA for publication	11/99 10/99	A. Mohseni, IRO

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
8. Publish KI Federal Policy FRN	12/99 6/99 (see note)	A. Mohseni, IRO
9. Publish Final Rule (9800173) (NRR)	12/30/99	M. Jamgochian, DRIP
10. Establish procedures to access Federal stockpiles with FEMA	5/00 5/99 (see note)	A. Mohseni, IRO

Comments:

4. FRN was revised by Commission 9/30/98, and sent to FEMA on 10/1/98 for FRPCC review. The staff presented the revised draft FRN to the FRPCC on November 5, 1998 for review, comment, and approval. FRPCC member agencies were expected to provide their comments to the FRPCC in January 1999. Only one or two agencies have provided comments. The FRPCC KI Subcommittee will review those comments and make its recommendation to the FRPCC.

6. US DHHS is charged with the development of inventories of pharmaceuticals for nuclear, biological, and chemical terrorist incidents. The staff met with Dr. Knouss, Director of Emergency Response, USPHS, on 1/19/99, to follow up on status of KI in the Federal stockpile. The staff also discussed with GDG the same. The staff reported to the EDO the status of availability of KI in the Federal stockpiles on 1/28/99. Currently, the staff believes that the amount of KI available in the Federal inventory is not adequate if it were to be used for the public. Because the status of KI in the Federal stockpile is subject to negotiation and change, the staff will continue to interact with the principal agencies until this issue is final. On February 12, 1999, the staff provided to the Commission a copy of the DHHS Operating Plan for Anti-bioterrorism Initiative.

17. SECY-98-264, Proposed Amendments to 10 CFR 50.47, sent to the Commission on 11/10/98. Commission action still pending. The SRM was issued on 4/22/99.

9. This milestone was deleted as being substantially redundant to milestones 3 and 7.

243. SRM directed the staff to withdraw the draft NUREG-1633 and substantially revise and reissue it. Staff issued FRN withdrawing the draft NUREG on 10/16/98 and removed it from the NRC WebSite. Staff formed a KI Core Group to review and address the comments received on the draft NUREG and add new sections on U.S. and foreign experiences in logistics of KI distribution. The core group members include representatives from: AL, TN, AZ, CT, Waterford (CT), NEMA, CRCPD-6, FDA, EPA, FEMA and NRC. The KI Core Group met publicly 12/1/98-12/4/98 at the NRC. Issues were identified based on public comments and resolutions identified. The U.S. experience was discussed and examined. The members were tasked for follow-up activities. The most significant development in this area has been the FDA's decision to revisit its 1982 policy. On February 12, 1999, the staff provided the executive summary of a draft report prepared by CDC on a nine-year study of thyroid disease in persons exposed to radioiodines from Hanford Nuclear Site between 1944 and 1957. The KI Core Group met again publicly in Tempe, Arizona, on March 1-5, 1999.

58. The FRPCC expected to receive comments on the NRC proposed FRN from other Federal agencies during 1/99. Only one or two agencies have provided comments to date. Moreover, FDA is revisiting its 1982 KI policy. The FDA's comments are essential for the completion of a revised Federal KI policy. In addition to any FDA policy changes, the FRPCC Subcommittee on KI will evaluate the comments received from other Federal agencies and make its recommendations to the FRPCC. The NRC funding for KI will also have to be resolved. If there is a change in the NRC's funding position, more discussions with other federal agencies will be needed. Due to the above, the schedule has been changed to TBD, consistent with the rulemaking schedule. The Commission directed the staff on April 22, 1999, to amend the draft Federal Register Notice on the Federal KI policy provided to FEMA to conform to this SRM, particularly with respect to the Commission's decision not to fund State stockpiles. The staff is amending the draft FRN accordingly to submit to FEMA for FRPCC review and approval. This requires negotiation with FEMA on the changes that affect FEMA prior to resubmission to the FRPCC for full committee review.

3,7 The public brochure will be based on the technical paper referred to in item 2 and 6 and will have to be developed after the technical paper. Accordingly the schedule for the completion of the brochure will be 30 days after the completion of the technical paper. Dates for the brochures were changed to indicate that they lag the development of the technical paper by approximately 30 days.

4,9 CRGR review and publishing final rule are provided as separate milestones with dates

~~811. Before final issuance of the FRN, FEMA will require NRC funding to be in place.~~ The Commission decision of April 22, 1999, not to fund State Stockpiles requires more negotiations with other federal agencies, particularly FEMA. This schedule will need to be negotiated, current best estimate is 12/99.

10. Based on the Commission SRM dated April 22, 1999, the staff is directed to work with FEMA to establish and maintain regional KI stockpiles to be used in the event of a severe nuclear power plant accident. This is a new initiative and will have to be negotiated with FEMA. Best estimate is 5/00, subject to future revision.

