

**From:** Mary Adams  
**To:** Judy Muszkiewicz  
**Date:** 7/2/03 12:52PM  
**Subject:** NFS meeting summary June 27, 2003, re: BLEU project

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Judy, Please docket this email meeting summary. 70-143

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NRC staff met with Nuclear Fuel Services representatives on June 27, 2003, at NRC headquarters to discuss plans for NFS submittal and NRC review of the amendment application for the Oxide Conversion Facility, which is the third of 3 license amendment applications associated with the Blended Low-Enriched Uranium (BLEU) project. This was a Category 1 open meeting that was announced on June 17, 2003.

NRC participants were Mary Adams and Patrick Castleman of the Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch in the Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards in the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards. NFS participants were Neil Newman, John Nagy, Jennifer Wheeler, and Scott Kirk. One member of the public was present, Mr. Greg Wright of Gannett Newspapers, and one member of the public participated by telephone, Ms. Kathy Helms-Hughes.

Ms. Adams opened the meeting with introductions and the purpose of the meeting. Mr. Castleman described his goal of developing generic plans for NRC review of Integrated Safety Analysis Summaries submitted in accordance with 10 CFR 70 Subpart H, a generic schedule for reviewing ISA Summaries, and an integrated schedule for NRC review of the number of ISA Summaries that NRC expects to receive. Mr. Castleman also described early plans for an ISA workshop, scheduled for September 23-24, 2003, at Nuclear Energy Institute offices in Washington, DC. Mr. Castleman discussed 5 tentative topics for the workshop. NFS stated that they intend to participate actively in this workshop.

Mr. Nagy stated that NFS will revise the Licensing Plan of Action to Support the Blended Low-Enriched Uranium Project, which NFS submitted on October 4, 2001, and to which NRC responded in a letter dated December 31, 2001. This licensing plan of action included proposed licensing schedules and milestones for each of the 3 BLEU amendments. NFS will revise these schedules and milestones to reflect progress made to-date and projected schedules for completion of BLEU project licensing.

NFS also proposed to deliver the third amendment application, for the Oxide Conversion Building (OCB) in October 2003, and to provide a presentation of the content of the license amendment application at a "OCB kick-off meeting" when the amendment application is delivered. NRC staff agreed to support such a kick-off meeting, and generally agreed on a format. The format would be a general presentation to the entire NRC review team, followed by break-out sessions focused on specific technical disciplines, such as radiation protection, chemical safety, criticality safety. Ms. Adams suggested that NFS identify those issues that required a high level of attention during the uranyl nitrate building review, such as demonstration of double contingency, assignment of likelihood index numbers, boundaries of Items Relied on for Safety (IROFS) and management measures, and be sure to address those specifically during the presentation.

NFS also suggested that reviewers who are less familiar with the oxide conversion process consider a visit to the Framatome ANP-Richland facility to see the operating conversion process. The Richland facility uses the same process that NFS proposes to build and operate for the BLEU project in Erwin.

NRC and NFS discussed additional time frames for the OCB review considering an acceptance review, on-site review, and technical review. Mr. Castleman recommended that NFS include in its presentation information on their ISA methodology, the makeup of the ISA Team, the consequence and likelihood criteria, and how NFS integrated the ISA across the technical disciplines.

Mr. Castleman also discussed NRC's plans to obtain contractor support for the review of ISA Summaries associated with license amendment applications and those that 10 CFR 70.62(c)(3) requires. NRC assured NFS that any contractors who would review proprietary or classified information would hold

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appropriate clearances and would exercise appropriate information protections.

Ms. Adams asked if either member of the public had any questions or comments. Mr. Wright did not. Ms. Helms-Hughes asked whether NFS had received uranium material at the UNB yet; Ms. Adams said they cannot until the license amendment is signed. Ms. Helms-Hughes asked when NFS will submit the OCB amendment application; Ms. Adams said October 2003. Ms. Helms-Hughes asked how long it takes for NRC to perform an acceptance review; Ms. Adams replied 60-120 days. Ms. Helms-Hughes asked whether NFS' use of a video conference facility at East Tennessee State University was associated with the TVA "Business Incubator"; NFS said no.

NRC public meeting feedback forms (Forms 659) were distributed to the meeting attendees.

**CC:** Bill Gleaves; Donald Stout; Frederick Burrows; Kevin Ramsey; Lidia Roche; Margaret Chatterton; Marian Zobler; Michael Lamastra; Norma Garcia Santos; Patricia Silva; Patrick Castleman; Peter S Lee; Sheena Whaley; Susan Chidakel; Susan Frant

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