



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 16, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO: Almas G. Azeem, Acting Chief
Program Operations Branch
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Albert Wong, Senior Project Manager
Program Operations Branch
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE MEETING BETWEEN THE U.S. NUCLEAR
REGULATORY COMMISSION STAFF AND THE NUCLEAR
ENERGY INSTITUTE TO DISCUSS CURRENT LICENSE
RENEWAL TOPICS

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff) and representatives of the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) met on August 17, 2011, to discuss a range of current license renewal topics. Enclosed is a list of the meeting participants. The meeting agenda and NRC staff's presentation slides are available in the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under Accession No. ML11241A224. A summary of the meeting discussions follows:

1. Management's Opening Remarks

The NRC management provided an overview of the current Division of License Renewal organization. In addition, the recently issued NRC Fukushima Short Term Report on license renewal was also discussed.

2. Updates on Draft Interim Staff Guidance Documents

The status of five draft Interim Staff Guidance (D-ISG) documents was presented.

- a) Generic aging lessons learned (GALL) aging management program (AMP) XI.M41 – Buried and Underground Piping and Tanks, draft for comment expected to be issued in early November. In this D-ISG, the NRC staff included additional inspection and testing recommendations for plants that do not implement a cathodic protection system for their buried and underground piping and tanks in the period of extended operation.
- b) Aging Management in Treated Borated Water, draft for comment expected to be issued in early fall. The purpose was to clarify the existing guidance that inappropriately credits boron as a corrosion inhibitor for pressurized water reactors (PWR) and to align the aging management guidance for treated borated water systems with that of treated non-borated water systems.

- c) Wall Thinning Due to Mechanisms Other than Flow-Accelerated Corrosion (FAC), draft for comment expected to be issued in early 2012. NRC staff provided an overview of various wall thinning mechanisms within the scope of this D-ISG and changes to the GALL AMP XI.M17 Flow-Accelerated Corrosion.
- d) GALL AMP XI.M19 Steam Generators, draft for comment expected to be issued in early fall. This D-ISG informed the reader that reference to NEI 97-06 Steam Generator Program Guidelines has been updated from Revision 2 to Revision 3. Revision 3 was deemed acceptable by the NRC staff partly because the changes were principally administrative or corrective in nature, and no significant impacts to the applicants are expected.
- e) GALL AMP XI.M16A PWR Vessel Internals, draft for comment expected to be issued in early fall. This D-ISG (PWR Vessel Internals) provides guidance on aging management for PWR vessel internals now that the NRC staff has completed its safety evaluation report on the Electrical Power Research Institute (EPRI) *Materials Reliability Program: Pressurized Water Reactor Internals Inspection and Evaluation Guidelines* (MRP-227), including further evaluation sections in the Standard Review Plan for Review of License Renewal Applications for Nuclear Power Plants and program elements in GALL AMP XI.M16 PWR Vessel Internals.

The staff also provided responses to questions from industry, including the systems affected by the treated borated water D-ISG and the timing of issuing the PWR Vessel Internals D-ISG.

3. License Renewal Application (LRA) Consistency with the GALL Report

The staff presented the results of a study on license renewal application consistency with the NRC GALL Report. The study aimed to reduce the number of requests for additional information, and thereby improving review efficiency. In this study, the staff selectively reviewed the mechanical systems sections of four recently reviewed license renewal applications to ascertain if there was a gap between staff's and applicant's understanding of how consistency with the GALL Report ought to be interpreted. On a high level, the study revealed no significant gap; however, the staff did identify numerous areas where the applicant did not follow the GALL Report recommendations, but still claimed their AMP was consistent with the GALL recommendations. For example, one applicant proposed to use an AMP with a one-time inspection in lieu of the GALL recommendation of periodic inspection for the material, environment, aging effect/program of interest. The staff plans to document the insights gleaned from this study with additional examples in a Regulatory Information Summary (RIS). The expected issue date of this RIS is spring 2012.

