



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

June 22, 2020

MEMORANDUM TO: Dennis C. Morey, Chief
Licensing Projects Branch
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Leslie C. Fields, Sr. Project Manager /RA/
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Division of Operator Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE DECEMBER 3, 2019, PUBLIC MEETING
BETWEEN THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION AND
THE NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE CODES AND STANDARDS TASK
FORCE (EPID: L-2019-LRO-0092)

On December 3, 2019, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) held a public meeting with representatives from the newly formed Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) Codes and Standards Task Force (CSTF) to discuss technical topics and administrative processes for future interactions. The information discussed during the meeting included: 1) treatment of buried pipes and tanks; 2) verification of valve obturator position; 3) simplification of Title 10 *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50.55(a); 4) streamlining initiatives presented by NRC's EMBARK Venture Studio,¹ and 5) future planning. Public information related to this meeting, including the meeting notice, agenda, presentation, and list of attendees can be found in the Agency-wide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Package Accession No. ML20043D790.

During opening remarks, it was mentioned that the process by which the NRC endorses industry consensus standards may be a potential area for transformative change. The NRC expressed that there is an increasing interest in discussing a new effort initiated under the umbrella of NRC's EMBARK Venture Studio to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of how the NRC endorses Codes and Standards. NEI communicated that the mission of the task force is "to ensure licensee and regulatory activities implemented through codes and standards' committees are consistent with nuclear industry policies and interests, and consistent with the Principles of Good Regulation." NEI also provided information regarding the scope and objective of the task force in addition to other relevant topics as a part of their presentation.

Licensees provided examples of the buried pipe program success, results from supplemental position indication testing, and suggestions for simplifying rule changes. Each topic discussed provided a summary of recommendations for NRC to consider as a path for going forward.

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¹ EMBARK Venture Studio is an NRC transformation team created to remove barriers to innovation.

NRC staff mentioned that a public workshop on the topic, NRC's 10CFR 50.55a improvement initiative will be scheduled for the first quarter of 2020. In addition, the NRC stated that an information session on the topic of transforming the American Society of Mechanical Engineers code has been scheduled for NRC's 2020 Regulatory Information Conference.

Docket No. 99902028

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