

Indian Point 2 (IP2) Steam Generator (SG) Tube Failure
Lessons-Learned Task Group
(TAC No. MA9163)

Task Group Notes - Discussion with John Zwolinski on 7/5/00

Attendees: Scott Newberry, Rick Ennis, Maitri Banerjee

Background

John is the Director of the Division of Licensing Project Management (DLPM) in NRR.

Focus of Discussion

The focus of this discussion was to determine if there are any lessons-learned as a result of the IP2 steam generator tube failure event.

Results

John had the following observations/comments:

- 1) DLPM is taking the lead on the Questions and Answers associated with the new source term amendment.
- 2) The nuclear plants in the Northeast have much more public interaction than plants in the rest of the country. John thought that setting up the IP2 web page was the right thing to do even given the added resources. He believes this is the right precedent to set for plants with high public interest. It's possible that providing the information on the web may have reduced the amount of controlled correspondence.
- 3) John believes the licensee should be more aggressive in communicating with the public (i.e., bulk of public interaction is by the NRC).
- 4) The scope and depth of the NRC staff review for the inspection interval extension amendment was appropriate. He noted that there was nothing unusual that should have prompted the staff to do a deeper review. Licensee performance for SG inspection industry-wide as a whole has been good as evidenced by only one tube failure recently out of thousands of tubes inspected.
- 5) With respect to the phone calls the staff holds to discuss the licensee's SG inspection results, John believes the current process is adequate based on industry operating experience.
- 6) John thinks it may be worthwhile to revisit the SG inspection requirements that are in the Technical Specifications (TSs). He's not sure the details should be relocated outside of the TSs.
- 7) John has concerns over the quality of Con Ed's management team. He thinks they should had a more questioning attitude with respect to the 1997 SG inspection results given the uncertainty due to poor quality data and given the age of the SGs.
- 8) John thinks it would be a good idea for members of the Task Group to visit the site.

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- 9) John also stated that the large number of issues with respect to the licensee's root cause and operational assessment warrants SG replacement rather than continued further technical discussions. Unless our knowledge changes significantly, John is not going to be comfortable signing out the restart safety evaluation.