

CHAIRMAN Resource

From: Tom Gurdziel <tgurdziel@twcny.rr.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2018 11:28 PM
To: CHAIRMAN Resource
Cc: Screnci, Diane; 'Ed Stronski'; Bridget Frymire; DLochbaum@ucsusa.org
Subject: [External_Sender] NRC Transformation Meeting on 10/29/2018

Good morning,

I don't have enough time to listen tonight to this entire meeting. I got to the end of the first panel at 2:03:07. I have a few things to say.

At about 1:25 I heard a comment about a need to evaluate reinforcing steel out of position. This should not have been a surprise. When United Engineers & Constructors was building in Pennsylvania, each rebar deviation (on the containment) was identified and brought to the design engineer's (Burns & Roe, Inc.) attention for approval before concrete was poured. (Actually, the preferred term would be "placed" not poured). The method used was for the ironworker foreman to tell and show the area engineer. The area engineer would put it down in writing with preferably two suggested resolutions. The paper used was called an "Engineering & Design Change Request". The turnaround time was two weeks but, in special occasions (not to exceed about once a month), the on-site based engineer's representative would get the response done in three days.

(One good reason for the rebar clearance problems was that, when a mechanical splice between two reinforcing bars was physically cut out to be tested to failure, two replacement mechanical splices would need to be installed, one on each end of the replacement bar.)

Anyway, the point here is this: do you think that because there was strict adherence to ACI standards, the concrete containment at Three Mile Island, Unit 2 held when it experienced an accident?

SORCA was mentioned as an acceptable guide at 1:21:37. If transformation is to be successful, the US NRC will have to stop worshipping work done in the past without subjecting the work to a questioning attitude. In this case, I think you will find that the SORCA conditions do not reflect conditions existing at Fukushima. Perhaps a quick idea can be picked up from the book "Fukushima, The Story of A Nuclear Disaster", page 213, second full paragraph down. The margins of SORCA do not exist in the real world.

Finally, as we ask ourselves if we are focused on the right things, (1:43:45), let me suggest that the right thing appears, to me, to get productive and finished on the needed regulations or guidance for applying digital I & C to operating plants before the end of 2019. That needs to come first.

Thank you,

Tom Gurdziel



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