



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

February 3, 2022

MEMORANDUM TO: Anthony D. Masters, Chief
Reactor Assessment Branch
Division of Reactor Oversight
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Tekia V. Govan, Project Manager /RA
Reactor Assessment Branch
Division of Reactor Oversight
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS BI-MONTHLY PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 23, 2022

On January 26, 2022, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff hosted a public meeting with the Nuclear Energy Institute's (NEI's) Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Task Force executives, and other senior industry executives, to discuss the staff's progress on various ROP initiatives. The topics discussed during this teleconference are described below.

Next Steps for the Withdrawn SECY-18-0113, "Recommendations for Modifying the Reactor Oversight Process Engineering Inspection" and SECY-19-0067, "Recommendations for Enhancing the Reactor Oversight Process" and

The NRC staff discussed the plan for communicating the recommendations from SECY-18-0113 and SECY-19-0067 to the Commission after being withdrawn on August 5, 2021. The staff noted that inspection procedure (IP) 71124.02, "Occupational ALARA Exposure and Controls," has been sunset and a revised IP 71124.01, "Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls," was issued and effective January 1, 2022. The staff's presentation can be found under (Agencywide Document Access Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML22025A132).

The NRC staff discussed the plan to move forward with revising the qualitative definitions of "White" and "Yellow" safety significance and drafting a Commissioners' Assistants Note (CA Note) to inform the Commission. The NRC staff will need to align internally before proceeding. One objection to this proposal was raised during the meeting by a member of the Union of Concerned Scientists.

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The staff discussed the communication tools and planned timeline for the recommendations requiring Commission approval. The staff is drafting a Notation Vote paper to recommend revising the frequency of engineering inspections with a goal to implement Commission direction by the beginning of the next triennial inspection cycle starting January 1, 2023. The staff will draft a COMSECY seeking Commission direction on the frequency of Problem Identification and Resolution team inspections. The staff recommendation was originally to revise the frequency to triennial; however, after the comprehensive review, the staff is leaning toward changing that recommendation for the inspection to remain at a biennial frequency. The paper will provide both options to the Commission with pros and cons. Estimated completion is June 30, 2022.

The staff is drafting another Notation Vote paper to revise the Emergency Preparedness Significance Determination Process to make it more risk informed. The staff will also recommend revising 10 CFR 50.54q so that reduction in effectiveness reviews would be required for only those planning standards that have a direct impact on public health and safety. The staff estimates completion at the end of August 2022.

The staff will draft one additional Notation Vote paper to eliminate the requirement for inspection findings to remain as Action Matrix inputs for four full quarters, closing them upon satisfactory completion of the appropriate supplemental inspection. Coupled with this recommendation is a recommendation to revise the treatment of Greater-than-Green Performance Indicators to remain as Action Matrix inputs until licensees satisfactorily meet the objectives of the appropriate supplemental inspection. The staff plans to issue this paper by September 30, 2022.

Finally, the staff is also going to evaluate the baseline inspection procedures for which revised sample sizes were recommended in SECY-19-0067. This evaluation will be an aggregate review of the changes considering additional data gathered since the paper was issued to determine if there was any fatal flaw with the bases for the recommended changes. The changes to the baseline inspection procedures will be communicated to the Commission using a CA Note at least 14 days prior to implementation, in accordance with Management Directive 8.13.

Update on Changes to the Problem Identification & Resolution (P&IR) Inspection

The NRC staff discussed recent changes to IP 71152 that became effective January 1, 2022. Additionally, the staff discussed plans for a COMSECY paper in the second quarter of 2022 to provide the Commission with options regarding a biennial or triennial team inspection. The staff plans to make enhancements to the team inspection procedure and any Commission requirements for the next inspection cycle beginning in 2024.

