

September 26, 2007

MEMORANDUM TO: Patrick M. Madden, Deputy Director
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

FROM: William D. Reckley, Branch Chief **/RA/**
Rulemaking, Guidance, and Advanced Reactor Branch
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF AUGUST 29, 2007, PUBLIC MEETING WITH
INDUSTRY'S NEW PLANT WORKING GROUP

On August 29, 2007, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff met in a public meeting with representatives from the new plant working group. The new plant working group (NPWG) consists of management representatives from potential applicants, reactor vendors, and the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and meets periodically with NRC managers to discuss issues related to the licensing of new nuclear power reactors. A list of meeting attendees is enclosed.

David Matthews, Director of the Division of New Reactor Licensing (DNRL) in the NRC's Office of New Reactors (NRO), provided information on the following topics:

- the organization of NRO and DNRL
- the final rulemaking for Part 52 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR Part 52), "Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants."
- the recommendations in the Report of the Combined License Review Task Force
- development of an NRO office instruction for the acceptance and technical sufficiency review process used to support decisions related to docketing a combined license application. The staff plans to issue a regulatory issue summary (RIS) upon finalizing the guidance in the office instruction.
- The NRC budget process and the need for applicants and potential applicants to provide to the NRC information related to their submittals. The NRC is preparing its budget for fiscal year 2010 and needs to develop planning assumptions related to the number and type of applications. Applicants that consider such information to be confidential commercial or financial information may request withholding of their plans under the provisions of 10 CFR 2.390, "Public inspections, exemptions, requests for withholding."

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Michael Mayfield, Director of NRO's Division of Engineering (DE), and Kimberly Gruss, Branch Chief of NRO/DE's Component Testing, Performance and Testing Branch, discussed challenges related to providing in applications the appropriate level of information for operating programs, specifically for inservice inspection and inservice testing programs.

The NPWG expressed concerns regarding the control of guidance included in regulatory guides and other staff guidance recently issued and currently being revised. Their concerns regard those changes beyond that necessary to address safety concerns and the impact of the changes on planning and developing their applications. This general concern was followed by a discussion of the changes to branch technical position (BTP) 7-12 on instrumentation setpoints, which the NPWG considers a specific example of unnecessary and unhelpful changes in an NRC guidance document.

The meeting concluded with a brief discussion between the NRC and NEI staffs on the status of several issues, including the development of guidance for access control during construction, application content related to probabilistic risk assessments, and measures to minimize contamination (10 CFR 20.1406).

The next meeting between the new plant working group and the NRC staff will be scheduled for October 2007.

Enclosure: List of Attendees

cc/encl: See next page

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New Plant Working Group Meeting
August 29, 2007
Attendance List

David Matthews	NRC/NRO/DNRL
Michael Mayfield	NRC/NRO/DE
James Lyons	NRC/NRO/DSER
David Aryes	NRC/NRO/DNRL
Kimberly Gruss	NRC/NRO/DE/CIB2
Bill Reckley	NRC/NRO/DNRL/NRGA
Gerry Gears	DOE
Adrian Heymer	NEI
Tony Pietrangelo	NEI
Russ Bell	NEI
Leslie Kass	NEI
Chris Earls	NEI
James Fisicaro	NEI
Scotty Hinnant	Progress Energy
Garry Miller	Progress Energy
J. A. (Buzz) Miller	Southern Nuclear
Eugene Grecheck	Dominion
Marilyn Kray	Exelon
Bryan Dolan	Duke Energy
Kevin Richards	STPNOC
Jack Bailey	TVA
Joe Mihalcik	Unistar Nuclear/Constellation
A. E. Scherer	SCE
Paul Hinnenkamp	Entergy
Don Woodlan	Luminant
David Harwood	Detroit Edison
Robert Regan	Detroit Edison

Enclosure

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Ed Cummins	Westinghouse
Ronnie Gardner	Areva
Patricia Campbell	GE Hitachi
Fumihiko Ishibashi	Toshiba
Ryuji Iwasaki	Toshiba
Gary Vine	EPRI
Jean Pierre Berger	EDF
John Polcyn	CH2M Hill
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Bob Coward	MPR
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