

UTILITY RADIOLOGICAL SAFETY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 14, 2013

Ms. Nancy Dragani, Ohio Emergency Management Agency, called to order the January 14, 2013 meeting of the Utility Radiological Safety Board at 1:32 p.m. at the Ohio Emergency Management Agency.

The first order of business from the agenda was the roll call taken by Tess Ocean.

Guests: Mr. Jim Thomas, Director of Security and EP at First Energy Nuclear Operating Company, Mr. Dave Imlay, Director of Performance Improvement for DBNPS, Mr. Jim Vetter, Manager of Emergency Response at DBNPS and Mr. Ricky Collings, Supervisor of Fleet Emergency Preparedness for First Energy Nuclear Operating Company.

I. ROLL CALL

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

MS. NANCY DRAGANI
MR. STEPHEN HELMER
MR. CHUCK KIRCHNER
MR. DAN FISHER
MR. KEVIN CLOUSE
MR. JOHN SHARIER

A quorum was declared.

II. READING OF THE OCTOBER 9, 2012 MINUTES (ADOPTED)

The board dispensed with the reading of the October 9, 2012 Minutes. Ms. Nancy Dragani, Ohio Emergency Management Agency, asked for additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes. Ms. Dragani asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Dan Fisher, Public Utilities Commission, moved to adopt the minutes and Mr. Chuck Kirchner, Ohio Department of Agriculture, seconded. The motion carried.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Updated Status of the URSB Initiatives

Mr. Michael Bear of the Ohio Emergency Management Agency and Mr. Stephen Helmer of the Ohio Department of Health reviewed the URSB Initiatives. Topics briefed included the Perry Nuclear Power Plant Evaluated Exercise, the Perry Nuclear Power Plant Cross-Cutting Human Performance Issues, After-Action Plan Activities, Reactor Oversight Program, Technology, State Dose Assessment, KI, REP Guidance and NRC Rulemaking, Performance and the Joint Inspection Observation Program.

Ms. Dragani asked if we have received any answers from the questions and issues that were brought up during the FEMA REP Guidance meetings that took place in the three power plant counties last year. Mr. Bear stated we have not received any feedback as of yet, but he will have Mr. Pete Hill inquire about this at the REP scheduling conference coming up.

B. Midwestern Committee Report

Mr. Stephen Helmer, Ohio Department of Health, reported that there were no updates from the Midwestern Committee.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed New Working Group Reporting Format

Ms. Pam Hintz, Ohio Department of Health, presented to the Board the proposed new working group reporting format. In an effort to define what an initiative is and to determine what the Board wants to see as their product, the group came up with five main topics from the mission statement-Performance, Reportables, Information Exchange, Public Health and Safety. The current initiatives would fit into all of these categories. The Initiatives will be transferred into Snapshots, which have more detailed information and include who is responsible for the information contained in the snapshot. The reason for the proposed changes is to remove some of the lengthy narratives and to have a better idea of what is being accomplished. These will be sent to the URSB Statutory members on a monthly basis. A tracking spreadsheet will be given out at the Statutory meetings, which is an overview of the snapshots in an easy- to-follow format. Colors are associated with these snapshots: black indicates not started, green indicated completed, red indicates overdue and yellow indicates in process.

Mr. Helmer suggested that action items at NEPAC be added to the snapshots. He stated it is not always clear what the status is on the initiatives, so this might be a good way to better track the system. He believes that there should be more interaction between the Board and the Working Group.

Director Dragani stated that it may be time for the Board itself to have a discussion about what the function and role of the Board is. In recent memory, the Board has not given the Working Group an initiative to work on. Currently, the Board is mostly reactive and is not as functional and productive as we can be. It was suggested to schedule an hour for the Board to discuss the function and role of the URSB and to look at legislation and identify what we bring to these particular areas. The Board is passive and she believes the Board could be more engaged.

The Board agreed to move forward with the URSB Working group's proposal.

B. URSB WG Quarterly Reports

Each of the participating URSB agencies provided a report of their respective state agency activities. The Ohio Emergency Management Agency, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and the Ohio Department of Health all provided quarterly reports of their Each agency's report is available upon request from the URSB Secretary.

C. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Mr. Allan Barker of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported on the following topics: the oversight of First Energy Nuclear Operating Company Plants and the PNPP Dry Cask Storage of Spent Fuel.