VI. Topic Area: Other Agency Programs and Areas of Focus

SES Manager: Bill Kane, Associate Director for Inspection and Programs , NRR

H. Specific Issue: NEI Petitions - Petition for modifying 50.54(a)

Objective: Complete the NEI Petition, accepting in part to modify 10 CFR Part 50.54(a), as it pertains to Quality Assurance Program Change Control and is intended to reduce burdens on industry.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Publication of a Federal Register Notice to accept in part the NEI petition for rulemaking and proposing a Direct Final Rule (9800166) (NRR)	02/99C	R. Gramm, DRCH
2. Direct Final Rule effective if no significant adverse comments received.	04/26/99C	D. Dorman, DIPM
3. Coordinate a workshop with NEI to discuss implementation aspects of Direct Final Rule.	TBD	D. Dorman, DIPM
4. Issue Voluntary Option rule for public comment via Federal register Notice.	TBD	D. Dorman, DIPM

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestones	Date	Lead
None		

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestones	Date	Lead
5. Hold meetings and workshops with stakeholders to fully develop voluntary option rulemaking. (9900004)	1/00	D. Dorman, DIPM
6. Evaluate public comments on Voluntary Option Rule and prepare Final Rule. (9900004)	1/01	D. Dorman, DIPM
7. Issue Voluntary Option Rule in Federal Register Notice.	TBD	D. Dorman, DIPM

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
8.	Hold a workshop to discuss implementation aspects of Voluntary Option Rule.	D. Dorman, DIPM

Comments:

The Direct Final Rule was published on 2/23/99 and became effective on 4/26/99 based on a determination that no, unless significant adverse comment was received by 3/25/99. Six ~~Several~~ comment letters were ~~have been~~ received. Both NEI and a two licensees ~~have~~ provided favorable comments on the Direct Final Rule. Other letters (from a licensee and members of the public) requested clarification of certain ~~have raised some questions about the~~ provisions of the rule. The staff determined that none of the comments constituted significant adverse comments, therefore the Direct Final Rule became effective 4/26/99.

QA plan change control, and 50.54(a), was a topic of a panel discussion during the Regulatory Information Conference.

SECY-98-279 stated that the voluntary option proposed rule will be developed one year after receipt of the SRM, and a final rule the following year. WITS item 9900004 was assigned to the proposed rule development, and it will then be assigned for the voluntary option final rule.

VI. Topic Area: Other Agency Programs and Areas of Focus

SES Manager: Gary Holahan, Director, DSSA/NRR)

I. Specific Issue: Revised Source Term Rulemaking

Objective: To revise Part 50 to allow holders of operating power reactor licensees to voluntarily amend the facility design basis to use revised source terms in design basis accident radiological analyses. This action would allow these facilities to pursue risk-informed licensing actions made possible through the use of the revised source term.

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Publish in Federal Register	3/99C	T. Essig, DIPM
2. Complete draft guide; draft SRP section	5/99	R. Barrett, DSSA
3. End of Public Comment Period	5/99	R. Barrett, DSSA

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
4. Office concurrence on final rule; draft guide; draft SRP	7/23	R. Barrett, DSSA
5. ACRS review	7/99	R. Barrett, DSSA
6. CRGR review	8/99	R. Barrett, DSSA
7. Final rule; draft guide; draft SRP to EDO (9700025) (NRR)	8/99	R. Barrett, DSSA
8. Final rule; draft guide; draft SRP to Commission	8/27/99	R. Barrett, DSSA

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
9. End of public comment period	12/99	R. Barrett, DSSA
10. Office concurrence on final guide; final SRP	1/00	R. Barrett, DSSA
11. ACRS review on final guide; final SRP	1/00	R. Barrett, DSSA
12. CRGR concurrence on final guide; final SRP	2/00	R. Barrett, DSSA

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
13. Final guide; final SRP to EDO (9700025) (NRR)	2/00	R. Barrett, DSSA
14. Final guide; final SRP to Commission	3/3/00	R. Barrett, DSSA

Staff scheduled to make made presentation on source term issues at March 1999 R.I.C. Staff conducted a public meeting with NEI and Industry on 4/20/99.

1. As a result of the slippage in milestone #18, the staff requested that milestone #158 be revised to 8/27/99. This change in milestone #158 was approved in the SRM. Other intervening and subsequent milestones have been updated to reflect the new due date.

