

October 5, 2005

MEMORANDUM TO: Eileen Mckenna, Acting Program Director  
Reactor Policy and Rulemaking Program  
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Clayton L. Pittiglio /RA/  
Reactor Policy and Rulemaking Program  
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2005 MEETING WITH INDUSTRY  
AND THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE REGARDING REACTOR  
COOLANT SYSTEM LEAKAGE MONITORING

On September 29, 2005, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff met with a representative of the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and industry in a public meeting at NRC headquarters in Rockville, Maryland, to discuss concerns for monitoring of reactor coolant system unidentified leakage and the development of standardized guidance. Attachment 1 is a list of meeting attendees.

The driving basis for this meeting is the Davis-Besse Lessons Learned Task Force recommendations pertaining to reactor coolant system (RCS) leakage monitoring. As a result of these recommendations, the NRC changed, and is continuing to change, its oversight of this area. The technical specifications (TSs) at most plants indicate that plants can operate with some level of unidentified leakage. Unidentified leakage limits are typically 1 gallon per minute (gpm) for pressurized water reactors and 5 gpm for boiling water reactors. The actions taken upon detection of unidentified leakage and the time frame for accomplishing these actions are not specified in the TSs provided the unidentified leak rate is less than the TS limit. As a result, licensee actions in response to detecting unidentified leakage tend to be ad-hoc and vary depending on the magnitude of the leakage, the rate of an increase in the leakage rate, and other factors (past inspections, need for other maintenance, etc.). NEI is developing standard industry guidance on the actions licensees should take in response to unidentified leakage. This will optimize NRC and industry resources and is similar to the Electric Power Research Institute steam generator primary-to-secondary leakage guidelines.

Gordon Cleifton, of NEI, presented the Industry position on the following topics: (1) typical plant actions taken in response to unidentified leakage (e.g., action levels and response), (2) actions the industry is currently taking, or is planning to take, to standardize and improve plant-specific leakage monitoring programs in light of the safety issues discussed above, and (3) the schedule for these activities. A copy of the industry's presentation is available in ADAMS, ML052760006. The staff agreed with the material in general and provided comments and points of clarification.

There were no public comments, and the meeting was adjourned.

Project No. 689  
Attachments: As stated

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Gordon Cleffton, of NEI, presented and explained what Industry position on the following topics: (1) typical plant actions taken in response to unidentified leakage (e.g., action levels and response), (2) actions the industry is currently taking, or is planning to take, to standardize and improve plant-specific leakage monitoring programs in light of the safety issues discussed above, and (3) the schedule for these activities. A copy of industry's presentation is available in ADAMS, ML052760006. The staff agreed with the material in general and provided comments and points of clarification.

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NAME	CPittiglio	JBirmingham	MDusaniwskyj	EMcKenna
DATE	10/04/2005	10/04/2005	10/04/2005	10/05/2005

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LEAKAGE MONITORING

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DHickman,

WKoo

MDusaniewskyj

SJones

MSalgado

MSrinivisan

CILi

KKarwoski

List of Attendees for September 29, 2005  
Meeting on RCS Issues

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
Pittiglio, Clayton	NRR
Dusaniwskyj, Mike	NRR
Karwoski, Ken	NRR
Li, Chan	NRR
Hickman, Don	NRR
Beltz, Terry	NRR
Birney, William	Constellation
Chapman, Nancy	Serch/Bechtel
Cleifton, Gordon	NEI
Conen, Joe	DTE
Congdon, Joe	West.
Crawford, Howard	Exelon
DiMuzio, Christine	West.
Flock, Wendell	GE
Johnson, Wayne	West.
Harris, Tony	STARS
Homer, Daniel	Inside NRC
Herb, Raymond	Southern Nuclear
Keller, Phil	Duke
Marion ,Alex	NEI
Mays, Steve	Duke
McCall, Ken	GE
McCord ,Steve	Constellation
Moran, Melissa	Duke
Moser, Donna	Duke
Murdock, Mike	Duke
Schiffley, Ted	Exelon
Shaver, David	Duke
Strickland, George	Duke
Veitch, Tom	FENOC
Walrath, Cal	Exelon
via telephone	
Ken Hoffman	Constellation
L. Loopal	Constellation