

July 31, 2012

MEMORANDUM TO: AFB File

FROM: Alexander R. Klein, Chief */RA/*  
Fire Protection Branch  
Division of Risk Assessment  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: CLOSE-OUT OF NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION  
STANDARD 805 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION 12-0063:  
FIRE BRIGADE MAKE-UP

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 805 Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) 12-0063, Revision 1. FAQ 12-0063, Revision 1 was proposed by the transition team at Progress Energy (the authors) to provide clarification regarding fire brigade staffing in light of the NRC's revision of the Emergency Preparedness Rule (10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E).

#### Industry Proposal

The authors of FAQ 12-0063, Revision 1 proposed additional guidance to be included in the industry document developed to provide guidance to perform the NFPA 805 transition process, Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) document NEI 04-02, "Guidance for Implementing a Performance-Based, Risk-Informed Fire Protection Program Under *10 CFR 50.48(c)*" (NEI 04-02). The proposal adds an additional section to Appendix K of that document.

The proposal provides guidance stating that the fire brigade members and primary support personnel shall have no other assigned normal plant duties that would prevent immediate response to a fire or other emergency. Additionally, these personnel should be excluded from assignment to on-shift non-fire brigade Emergency Response Organization (ERO) positions. Additionally, such assignments must not overburden the on-shift staffing to ensure all ERO functions are met.

Finally, guidance is provided concerning conditions where the fire brigade complement may be less than the minimum requirement for a period of time, for example, to accommodate unexpected absence of on-duty shift members. Two options are addressed by the FAQ:

1. If a licensee's current technical specifications or fire protection safety evaluation address the issue, prior NRC approval may be claimed.
2. If prior NRC approval has not been granted, the licensee should seek NRC approval in the NFPA 805 license amendment request (LAR).

In short, either the previously NRC approved program is carried forward, or specific NRC approval is sought in the NFPA 805 LAR.

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NRC Staff Evaluation

The staff has reviewed the proposed changes to NEI 04-02 as presented in FAQ 12-0063, Revision 1 and finds that nothing in this FAQ would prevent continued endorsement of NEI 04-02. In accordance with RIS 2007-19, the guidance in this FAQ is acceptable for use by licensees in transition. The final endorsement of this FAQ will be addressed by the next revision to Regulatory Guide 1.205.

References

For details regarding this FAQ, please see the following:

- FAQ 12-0063, Revision 0 (Agency-wide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML120540268)
- NRC Staff Response to FAQ 12-0063, Revision 0 (ADAMS Accession Number ML121160048)
- FAQ 12-0063, Revision 1 (ADAMS Accession Number ML121670141)
- NEI 04-02, Revision 2 (ADAMS accession number ML081130188)
- NFPA 805, 2001 Edition (available through the Public Document Room or NFPA)
- Regulatory Guide 1.205, Revision 1 (ADAMS accession number ML092730314)
- RIS 2007-19 (ADAMS accession number ML071590227)

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