VII. TOPIC AREA: Uranium Recovery Issues

SES Manager: King Stablein, Acting Branch Chief, Uranium Recovery Branch

A. Specific Issues: Uranium recovery concerns raised in Senate report

- Dual regulation of ground water at in situ leach (ISL) facilities
- Expanded use of mill tailings impoundments to dispose of other material
- Eliminate consideration of economics in the processing of alternate feedstock

Objective: To look for ways to:

1. eliminate dual regulation of ISLs facilities;
2. reduce the regulatory burden on uranium mill wanting to expand the use of impoundments for disposal of other materials besides mill tailings; and
3. encourage uranium mills who want to engage in recycling of materials for their uranium content

THROUGH JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
1. Commission paper on ways to eliminate dual regulation at ISL facilities (9800176) (NMSS) (SECY 99-013)	3/12/99C	Charlotte Abrams, NMSS
2. Commission paper on revising guidance for expanding disposal capability of uranium mill tailings impoundments, and ask for Commission policy on hearing orders concerning need to consider economics in alternate feedstock evaluations (9800180) (NMSS) (SECY 99-012)	4/168/99C	Charlotte Abrams, NMSS
3. Implement any changes in review of alternate feedstock that result from hearing and Commission review of previous hearing orders	04/99 7/99	Charlotte Abrams, NMSS
4. Complete hearing on alternate feedstock amendment to see how State of Utah concerns about staff not applying appropriate economics criteria is determined.	02/09/99C	P. Block, ASLBP
5. Complete Part 41 rulemaking plan, including recommendations on regulatory changes to address the three issues (9800177) (NMSS)	04/99 10/99	Mark Haisfield Mike Fliegel, NMSS
6. Revise ISL Standard Review Plan to implement staff recommendations if approved by Commission	06/99	Bill Ford, NMSS

THROUGH JUNE 30, 1999		
7. Issue revised draft guidance on disposal capability with Commission-approved revisions	06/99	Charlotte Abrams, NMSS

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
None		

BEYOND SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
8. Publish proposed Part 41 for public comment, including regulatory changes to address three issues (9800177) (NMSS)	104/00	Mark Haysfield/ Mike Fliegel, NMSS
9. Publish final Part 41 codifying agency policy on resolution of three issues. (9800177) (NMSS)	082/01	Mark Haysfield/ Mike Fliegel, NMSS

Comments:

General comment re: objective stated above: Three issues raised in the Senate report are presented in the National Mining Association white paper that was presented to the Commission in April 1998.

~~1. & 2. Staff will provide recommendations to the Commission on ways to address issues on eliminating dual regulation at ISL facilities and on disposal of material in tailings impoundments.. Staff met with OGC on October 13, and developed a strategy for completing the Commission paper on ISL dual regulation. On October 26, 1998, OGC sent staff its legal analysis covering whether staff could remove themselves from the regulation of ground water at ISL facilities. That OGC position has been incorporated into the Commission paper.~~

~~— Copies of both papers have been concurred in by the GFO.. The papers also have received no legal objection from OGC.~~

~~— Because of the technical and legal complexity of the issues covered in the Commission papers, the staff requested additional time to complete their work. Delays resulted from time required for consultation with OGC and for staff revisions. Because it has been recommended that the issues discussed in the Commission papers should be addressed through the Part 41 rulemaking task, staff also needed extra time in order to send the~~

~~Commission papers forward along with the Part 41 rulemaking plan. The Commission papers and Rulemaking Plan were concurred in by NMSS on January 5, 1999. The Office of the EDO has reviewed these documents and returned the Commission papers back to staff with comments. The ISL Commission paper was sent to the Commission on March 12, 1999, 1999. Revisions in the disposal paper (Item 2) required that the CFO and OGG reconcur. The disposal paper is now being revised to resolve OGG concerns. The disposal paper was sent to the Commission on April 8, 1999.~~

- 3.&4: The most recent alternate feedstock amendment issued by the staff is being contested by the State of Utah and Envirocare. One of the contentions is that the staff failed to conduct the appropriate economics test in accepting the amendment application. A decision from the presiding Officer in this hearing was received by on February 9, 1999. The decision provides guidance that the staff factored into the portions of the Commission Paper (item 2 above) dealing with alternate feedstock. Utah appealed the presiding officer's decision to the Commission on April 26, 1999. The Commission agreed to review the decision. The staff will proceed after the Commission has ruled.
- 5, 8, 9 A draft of the Part 41 rulemaking plan and accompanying Commission paper was sent to the Commission on 1/15/99, SECY 99-011. After the Commission meeting on the uranium recovery program on June 14, 1999, the Commission should provide direction to the staff on Part 41. The staff will use that direction in proceeding with rulemaking on Part 41.
9. An administrative error on the publication date of a final Part 41 has been corrected (the original date given was the date the rulemaking was due to the EDO, not the publication date)

VIII. TOPIC AREA: Changes to NRC's Hearing Process

SES Manager: Joe Gray, OGC

A: Use of Informal Adjudicatory Procedures

PRIOR TO JUNE 30, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
5. Briefing of Commission Offices	TBD	K. Cyr, OGC
6. Commission Guidance	TBD	K. Cyr, OGC
7. Prepare legislation for Commissioner review.	TBD	T. Rothschild, OGC
8. Prepare notice of proposed rulemaking for Commission review.	TBD	T. Rothschild, OGC

PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 23, 1999		
Milestone	Date	Lead
9. Prepare final rule	TBD	T. Rothschild, OGC

Comments:

5. Briefings will be scheduled when requested.

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