



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

May 31, 2017

MEMORANDUM TO: Christopher G. Miller, Director
Division of Inspection and Regional Support
Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Nancy L. Salgado, Chief */RA/*
Operator Licensing and Training Branch
Division of Inspection and Regional Support
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE 2017 ANNUAL U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION/INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR POWER OPERATIONS
COORDINATION MEETING ON TRAINING-RELATED ISSUES

On May 3, 2017, a periodic public U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)/Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO) coordination meeting on training-related issues was held at INPO Headquarters, Atlanta, Georgia. Such meetings are conducted in accordance with the NRC/INPO Memorandum of Agreement dated September 11, 2013. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss items of mutual interest concerning INPO's training program accreditation process. Participants included representatives of the NRC's Division of Inspection and Regional Support (DIRS), Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) ; NRC's Division of Construction, Inspection, and Operational Programs (DCIP), Office on New Reactors (NRO); Regional Operator Licensing Branch Chiefs; and INPO's Training and Accreditation Division. The list of meeting attendees is provided as Enclosure 1. The meeting agenda is provided as Enclosure 2. A summary of the discussions related to key agenda topics covered during the meeting follows.

Introductions and Opening Remarks

An introduction of the members of the public and NRC and INPO personnel present was conducted. NRC/INPO provided opening remarks. As part of the opening remarks, INPO and NRC discussed organizational changes since the 2016 Coordination Meeting.

INPO focus areas include accountability for adverse trends and issues; advancing performance in management, leadership, and safety culture; and workforce development.

Enclosures:

1. Meeting Attendee List
2. Meeting Agenda

CONTACT: Bernard Litkett, NRR/DIRS
301-415-3657

Accreditation Update

INPO reported that since our last meeting in May 2016 and in the beginning of 2017, INPO had conducted 19 Accreditation Team Visits (ATVs) and 16 National Nuclear Accreditation Boards (NNABs) for the Operations and Maintenance and Technical Training Programs. INPO has an additional 22 ATVs and 17 NNABs scheduled in 2017 for the Operations and Maintenance and Technical Training Programs. Last year, NRC observers participated in all NNABs.

INPO stated that all future ATVs and NNABs will use the re-designed accreditation process and all plants will have completed the transition to the new process by 2021. The new process focuses on three accreditation objectives and will lengthen the accreditation cycle from every four years to six years. INPO discussed initial program accreditation for the new Vogtle and VC Summer units and changes to maintenance supervisor and initial license training guidelines. The NRC stated that it was focused on the oversight of plants during the transition from new construction to operation. INPO also provided an update on other activities supported by the accreditation group, including the development of new training and participation in the training managers working meetings, the corporate training director meeting, and periodic meetings with the regional training groups.

Regulatory Issues

The NRC discussed its future reduced flexibility supporting licensee requested dates for NRC administered license examinations due to budget constraints and the limited number of examiners. The NRC stated that NUREG 1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors" Rev. 11 was issued via federal register notice on February 15, 2017 with an implementation date of August 15, 2017. The NRC issued the Knowledge and Ability (K&A) Catalogs NUREGs-1122 and 1123 for public comment on April 14, 2017. The NRC noted that the Generic Fundamental Examination (GFE) program will now be held only twice per year starting in FY-2017. The NRC is researching the use of a computer based platform using a large static bank of questions to generate GFEs as proposed by industry and its impact on the predictability of questions and the validity of examinations.

The NRC places a high priority on observing INPO activities and plans to observe all NNABs, in 2017. The NRC discussed improvements in efficiency with two new digital systems, the Operator Digital Docket Display (ODD) and Replacement Reactor Program System (RRPS) which are scheduled to begin operation later this year. The ODD system offers automation of several components within the operator licensing process and will receive documents electronically which should make the NRC process more timely and efficient. RRPS offers improvement in scheduling of NRC workload activities. The NRC discussed the benefits of receiving new and updated INPO documents electronically, such as INPO's recent revision to ACAD-10-001, "Guidelines for Initial Training and Qualifications of Licensed Operators." INPO stated its intention to send a letter shortly requesting NRC nominees for a NNAB position which needs to be filled by the end of the year.

The NRC discussed new reactor activities including a status of accreditation activities, the review of the NuScale license application, which will require the need to develop a new K&A Catalog for NuScale facilities and a future update to NUREG-1021.

