

## **U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Public Meeting Summary**

November 18, 2016

**Title:** Public Meeting to Discuss the Need for a Rule for Risk-Informed Decoupling of Assumed Loss-Of-Offsite Power from Loss-Of-Coolant Accident Analysis

**Meeting Identifier:** 20161337

**Date of Meeting:** Wednesday, October 26, 2016

**Location:** NRC Headquarters, Rockville, Maryland

**Type of Meeting:** Category 2

### **Purpose of the Meeting(s):**

To provide an opportunity for external stakeholders and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff to exchange information on the need for a rulemaking action to risk-inform decoupling of assumed loss-of-offsite power (LOOP) from the loss-of-coolant accident (LOCA) analysis (LOOP/LOCA rule). This meeting afforded external stakeholders an opportunity to ask the NRC staff clarifying and amplifying questions on the LOOP/LOCA rulemaking effort. Further, this meeting provided an opportunity for external stakeholders and the NRC staff to exchange information on the need for the proposed rulemaking to facilitate a more accurate and complete understanding by all parties on the subject matter.

### **General Details:**

The purpose of the LOOP/LOCA rule is to risk-inform the emergency core cooling system (ECCS) functional reliability requirements in General Design Criterion (GDC) 35, "Emergency Core Cooling," of Appendix A, to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50, "Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities," and thus relax the current analysis requirements for considering a LOOP to occur, coincident with a large-break LOCA.

The public meeting was held at the NRC Headquarters in Rockville, Maryland, and it was attended by five members of the public. An additional 17 individuals remotely participated in the meeting through audio teleconferencing. The meeting was scheduled from 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Seven NRC staff members were also present in the room or through audio teleconferencing. The meeting began with an introduction of NRC staff and a review of the meeting ground rules, followed by a short review of the LOOP/LOCA rulemaking history by Mr. Robert Beall, NRC Division of Policy and Rulemaking, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. Mr. Stephen Dinsmore, NRC Division of Risk Assessment, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, then reviewed the staff's outstanding technical issues associated with the LOOP/LOCA rule followed by Mr. Michael Tschiltz, Director – Risk Assessment, Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), providing the industry's perspectives on the proposed rulemaking.

## **Summary of Presentations:**

Mr. Beall discussed the history of the LOOP/LOCA rulemaking and its current status. Mr. Beall emphasized that the meeting was intended to inform and better enable stakeholders to provide feedback on the need for the LOOP/LOCA rulemaking. Mr. Dinsmore then discussed a licensing topical report (LTR) that was submitted to the NRC in 2004 by the Boiling Water Reactor Owners Group (BWROG). The BWROG withdrew the LTR in 2008 stating that the implementation costs would be prohibitively expensive. Mr. Dinsmore then addressed the actions required for the staff and Industry to resume the LOOP/LOCA rulemaking. These actions included addressing the unresolved LTR issues and obtaining Commission approval to develop a LOOP/LOCA regulatory basis.

Next, Mr. Tschiltz presented the industry's feedback on the need for the LOOP/LOCA rulemaking. Mr. Tschiltz stated that NEI reached out to both the BWROG and Pressurized Reactor Owners Group (PWROG), and other interested Licensees. Mr. Tschiltz indicated that the reasons stated back in 2008 concerning the withdrawal of the LTR are still valid and a LOOP/LOCA rule would not be cost-effective for the industry. NEI believes that there are other risk initiatives that would be more beneficial that the staff should direct resources to, such as the 10 CFR 50.69 applications, and the risk informed technical specifications 4b and 5b. Once these initiatives are in place, a LOOP/LOCA rule would have limited benefit to the industry. Mr. Roy Linthicum from the PWROG and Mr. Bob Rishel from the BWROG confirmed the statements from Mr. Tschiltz on the limited benefits of the LOOP/LOCA rulemaking, now as well as in the future.

Mr. Beall closed the meeting by stating the NRC staff will consider the feedback from the meeting and recommended that members of the public monitor the [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) website under docket ID NRC-2008-0602 for correspondence between the staff and the Commission on the need for a LOOP/LOCA rulemaking.

## **Public Participation Themes:**

During the public question and answer session of the meeting, NRC staff discussed questions on the following topics:

- The use of regulatory guide 1.200, "An Approach for Determining the Technical Adequacy of Probabilistic Risk Assessment Results for Risk-Informed Activities," for a LOOP/LOCA rulemaking; and
- The need for a LOOP/LOCA rulemaking after the other risk informed initiatives have been completed.

**Action Items/Next Steps:**

NRC staff will consider the comments provided during this meeting to determine the staff's recommendation to the Commission on the need of a LOOP/LOCA rulemaking.

**Attachments:**

- Meeting agenda - ML16286A125
- NRC Slides – ML16280A364
- NEI Slides – ML16301A015
- Meeting transcript - ML16312A089

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| OFFICE | NRR/DPR/PRMB: PM | NRR/DPR/PRMB: RS | NRR/DPR/PRMB: BC |
| NAME   | RBeall           | GLappert         | MKhanna          |
| DATE   | 11/09/2016       | 11/14/2016       | 11/14/2016       |

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