

EPFAQ Number: 2015-015

Date Accepted for Review: 04-DEC-15

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Organization: NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Relevant Guidance: NEI 99-01 REV. 6

Applicable Section(s): EALs SA1, SS1, SG1, CU2, & CA2

Status: Public Comment Period

QUESTION OR COMMENT:

Should EALs SA1 and CU2 contain a list of power sources applicable for consideration and describe the criteria for what sources may be credited? In addition, should guidance be included to explain why a list of sources is not necessary for EALs SS1 (CA2) and SG1 as these EALs are for a loss of ALL sources?

PROPOSED SOLUTION:

The industry has no objection to including a list of applicable power sources in Initiating Conditions SA1 and CU2, and not including a similar list in Initiating Conditions SS1, CA2 and SG1. It appears that the proposed approach would also apply to Initiating Condition SG8.

Following the selection of a solution by the staff, the industry would like to have an opportunity to provide input on recommended Basis and Developer Note information to be included in the final EP FAQ as these are important for consistent implementation. We anticipate providing this input during the public comment period.

Consistent with the guidance in Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) 2003-18, Supplement 2, *Use of Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) 99-01, "Methodology for Development of Emergency Action Levels," Revision 4*, dated January 2003, it is reasonable to conclude that the change proposed above would be considered as a "difference."

NRC RESPONSE:

The staff agrees that a table listing available power sources is acceptable and expected for EALs CU2 and SA1 (from NEI 99-01 Revision 6) as long as these power sources are:

- Adequately maintained in an appropriate maintenance program;
- Are able to assume the full load of the (applicable) emergency buses within approximately 15-minutes.

The staff understands that the primary point of emphasis for EALs CA2, SS1, SG1, and SG8 is a complete loss of power (for the applicable time duration) and that a list of readily available power sources may lead to event declarations when mitigative strategies are effective in reestablishing emergency power to these buses. In other words, if a list of power sources is provided for these EALs, and those sources are unavailable, then an EAL decision-maker would be compelled to declare events even if mitigative strategies using other power sources are effective. It is not necessary to document these power sources for these EALs as the EAL is not concerned with the power source as much as the power loss to the emergency bus.

In summary, the staff only considers EALs SA1 and CU2, as numbered in NEI 99-01 Revision 6, as needing a table of readily available onsite AC power sources. EAL SU1 may list the offsite AC power sources if desired. EALs CA2, SS1, SG1, and SG8 do not need to list the sources.

This is considered a "deviation" in accordance with Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) 2003-18, Supplement 2, *"Use of Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) 99-01, Methodology for Development of Emergency Action Levels, Revision 4,"* dated January 2003, as it may impact EAL declaration

timing for those licensees seeking to change the applicable EALs via 10 CFR 50.54(q). For those licensees seeking to adopt this EPFAQ when submitting a license amendment request for an EAL scheme change, via App. E to 10 CFR 50, then the distinction between a “difference” or a “deviation” is irrelevant as NRC approval is needed regardless.