



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

April 4, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO: L. Joseph Callan
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Denwood F. Ross, Jr., Chairman
Committee to Review Generic Requirements

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE CRGR MEETING NUMBER 302 (Part II)

The Committee to Review Generic Requirements (CRGR) met on Tuesday, February 25, 1997 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. A list of attendees is provided in Attachment 1.

R. Jones, J. Kudrick, and R. Lobel (NRR) presented for the CRGR review and endorsement the proposed generic letter on "Potential for Degradation of Emergency Core Cooling System Recirculation Due to Construction Deficiencies and Foreign Material in the Containment Following a Loss-of-Coolant Accident." Also, R. Elliott briefed the Committee on the status of the licensee responses to Bulletin's 95-02 and 96-03, and subsequent staff actions.

The CRGR commented that the 19 or so relevant NRC generic communications issued over the past dozen years were not fully effective, as incidents involving debris and potential degradation of the ECCS continue to be reported. Therefore, the Committee recommended that the NRC needs to take a stronger stance on the subject, such as targeted inspections and escalated enforcement. It was agreed that the staff will re-write the generic letter (1) with a greater emphasis on the fact that the licensees are required to ensure the operability of the structures and components in order to comply with the provisions of the ECCS Rule (10 CFR 50.46) and the Maintenance Rule (10 CFR 50.65)¹; (2) to make it clear that NRC regards these lapses serious and is willing to focus necessary inspection resources to verify licensee compliance with the existing regulations; and (3) that escalated enforcement actions may be taken when warranted. The staff had agreed to re-submit the revised generic letter reflecting the CRGR recommendations. At the meeting the Committee agreed that the revised letter will be circulated to the CRGR members for endorsement, by negative consent.

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09-7-1997
X-504-6 meeting

¹The cognizant staff, after discussion with the other staff in NRR, added for CRGR presentation and the ensuing discussion on the proposed generic letter at the CRGR meeting, the requirement for compliance with the Maintenance Rule, along with the compliance with the requirements of the ECCS Rule as originally drafted.

97-70

Subsequently, the CRGR staff was informed that the staff is re-drafting the generic letter by expanding the scope of the originally proposed generic letter to also include problems encountered with the use of unqualified paints and coatings in the containment. Also, the revised generic letter has retained some 50.54(f) information request feature to enable the NRC staff to verify licensee compliance with existing regulations. However, since the scope, contents and tone of the modified generic letter has apparently changed so much since its original version, the staff has also requested a CRGR re-review at a future CRGR meeting. The CRGR has agreed to a re-review. Attachment 2 contains the details.

Also at the CRGR Meeting No. 302, the Committee reviewed the general Regulatory Guide (DG-1061) and the associated Standard Review Plan for risk-informed regulation. With the CRGR Chairman's approval, the CRGR staff has combined Part I of the minutes of Meeting No. 302 with those of Meeting No. 303; at the latter meeting on March 11, 1997, the Committee reviewed the application-specific regulatory guides and the associated Standard Review Plans. These combined minutes were issued on April 3, 1997.

In accordance with the EDO's July 18, 1983, directive concerning "Feedback and Closure of CRGR Review," a written response is required from the cognizant office to report agreement or disagreement with the CRGR recommendations in these minutes. The response is to be forwarded to the CRGR Chairman and if there is disagreement with the CRGR recommendations, to the EDO for decision making.

Questions concerning these meeting minutes should be referred to Raji Tripathi (415-7584).

Attachments: As stated

cc: Commission (5)
SECY
J. Lieberman, OE
E. Halman, ADM
H. Bell, OIG
K. Cyr, OGC
J. Larkins, ACRS
Office Directors
Regional Administrators, RI/RII/RIII/RIV
CRGR Members
G. Holahan, NRR
B. Sheron, NRR

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Regional Administrators, RI/RII/RIII/RIV	
CRGR Members	G. Holahan, NRR
B. Sheron, NRR	

Distribution of CRGR Minutes 302 (Part II)

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J. Mitchell	C. Berlinger	R. Tripathi
A. Thadani	R. Lobe	J. Shapaker
W. Burton	J. Meadoff	G. Lainas
A. Serkiz	J. Kudrick	R. Elliott
M. Marshall		

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