

December 5, 2003

MEMORANDUM TO: Scott F. Newberry, Director  
Division of Risk Analysis and Applications  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: Patrick W. Baranowsky, Chief /RA/  
Operating Experience Risk Analysis Branch  
Division of Risk Analysis and Applications  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: THIRD QUARTER CY 2003 STATUS REPORT

Attached is the third quarter CY 2003 status report. I would like to bring the following items to your attention.

#### **RES Operating Plan Milestones**

- All OERAB Critical Projects were met.
- All other OERAB milestones were met.

#### **Financial Status**

- All FY 2003 Job Code funds allotted to OERAB were committed.

#### **Significant Technical Achievements**

- The initial development of the Consolidated Data Collection and Coding System was completed and a trial use period was begun. The database was loaded with the latest quarterly data.
- SPAR model development continued as planned. This included meeting model and QA milestones for Rev. 3i Level 1, LERF, and Low-Power/Shutdown models. A set of Rev. 3 models were "enhanced" for 20 plants to support Mitigating System Performance Index verification activities.
- A draft report presenting the preliminary results of the independent verification of the Mitigating System Performance Index for the ROP pilot plants was issued. Several presentations were made to NRR and region staff, NEI and industry representatives, ACRS, and the public.
- A final draft report documenting development of the Integrated Initiating Event Indicator was issued.

- Several Accident Sequence Precursor analysis reports were issued.
  - Completed and issued the analyses of Point Beach 1 and 2 (common-mode failure of AFW pumps) and Cook 1 and 2 (debris in ESW affecting EDGs) precursors. The Point Beach analysis was issued as final, and the Cook analysis was issued for peer review. These complex analyses were the first to include parameter and modeling uncertainties.
  - Issued the final analyses for seven FY 2000 precursors, three events in FY 2001, and one event in FY 2002.

#### **Updated and New User Needs Discussed with NRR**

- The risk analysis standardization project user need was presented to and endorsed by the NRR leadership team. This project is intended to improve the Significance Determination Process (SDP) and improve SDP consistency with ASP techniques and procedures.
- A draft user need for industry trends program support was prepared by NRR/IIPB staff in consultation with OERAB. A change in IIPB management and key staff has caused delay in completing this action.

#### **Emerging Issues That May Affect Future Schedules and Cost of OERAB Projects**

- The ASP catch-up plan work has fallen behind schedule and it will not be possible to meet the planned short-term target of completing all FY 2001- FY 2002 precursor analyses by March 2004. This is due to the unexpected assignment of the ASP project manager to the Operating Experience Task Force for six months, the significant effort that continues to be expended on the Davis-Besse ASP analysis, and the staffing shortfall of 2+ FTE.

#### **Staffing**

- Attempts to hire a GG-13 were unsuccessful due to the limited pool of qualified candidates applying, limited interest by applicants, and new responsibility for HR work now placed with RES division and branch management. A new strategy has been employed and reposting of this position is expected to net one or two new hires by early CY 2004.
- Several viable candidates for a GG-14 vacancy were interviewed. The two top candidates will be selected with possible reporting dates in early and mid CY 2004.

cc: J. Strosnider/A. Thadani, RES

MEMORANDUM DATED: 12/5/03

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