



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 21, 2019

MEMORANDUM TO: John B. Giessner, Deputy Regional Administrator  
Region III

FROM: Timothy A. Reed, Senior Project Manager */RA/*  
Special Projects and Process Branch  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF AUGUST 7, 2019, MEETING WITH NUCLEAR  
ENERGY INSTITUTE AND INDUSTRY REGARDING LOW SAFETY  
SIGNIFICANT ISSUE RESOLUTION (EPID L-2019-PMP-0002)

On August 7, 2019, a Category 2 public meeting was held between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and representatives of Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and industry at NRC Headquarters, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The purpose of the meeting was to provide and update to the NRC's plans for low safety significant issue resolution (LSSIR). The meeting notice and agenda, dated July 19, 2019, are available in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at Accession No. ML19200A033. A list of attendees is enclosed.

The meeting closely followed the agenda as outlined in the meeting notice. The NRC staff presented an update on the progress of the ongoing agency initiative for resolving low safety significant issues. The NRC staff's presentation slides can be found at ADAMS Accession No. ML19217A253. Following the staff's presentation, NEI presented its ideas on the resolution of low safety significant issues and NEI's slides can be found at ADAMS Accession No. ML19219A010. In addition, NEI provided a white paper discussing a suggested approach for considering safety significance that focused on showing the issue of concern is "not high." The white paper can be found at ADAMS Accession No. ML19218A134. The following points were discussed during the meeting:

- The NRC discussed the plan for addressing very low safety significant issues in the Reactor Oversight Process inspection manual issue screening and documentation processes.
- NRC staff indicated that a stance of "not high" might be appropriate when an issue is very likely to wind up in backfit space, but prior to this, such a bar could prematurely screen issues that would result in regulatory action;
- NEI clarified that should their proposal be pursued, they envision an underlying basis document that would seek to improve consistency and reduce subjectivity in use of the proposed questions;

- All parties agreed that documenting issue resolution (either on the NRC side, the licensee side, or both) is key to ensuring determinations are sufficiently durable, and while options were discussed, no particular conclusion was reached;
- All parties agreed that explorations of safety significance need to be retained and relayed throughout an issue's lifecycle (e.g., from the inspection process to a subsequent license amendment request) such that work is not unnecessarily repeated; and
- NEI expressed a desire to meet again in the September time frame to discuss in more detail the LSSIR interconnection with the ongoing staff efforts to improve the Technical Interface Agreement process.

Members of the public were in attendance. Public comments made during the meeting were addressed at the meeting. Public Meeting Feedback forms were not received.

Please direct any inquiries to Tim Reed at 301-415-1462 or [Tim.Reed@nrc.gov](mailto:Tim.Reed@nrc.gov).

Enclosure:  
List of Attendees

LIST OF ATTENDEES

AUGUST 7, 2019, MEETING WITH NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE AND INDUSTRY

LOW SAFETY SIGNIFICANT ISSUE RESOLUTION

NRC Participants

John Giessner  
Tim Reed  
Carleen Parker\*  
Booma Venkataraman  
Shaun Anderson  
Don Helton  
Steve Jones  
Phil McKenna\*  
Kayla Gamin  
Eric Bowman  
Fred Schofer  
Robert Krsek

Industry Participants

Andrew Mauer (NEI)  
Tim Riti (NEI)  
Greg Krueger (NEI)  
Doug True (NEI)  
Marty Murphy (Xcel Energy)  
John Giddens (Entergy)\*

Members of the Public

Jana Bergman (Curtiss-Wright)  
Carlos Sisco (Winston & Strawn) \*  
Mike O'Keefe (Certrec)\*

\*- Participated by telephone

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF AUGUST 7, 2019, MEETING WITH NUCLEAR ENERGY  
INSTITUTE AND INDUSTRY REGARDING LOW SAFETY SIGNIFICANT ISSUE  
RESOLUTION (EPID L-2019-PMP-0002) DATED AUGUST 21, 2019

**DISTRIBUTION:**

PUBLIC	TReed, NRR
PM File Copy	CParker, NRR
RidsACRS_MailCTR Resource	PMcKenna, NRR
DDodson, EDO RI, RII, RIII, RIV	BVenkataraman, NRR
RidsNrrDorl Resource	SJones, NRR
RidsNrrDorlLspb Resource	KStoedter, RIII
RidsNrrLAJBurkhardt Resource	DHelton, NRR
RidsOpaMail Resource	SAnderson, NRR
RidsRgn1MailCenter Resource	EDiPaolo, RI
RidsRgn2MailCenter Resource	BCorrell, RIV
RidsRgn3MailCenter Resource	KGamin, OGC
RidsRgn4MailCenter Resource	MSimon, OGC
DScrenci, OPA RI	NHilton, OE
RHannah, OPA RII	LDudes, RII
VMitlyng, OPA RIII	HNieh, NRR
VDricks, OPA RIV	ABilloch, EDO
JJohnston, NRR	

**ADAMS Accession No.: ML19226A316**

\*via e-mail

OFFICE	OE/HQAT	NRR/DORL/LSPB/LA*	NRR/DORL/LSPB/BC	NRR/DORL/LSPB/PM
NAME	CParker	JBurkhardt	MOrenak (A)	TReed
DATE	08/19/19	08/15/19	08/19/19	08/19/19
OFFICE	NRR/DORL/DD	RIII/DRA*	NRR/DORL/LSPB/PM	
NAME	JHeisserer (A)	JGiessner	TReed	
DATE	08/20/19	08/20/19	08/21/19	

**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**