

May 1, 2015

ORGANIZATION: National Organization of Test, Research, and Training Reactors

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 26, 2015, MEETING WITH THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF TEST, RESEARCH, AND TRAINING REACTORS

On February 26, 2015, a Category 2 public meeting was held between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff and the National Organization of Test, Research, and Training Reactors (TRTR) at NRC Headquarters, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, via teleconference. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss results from the recent NRC Commission Meeting on Research and Test Reactors, upcoming meetings, solicitations for comments on NRC communications, and other items of interest to the TRTR community. A list of attendees is provided as an enclosure. The following is a description of the topics covered by the NRC staff and the TRTR community.

Meetings relevant to the interests of the TRTR community:

March 10-12, 2015, RIC 2015 Session "Unique Aspects of Regulating Research and Test Reactors" designed to answer the question "What improvements are underway in research and test reactor regulation and technologies and how do these reactors support U.S. scientific and engineering research?" Presentations included: research and test reactor licensing (NRC); validation and verification of thermal hydraulics codes for research and test reactors (NRC); conversions from high enriched to low enriched uranium and efforts to support Moly-99 (DOE NNSA); research performed at RTRs (University of Missouri Research Reactor); and international coordination efforts for RTRs, including the interface between safety and security (IAEA). Presentations can be viewed via the URL: https://ric.nrc-gateway.gov/docs/abstracts/SessionAbstract_40.htm

Upcoming: October 5-9, 2015, TRTR Annual Conference, hosted by MIT to be held in Cape Cod. NRC staff plans to have a public meeting at the conference on streamlining RTR licensing.

The NRC staff offered the opportunity to provide input related to the Japan Lessons Learned Directorate. Solicitation was sought for input to an upcoming paper to the Commission related to the applicability of Fukushima lessons-learned to research and test reactors and other regulated facilities other than power reactors. Part of the March 13, 2015, public meeting on this topic was set aside for RTR concerns, and comments were due on that date.

A January 2015 revision to NUREG 2155, Rev. 1 is available. The NUREG provides guidance and assistance to applicants and licensees in the implementation of 10 CFR Part 37, "Physical Protection of Category 1 and Category 2 Quantities of Radioactive Material." This document describes methods that the NRC finds acceptable for implementing the regulations. See <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/staff/sr2155/>.

On January 26, 2015, an FRN was published to renew the OMB clearance for NRC Form 396, "Certification of Medical Examination by Facility Licensee". The clearance for the current form expires on 4/30/2015. The new Form 396 will require the signature of the licensed operator to acknowledge and agree with the medical information on the form. When the OMB clearance is approved, the revised form will become effective and will be required for all applications (new, upgrade and renewal). Current Form 396, regardless of the expiration date, should be used until the revised form is approved and published. It is attached to this meeting summary and can be downloaded using this link: <http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/doc-comment/omb/3150-0024-form-396.pdf>. The TRTR community will be notified when the revised form is approved and available for use.

The final Generic Letter (GL) on Monitoring of Neutron Absorbing Material in Spent Fuel Pools is scheduled to be issued in June 2015. This GL is applicable to a limited number of RTR licensees. In preparation of the review of the final GL, the affected licensees are encouraged to review the Draft Generic Letter NRC-2014-0040, Federal Register, Vol. 79, No. 47 / Tuesday, March 11, 2014, <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-03-11/pdf/2014-05236.pdf>.

The NRC has started a new cyber security initiative for RTRs and will be conducting site visits in the near future. The purpose is to study the safety and control systems at RTRs to better understand potential vulnerabilities associated with digital components upgrades. In addition to staff from the NRC and the NRC contractor, the team will include a member of TRTR.

On December 29, 2014, the NRC issued Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) 2014-14, "Clarification Of Information Security Requirements For Non-Power Reactor Licensees," to remind certain non-power reactor licensees of NRC requirements associated with the control of sensitive unclassified information, including the protection of safeguards information (SGI) and other security-related information. Licensees will find that information in this RIS and in DG-SGI-1, "Designation Guide for Safeguards Information" will assist in determining appropriate actions to avoid inadvertent release or unauthorized disclosure. DG-SGI-1 was e-mailed to all licensees on 12/17/14.

Draft Regulatory Guide DG-5027 (Proposed Revision 1 of Regulatory Guide 5.12, dated November 1973) "General Use of Locks in Protection and Control of Facilities and Special Nuclear Materials, Classified Matter, and Safeguards Information," describes methods and procedures that the staff NRC considers acceptable for the selection, use, and control of locking devices in the protection of areas, facilities, and specific types of information (e.g. classified matter, National Security Information (NSI), Restricted Data (RD), Formerly Restricted Data (FRD), Safeguards Information (SGI), and Special Nuclear Material (SNM)). Applicants and licensees may voluntarily use the guidance in this document to demonstrate compliance with the underlying NRC regulations. Licensees may use the information in this regulatory guide for actions that do not require NRC review and approval. However, voluntarily using the subject matter in the guidance may change a licensee's security plan such that NRC review may be required, and should be evaluated prior to incorporating the methods into the security plan. DG-5027 may be viewed on <http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1400/ML14002A224.pdf>.

Other topics at this meeting included: an update on the development of new guidance for digital instrumentation and control upgrades; upcoming changes to the guidance for pH and conductivity technical specifications; and an update on 10 CFR Part 73 rulemaking (the draft regulatory basis is final; the proposed rule will be issued in 18-24 months.)

Upcoming 2015 public meetings between NRC and TRTR are scheduled for the following dates: May 19, August 18, and November 17, 2015.

A public meeting notice was issued on February 5, 2015, posted on the NRC's public web page, and can be found in ADAMS under Accession No. ML15034A063.

Please direct any inquiries to me at 301-415-3398 or via e-mail at Cindy.Montgomery@nrc.gov.

/RA/

Cindy Montgomery, Project Manager
Research and Test Reactors Licensing Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
List of Attendees

cc w/encl: See next page

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**ADAMS Accession Nos.: Package: ML15097A416; Meeting Notice: ML15034A063;
Meeting Summary: ML15097A274**

NRC-001

| OFFICE | NRR/DPR/PLPB | NRR/DPR/PLPB | NRR/DPR/PLPB |
|--------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| NAME | CMontgomery | AAdams | CMontgomery |
| DATE | 4/13/2015 | 4/14/2015 | 5/1/2015 |

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

LIST OF ATTENDEES

THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF TEST, RESEARCH, AND TRAINING REACTORS

FEBRUARY 26, 2015

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Organization</u> |
|------------------|--|
| Thomas Newton | Massachusetts Institute of Technology |
| Edward Lau | Massachusetts Institute of Technology |
| Susan Tucker | Massachusetts Institute of Technology |
| Mark Trump | Pennsylvania State University |
| Dan Cronin | University of Florida |
| Jere Jenkins | Thermo-Fischer |
| Dan Thomas | General Electric |
| Ryan Schow | Utah |
| Kevin Hsueh | U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) |
| Patrick Isaac | NRC |
| Elizabeth Reed | NRC |
| Mike Balazik | NRC |
| Ossy Font | NRC |
| Alexander Adams | NRC |
| Gregory Bowman | NRC |
| Mirela Gavrilas | NRC |
| John Adams | NRC |
| Cindy Montgomery | NRC |
| Spyros Traiforos | NRC |
| Xiaosong Yin | NRC |
| Geoff Wertz | NRC |
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Enclosure

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