

November 28, 2007

MEMORANDUM TO: AFPB File

FROM: Alex Klein, Branch Chief */RA/*  
Fire Protection Branch  
Division of Risk Assessment  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: CLOSURE OF NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION 805  
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION NUMBER 06-0020.

### Purpose

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 805 frequently asked question (FAQ) Program serves as an avenue for licensees participating in the NFPA 805 Pilot Program and all other licensees transitioning to NFPA 805 to seek the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's interpretation and clarification of NFPA 805 requirements in accordance with Title 10, Section 50.48(c), of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR 50.48(c)). The purpose of this memorandum is to provide clarification and closure of FAQ 06-0020, which seeks NRC staff's clarification on the definition of the term "applicable NFPA standards" as used in Chapter 3 of NFPA 805.

### Background

Regulatory Guide 1.205, "Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Fire Protection for Existing Light-Water Nuclear Power Plants," provides guidance for use in complying with the requirements of NFPA 805 and 10 CFR 50.48(c). This regulatory guide also endorses Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) 04-02, "Guidance for Implementing a Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Fire Protection Program Under Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 50.48(c)," Revision 1, as one acceptable method for meeting the requirements of NFPA 805 and 10 CFR 50.48(c), with several exceptions.

### Summary of Issue Raised by Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) 06-0020

NEI 04-02, Section 4.3.1, "Fundamental Fire Protection Program and Design Elements Transition Review," Table B-1, uses NFPA 805 Chapter 3 as part of the transition review. In Chapter 3, Section 3.3.1.2, "Control of Combustibles," NFPA 805 states "(6) *Controls on use and storage of flammable gases shall be in accordance with applicable NFPA standards.*" Since the term "applicable NFPA standards" does not specifically identify any NFPA standards, the licensee, through FAQ 06-0020, seeks a specific clarification from the NRC's staff on the definition of the term "applicable NFPA standards" as used in Chapter 3 of NFPA 805.

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The FAQ preparer proposed that wherever the term “applicable NFPA Standards” is used in NFPA 805, Chapter 3, the NFPA standards identified in the licensee’s current Fire Protection Program shall be considered as the “applicable NFPA Standards”. New fire protection procedures or systems that are introduced to the Fire Protection Program during and after transitioning to NFPA 805 must meet the latest codes or standards.

This specific clarification of NFPA 805 as applied under NEI 04-02, will be included in (New) Appendix K to NEI 04-02.

### Resolution of Issue

The existing Fire Protection Programs at nuclear power plants were developed, implemented and maintained using NFPA standards identified in the licensee’s current licensing basis (CLB). The NRC staff determined that the codes of record identified in the CLB are acceptable for transitioning of existing procedural or system in the Fire Protection Program to NFPA 805. New fire protection procedures or systems, however, must meet the latest codes or standards. Based on the above, the staff accepts the proposed change in FAQ 06-0020, Revision 1, and its incorporation in the next formal revision of NEI 04-02.

### References

- FAQ 06-0020, Revision 0 Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) accession number ML070030443)
- FAQ 06-0020, Revision 1 (ADAMS accession number ML071340188)
- NEI 04-02, Revision 1 (ADAMS accession number ML052590476)
- NFPA 805, 2001 Edition (available through the Public Document Room or NFPA)
- Regulatory Guide 1.205 (ADAMS accession number ML061100174)
- NFPA 805 FAQ Process Document, Rev. 1 (ADAMS accession number ML061660105)

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