Industry Learning Activities

INPO provided an update on industry learning activities, including an overview of instructor led and National Academy for Nuclear Training e-Learning (NANTeL). NANTeL is a national web-based training system that contains training developed by INPO, utilities, and the Electric Power Research Institute. INPO explained that leadership development seminars focus on team leadership and behaviors for first line supervisors, training managers and new shift managers. INPO has developed interactive training to give key decision-makers experience making decisions under stress. Specifically, decision makers wear biometric monitoring devices while directing actions in response emergencies such as earthquakes, plane crashes, and toxic gas release.

For new reactor activities, INPO also provided Vogtle and VC Summer accreditation renewal timelines. INPO mentioned that the NuScale application review is in progress.

Other Items of Mutual Interest Related to Training

The NRC stated that the Japanese nuclear industry and regulator plan to shift to an NRC style regulatory process to improve oversight. INPO discussed the extent of support they provide to their counterpart organization in Japan.

INPO discussed an initiative to improve operator performance by focusing on excellence and performance. INPO has been working with Harvard University with a group that focuses on leadership in crisis situations. The NRC took an action item to provide INPO a point of contact at Harvard University.

Public Questions and Answers

Robert Meyer from the Professional Reactor Operator Society stated that reactivity ownership by operators is a concern. He thought that reactor engineers were overly involved in reactivity management decisions that resulted in unnecessary stress on the Reactor Operators.

Closing Remarks

In closing, the NRC and INPO agreed that this meeting was productive and future meetings would continue. No final positions were taken during the meeting.

C. Miller

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M Evans, NRR

A Rivera-Varona, NRO

C Miller, NRR

N Salgado, NRR

M Emrich, TTC

D Jackson, RI

G McCoy, RII

E Guthrie, RII

R Orlikowski, RIII

V Gaddy, RIV

S Rutledge, TTC

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OFFICE	NRR/DIRS/IOL B	NRO/COLP	DIRS/IOLB
NAME	B Litkett	A Rivera-Varona	N Salgado
DATE	5/22/17	5/23/17	5/31/17

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ATTENDEES

INPO-NRC Coordination Meeting, May 3, 2017

Institute of Nuclear Power Operations

Kim Maza, SVP, Workforce Training, Education and Proficiency
Steve Johnson, Director, Industry Training and Proficiency
Tammy Love, Director, industry Learning
Rusty Shoemaker, Manager, Accreditation
Sarah Glenn, OR Leader
Charlie Brooks, Manager, Accreditation Assistance and Support
Terry Maund, Manager, Learning Delivery
Brian Gollatz, Manager, Learning Development
Mike Jaquin, Accreditation Team Leader
Maureen Kunapareddy, Staff Assistant to CEO, Corp. Secretary
James Caulk, Senior Evaluator

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Christopher G. Miller Director, DIRS, NRR
Nancy Salgado, Chief, Operator Licensing and Training Branch, DIRS, NRR
Bernard Litkett, Operator Licensing and Training Branch, DIRS, NRR
David Allsopp, Operator Licensing and Training Branch, DIRS, NRR
John Monroe, Operator Licensing and Training Branch, DIRS, NRR
Robert Orlikowski, Chief, Operator Licensing, RIII
James Kellum, Operator Licensing and Human Performance Branch, DCIP, NRO

Others connected via telephone bridge

Sarah Risley, Nuclear Training Accreditation Support Supervisor Pacific Gas and Electric Co.
Diablo Canyon Power Plant
Debbie Lindbeck, Pacific Gas and Electric Co. Diablo Canyon Power Plant
Ed David., Pacific Gas and Electric Co. Diablo Canyon Power Plant
Russel Thompson, TVA corporate
Steven Dolley Managing Editor, Inside NRC, a reporter from S&P Global Platts nuclear
publications
Bob Meyer, Robert Meyer, Professional Reactor Operator Society
Bill Estes, NuScale Power
Cindy Wellenbrock, NuScale Power
Travis Ouret, Fleet Operations Training Manager NextEra Energy.

PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA
Notice of Meeting with the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO)

May 3, 2017, 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Institute of Nuclear Power Operations, Room 211
700 Galleria Parkway, SE
Atlanta, Georgia

TOPICS

- 9:00 Introductions and Opening Remarks
- 9:10 Accreditation Update
- 9:30 Regulatory Issues
- 9:50 Industry Learning Activities
- 10:10 Other Items of Mutual Interest Related to Training
- 10:30 Public input including questions and answers
- 10:50 Closing Remarks
- 11:00 Adjourn