

December 18, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO: Doug W. Weaver, Branch Chief
Guidance, Infrastructure and Financial Review Branch
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

FROM: William D. Reckley, Project Manager */RA/*
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SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER 29, 2006, PUBLIC MEETING WITH
INDUSTRY'S NEW PLANT WORKING GROUP

On November 29, 2006, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff met in a public meeting with representatives from the new plant working group. The new plant working group consists of management representatives from potential applicants, reactor vendors, and the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and meets periodically with NRC managers to discuss issues related to the licensing of new nuclear power reactors. The meeting agenda is provided as Enclosure 1 and the list of meeting attendees is provided in Enclosure 2.

The attendees discussed the concept of a construction oversight program, which was raised during a meeting of the NRC Commissioners in October 2006. The new plant working group stated that they did not see a need for an oversight program similar to the reactor oversight program (ROP) used for operating reactors. The new plant working group and the participating NRC staff agreed that the expected regulatory oversight during construction could be better explained to the public. The NRC activities will include the required programs for inspections, tests, analyses, and acceptance criteria (ITAAC) as well as other NRC inspections and assessments and the startup test program. The NRC staff and new plant working group agreed to have a followup meeting on this topic. The NRC staff is coordinating with NEI and expects to sponsor a public meeting on the construction inspection program in January 2007.

The NRC staff provided a status report on the updating of the standard review plan (SRP) and regulatory guides. While acknowledging some intermediate schedule milestones have been missed, the staff reiterated that the NRC expects to issue the SRP update by March 31, 2007. The new plant working group requested additional information regarding the status of the SRP update and related revisions to regulatory guides. The NRC staff periodically posts updates to the SRP and regulatory guides on its public website:

www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/col-appl-guide.html

The NRC staff agreed to include additional information about the status of the various SRP sections in future postings on the website. There was a brief discussion about draft regulatory guide (DG) 1170, "Fire Protection for Nuclear Power Plants," but it was agreed that the

new plant working group would coordinate its activities with other industry efforts related to fire protection. A separate meeting on DG-1170 was scheduled for December 5, 2006.

The new plant working group expressed its concerns about NRC proposals for drug and alcohol testing programs during construction. The working group suggested a followup meeting to one held in early November on the NRC's planned changes to the fitness of duty regulations in Part 26 to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR Part 26). The NRC staff from the Office of New Reactors (NRO) committed to discussing the possibility of a public meeting with the NRC Offices of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR) and Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR). The NRC staff subsequently informed NEI that it was not practical to have a public meeting before the rulemaking package was forwarded to the NRC's Executive Director for Operations (EDO).

The NRC staff discussed possible improvements to preparations for and pre-application discussions of environmental reviews for applications for early site permits and combined licenses. The coordination of communications and interactions with state and local agencies was provided as an example. The staff and new plant working group agreed to continue the discussions at a future joint design center working group meeting (the meeting was held on December 7, 2006). A short discussion occurred regarding a question from the new plant working group on the possible use of topical reports related to environmental issues for new reactor sites. The staff's initial response was that methodologies or other generic topics might be addressed by a topical report but the NRC could not undertake site-specific environmental reviews before receiving an application for a combined license or early site permit.

The new plant working group and NRC staff discussed the use of generic topical reports to address subjects common to multiple design centered working groups. Generic topical reports have or will be submitted to address security, radiation protection, training, emergency action levels (EALs), maintenance rule, and quality assurance. The new plant working group explained that future generic topical reports would be submitted by NEI. The NRC staff asked about the generic status of recently submitted Unistar topical reports on Security and Emergency Planning (EP). NEI confirmed that the Unistar Security Plan topical and the Emergency Action Levels part of the Unistar EP topical are based on, and consistent with, generic industry templates submitted by NEI. NEI clarified that in the EP area, only EALs are being addressed generically. NEI said that the other DCWGs will each be submitting Security Plan topicals based on the generic NEI template, and that E-Plans submitted by each applicant will reflect use of generic NEI templates for EALs (NEI 99-01 for traditional plants; NEI 07-01 (future) for passive plants).

The meeting closed with brief discussions of ongoing activities in the areas of digital instrumentation and control and rulemaking activities. The next meeting between the new plant working group and the NRC staff will be scheduled for early 2007.

Enclosures: 1. Meeting Agenda
2. List of Attendees

cc: See next page

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Meeting Agenda
November 29, 2006
Industry Working Group - Combined License Applications

- Introductions
- Idea of a "Construction Oversight Program"
- SRP and Reg Guide Update Status & Schedules
 - Overall
 - DG-1170 (Fire Protection)
- Access Controls and Fitness for Duty During Construction
- Environmental Reviews - Pre-application Activities & Interactions
- Generic Topical Reports
- Other Discussion

New Plant Working Group Meeting
November 29, 2006
Attendance List

Bill Borchardt	NRC/NRO
Glenn Tracy	NRC/NRO/DCIP
Jim Lyons	NRC/NRO/DSER
David Matthews	NRC/NRO/DNRL
Tom Bergman	NRC/NRO/DNRL
Bill Reckley	NRC/NRO/DNRL
Tony Pietrangelo	NEI
Gene Grecheck	Dominion
Marilyn Kray	Nustart
Bryan Dolan	Duke Energy
Adrian Heymer	NEI
Steven Dolley	Platts
Leslie Kass	NEI
Ron Affolter	Areva
Russ Bell	NEI
Anne Cottingham	NEI
Ruiji Imasaki	Toshiba
John Vorees	Bechtel
Charles Ader	NRC/NRO/DSRA
Tyson Smith	Winston & Strawn
Brian Banks	Schnabel Engineering
Phil Ray	NRC/NRO
John Misiag	SeBS
Stephanie Coffin	NRC/NRO/DNRL
Joseph Colaccino	NRC/NRO/DNRL

Robert Radlinski	NRC/NRR/DRA
Mary Ann Ashley	NRC/NRO/DCIP
Garry Miller	Progress Energy
Joe Mihalcik	Constellation/Unistar
A. J. Dvorak	Argonne National Laboratory
S. Y. Chen	Argonne National Laboratory
James Steckel	NRC/NRO/DNRL
Doug Weaver	NRC/NRO/DNRL
Brent Clayton	NRC/NRO/DSER
Steven Bloom	NRC/NRO/DNRL
Lynn Mrowca	NRC/NRR/DRA
Martha Shields	DOE
Gary Vine	EPRI
Tom Mulford	EPRI
Richard Barrett	NRC/NRO
Gene Imbro	NRC/NRO/DCIP
Stephen Koenick	NRC/NRO/DNRL
Andrea Sterdis	Westinghouse

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