4. On-going Review of Operating Experience

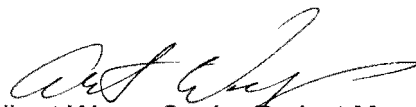
The NRC summarized recent activities related to how operating experience is considered on an ongoing basis for license renewal. Related requests for additional information and applicant responses were discussed. Concerning these responses, the staff highlighted the need to provide an appropriate summary description of the ongoing operating experience review activities for the final safety analysis report supplement. The staff also provided guidance on this area in its draft LR-ISG-2011-05, "Ongoing Review of Operating Experience" noticed in the Federal Register for public comments on August 24, 2011. The NRC provided an overview of this proposed guidance.

5. License Renewal: Severe Accident Mitigation Alternatives (SAMA)

The staff presented an overview of the SAMA analyses review process conducted as a part of the license renewal application review, the challenges facing the staff, and future improvements to the review process. The staff discussed common issues identified in SAMA reviews that challenge the review schedule (e.g., addressing considerations of SAMA's identified by other applicants) and future plans to ensure efficiency of the new process. The staff indicated plans to issue a RIS in early 2012. The industry inquired as to whether SAMA should be included in the future environmental audits.

6. Emergent Issues/Public Participation

The NRC provided an update on the status of the Generic Environmental Impact Statement rulemaking activities and revised schedule. One industry representative highlighted the progress of an EPRI-led environmentally affected fatigue screening process and the associated schedule of producing a draft report. No members of the public asked questions or provided comments at the meeting. The next license renewal public meeting with NEI and industry is tentatively scheduled on November 16, 2011.



Albert Wong, Senior Project Manager
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Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

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Meeting between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Staff
and the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) to Discuss
Current License Renewal Topics

PARTICIPANT LIST
August 17, 2011

NRC		Industry	
<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Auluck, Raj	NRR/DLR	Ahrabli, Reza	Entergy
Azeem, Almas	NRR/DLR	Beaumont, Mark	URS
Banic, Merilee	NRR/DPR	Blocher, Eric	STARS
Bauer, Laurel	NRR/DLR	Bremer, David	NPPD
Burke, John	NRC/RES	Chalk, Daniel	DOE
Butcavage, Alexander	RII	Cliché, Rick	NEXTERA
Cunanan, Arthur	NRR/DLR	Cubterc, Cliff	FEROC
Daily, John	NRR/DLR	Fulvio, Al	Exelon
Drucker, David	NRR/DLR	Gerber, David	Structural Integrity
Fu, Bart	NRR/DLR	Giachetti, Richard	Westinghouse
Galloway, Melanie	NRR/DLR	Harris, Tony	STARS
Gavula, James	NRR/DLR	Heath, Mike	Progress Energy
Gettys, Evelyn	NRR/DLR	Hornbuckle, Jon	SCE
Hiser, Allen	NRR/DLR	Ivy, Ted	Entergy
Holian, Brian	NRR/DLR	Kalinowski, Bob	AEP
Holston, William C.	NRR/DLR	Kelly, Gene	Exelon
Li, Rui	NRR/DLR	Krainik, AK	APS/PV
Meyer, Glenn	RI	Lach, David J.	Entergy
Morey, Dennis	NRR/DLR	Mostala, Abbas	Energy Northwest
Ng, Ching	NRR/DLR	Myer, Chalmer	STARS
Nguyen, Duc	NRR/DLR	Polaski, Fred	Polaski Consulting LLC
Pelton, David	NRR/DLR	Raleigl, Deann	Sciencetech
Pham, Bo	NRR/DLR	Rootes, James L.	Xcel Energy
Regner, Lisa	NRR/DLR	Sutton, Kathryn	Morgan Lewis
Sakai, Stacie	NRR/DLR	Tafazzoli, Massound	AREVA
Tate, Travis	NRR/DRA	Toney, Steve	Westinghouse
Thomas, Eric	NRR/DIRS	Van Buiten, Lee A.	Duane Morris
Vaucher, Rachel	NRO/DE	Victor, Bill	NPPD
Wise, John	NRR/DLR	Wright, Loyd	SCE
Wong, Albert	NRR/DLR		

ENCLOSURE

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DATE	09/16/2011	09/16/2011	09/16/2011	09/16/2011	09/16/2011

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