During the meeting, the staff provided the following reference documents as background information for this topic:

Updated Plant Status Manual Chapter: <https://www.nrc.gov/docs/ML2128/ML21281A180.pdf>

Updated PI&R Inspection procedure: <https://www.nrc.gov/docs/ML2128/ML21281A181.pdf>

Comprehensive Review: [Package Contents - ML20247J590 \(nrc.gov\)](#)

NRC staff response to NEI White Paper, “Proposal to Replace the ANS-PI with an ERFER-PI”

The NRC staff provided a markup of NEI White Paper (WP), “Proposal to Replace the ANS-PI with an ERFER-PI” for NEI’s review and consideration (ADAMS Accession No. ML22021B190). The staff highlighted that the WP has potential impact on several other NRC activities, such as efforts to enhance the 10 CFR 50.72 notification process, review and endorsement of a revised emergency action level scheme via NEI 99-01, and consideration of future rulemaking efforts for 10 CFR 50.54(t). The staff is maintaining an awareness of this topic to ensure there is alignment with NRC regulation and guidance activities.

ACTION ITEM: Once NEI has had an opportunity to review the staff’s comments on this WP, they will inform the NRC staff of the need to schedule a meeting to discuss the comments. This meeting may take place prior to the next ROP bi-monthly meeting.

NRC Involvement in Light Water Reactor Sustainability Plant Modernization

The NRC staff introduced their work in conjunction with the Department of Energy (DOE) Light Water Reactor Sustainability (LWRS) efforts that may impact inspection and oversight (ADAMS Accession No. ML22021B308). An NRR team has been established to monitor this research and provide input.

The staff described the limited support that it is providing to Idaho National Labs (INL) as a part of their Plant Modernization pathway under the LWRS effort currently focused on data automation efforts that could increase efficiency and effectiveness of Problem Identification and Resolution (PI&R) inspection. This support includes providing INL access to an NRC inspection team conducting an annual PI&R inspection at Exelon’s Limerick Station and facilitating communication between the NRC, INL, DOE, and licensees on ongoing efforts in this area that may affect the NRC’s inspection and oversight programs.

Lastly the staff emphasized that this project is funded by DOE and that INL is a DOE contractor. As such, the NRC’s involvement in this project is limited in scope to information gathering, sharing of NRC perspective on ongoing research, and evaluating projects for their potential future impact on inspection, and oversight activities. NRC involvement in LWRS is governed by memorandum of understanding with DOE.

The Next ROP Meeting:

The next ROP bi-monthly meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 23, 2022.

Communicating with the NRC staff

At the start of all ROP public meetings, the project manager provides contact information for the public to use to provide their name as a participant in the meeting. This contact information is also provided for submitting questions and comments to the NRC technical staff. Please note that any questions and/or comments pertaining to the ROP project can be sent to Tekia.Govan@nrc.gov. Questions and/or comments will be forward to the appropriate NRC staff. The staff also mentioned the role out of the “Contact Us about ROP” page on the new ROP website, which can also be used to submit questions and comments regarding the ROP initiative (<https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/oversight/contactus.html>).

Conclusion

At the end of the meeting, NRC, and industry management gave closing remarks. The industry representatives expressed appreciation for the open dialogue and willingness of NRC staff to hear industry views. The NRC management stressed the importance of the NRC being focused on providing reasonable assurance of public health and safety when considering changes to the ROP.

The enclosure provides the attendance list for this meeting.

Enclosure:

As stated

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML22034A766

*** = via email**

OFFICE	NRR/DRO/IRAB/PM	NRR/DRO/IRAB/BC	NRR/DRO/IRAB/PM
NAME	TGovan*	AMasters*	TGovan*
DATE	01/28/2022	02/02/2022	02/03/2022

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

LIST OF ATTENDEES

REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS BI-MONTHLY PUBLIC MEETING

January 26, 2022, 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Name	Organization¹	Name	Organization
Nicole Good	Star Alliance	Micheal Smith	NRC
Nathan Zohner	INPO	David Garmon	NRC
David Young	NEI	Robert Krsek	NRC
Bob Murrell	Unknown	Don Johnson	NRC
Andrew Zach	EPW	Nicole Fields	NRC
Tony Zimmerman	Duke Energy	Todd Keene	NRC
Robin Ritzman	Curtiss-Wright	Lisa Regner	NRC
Steve Catron	NextEra	Shakur Walker	NRC
Eugene Kelly	Exelon	Tekia Govan	NRC
Christian Williams	Exelon	Caty Nolan	NRC
Stephenie Pyle	Entergy	Christopher Regan	NRC
Jeffrey Stone	Exelon	Louise Lund	NRC
Tim Riti	NEI	Jeffrey Bream	NRC
Carlos Sisco	Winston and Strawn	Anthony Masters	NRC
Justin Wearn	PSEG	Mario Fernandez	NRC
Chris Wiegand	PSEG	Russel Felts	NRC
Charlene Chotalal	North Anna Power Station	Nicholas Taylor	NRC
Melody Rodriguez	Unknown	Daniel Merzke	NRC
Edwin Lyman	Union of Concern Scientists	Jennifer Whitman	NRC
Ron Gaston	Entergy	Charles Murray	NRC
Deann Raleigh	Unknown	Avinash Jaigobind	NRC
Rob Burg	EPM	David Aird	NRC
Andrew Mauer	NEI	Asley Demeter	NRC
David Gudger	Exelon Nuclear	Stewart Bailey	NRC
Ahmad Al Rashdan	INL	Mike King	NRC
Jim Slider	NEI	Nick Melly	NRC
Russell Thompson	TVA	Diana Betancourt-Roldan	NRC
Scott Jeffrey	Unknown	Alex Garmoe	NRC
Cheryl Ann Gayheart	Southern Company	Eric Duncan	NRC
Ryan Treadway	Unknown	Tony Nakanishi	NRC
Robert Page	Unknown	Justin Hawkins	NRC
Tony Brown	Unknown	Hang Vu	NRC

¹ Unknown organization indicates that the participant's affiliation was not provided by the issuance of this meeting summary.

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Jason Jennings	PSEG	Ronald Cureton	NRC
Margaret Offerle	Unknown	Julio Lara	NRC
Mark Salley	Unknown	Matthew Humberstone	NRC
Luke Greene	Unknown	Philip McKenna	NRC
Lloyd Generette	Unknown	Thomas Hipschman	NRC
William Rautzen	Unknown	Kenneth Kolaczyk	NRC
Matthew Euten	Unknown	Christopher Cauffman	NRC
Brain Hayes	Unknown	Billy Gleaves	NRC
Harry Balian	Unknown	Manuel Crespo	NRC
Phil Couture	Unknown	Mike McCoppin	NRC
Steve Dolley	Unknown	Catherine Kanatas	NRC
James Pak	Unknown	Bridget Curran	NRC
Walter Church	Unknown	David Kern	NRC
Scott Lappegaard	Unknown	Kevin Fay	NRC
Wendy Brost	Unknown	Paul Laflamme	NRC
Adam Goodman	Unknown	Eugene Dipaolo	NRC
Lawrence Svetlana	Unknown	Stephen Campbell	NRC
Mimi King-Patterson	Unknown	Jared Justice	NRC
Larry Nicholson	Unknown	Valerie Stowell	NRC
Kellen Giraud	Unknown	Nicole Stridiron	NRC
Peter Hetesi	Unknown	Gabe Taylor	NRC
Stephen Hess	Jensen Hughes	Johnathan Fiske	NRC
Marty Murphy	Unknown	Zachery Hollcraft	NRC
Serita Sanders	NRC	Frances Ramirez	NRC
Eric Schrader	NRC	Karla Stoedter	NRC
John Lane	NRC	Amy Hardin	NRC
Aaron McCraw	NRC	Gregory Halnon	NRC
Ray Azua	NRC	Shiattin Makor	NRC