Director Dragani asked what type of security issues are occurring at the plants, as all three plants received a greater-than-green security finding. Mr. Barker replied that while he cannot give details, when the issue is identified the inspector will ensure that corrective measures will take place at that point and the issue will be immediately addressed. She also asked that when security issues are identified, if any notification is sent to Ohio Homeland Security. Mr. Jim Thomas from FENOC replied that it depends on the issue. In these cases, none of the issues indicated a vulnerability that was necessary to notify Ohio Homeland Security (the DBNPS issue was corrected within minutes), however, there is a process in place to elevate these issues if necessary.

Mr. Bear asked that assuming the ongoing radiation protection issue with PNPP does not get corrected will this eventually be escalated within the NRC? Mr. Barker replied that depends on the NRC inspection, but it is an issue that will be focused on. The 95002 is a team inspection and there were attributes in the inspection that could not be completed. These issues will have to be re-examined. Depending on where PNPP is placed in the matrix will drive the next supplemental inspection. The 95002 has not determined the status at this time, with more action required to be taken. From this point forward, the focus will be there. At the last URSB Statutory meeting, the Assessment letter came out that talked about the focus area of radiation protection, which was unique to focus in that assessment letter. From a process standpoint for the NRC, it was within process and following the action matrix was correct with the appropriate level of supplemental inspection. The determination will come from the NRC as it is still in process and that is yet to come, from which he understands, will be soon.

Mr. Helmer asked a question on the timeliness of the reactor oversight process. Is the inspection process taking so long because the events are spread out or is this standard pace? Mr. Barker replied that he has been on many team inspections and as you go higher in the level of supplemental inspections, it takes time to assemble a team this large-this involves people in the region and from headquarters. The 95002 assembly is much more involved than a 95001. The oversight is still there while the inspection team is being assembled. The process drives the level of oversight.

Mr. Bear commented that all three plants have a greater-than-green security finding. Is this a fleet wide problem? Mr. Barker said that he had not heard of a fleet-wide problem, from his standpoint in the agency, but he might not necessarily be privy to that type of the information.

Mr. Helmer stated that he read that BVPS is looking at dry-cask storage. The FENOC representative stated that they are doing a project to develop an independent fuel storage system on-site.

Director Dragani asked for clarification regarding the operators failing the re-qualification exam at BVPS as reported in Mr' Barker's report to the board. He stated that greater than 10% of reactor operators who failed the bi-annual written requalification examination, subsequently failed the remediation examination. When an operator fails the requalification exam, you are removed from operator duties and then you go into a remediation.

Mr. Barker stated that DBNPS has been selected for NRC participation at the exercise on May 14th, so either he or Mr. Harral Logaras will be attending.

D. Utility Reports

Mr. Ricky Collings, Supervisor of Fleet Emergency Preparedness of the First Energy Nuclear Operating Company, provided the utility report on the following topics: Beaver Valley Power Station, Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station Decay Heat Pumps, the Perry Nuclear Power Plant Decay Heat Pumps, the Perry Nuclear Power Plant Dry Cask Storage of Spent Fuel, the Outcome of the 95002 Inspection, the After-the-Fact Emergency Condition (Unusual Event) and the November 28, 2012 Unusual Event and the FENOC Replacement of Director Notification Lines.

Mr. Jim Thomas of FENOC stated that the PNPP and the BVPS security finding were both licensee identified and were both regarding a physical security measure. In 2010, there was a change on how FENOC dealt with physical security and a change in the NEI clarification documents on physical security. FENOC went back in 2011 and challenged themselves of how they were implementing that and the technology that they were using did not meet the change. FENOC reported this to the NRC and they did a special inspection and found a similar issue at BVPS. There was no vulnerability to the public. The DBNPS security issue was entirely different and identified by an NRC inspector during a regular baseline inspection. FENOC engaged both NRC Regions and appropriate utility personnel to address these problems.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Location of the URSB Meeting

In 2012, the URSB meetings were held in the respective nuclear power plant counties. Unfortunately, there was little public participation at these meetings. The Board discussed the issue and decided that possibly one meeting per year could be held in the counties, or holding the meetings in the counties every other year. More of an effort will be made to make the public aware of the meetings when they are held in the counties. The Board will revisit the idea later in the year, but for now, meetings will be held at the State Emergency Operations Center/Joint Dispatch facility and we will look at one away meeting per year. Mr. Collings stated that if we want to tour the plants, FENOC could support that effort in conjunction with a meeting in the field.

B. Rescheduling of April Meeting

The April 8th meeting of the URSB will be moved to April 15th, as the week of April 8th is the week of the National REP conference.

C. Questions from Public

There were no questions from the public.

D. Miscellaneous

Ms. Dragani consulted with Ms. Hilary Damaser, who provides legal support for the Board and if the Board met separately from a regular Board meeting, a notice would have to go out to the public, so instead, time will be built into the next meeting to discuss the role of the URSB and ways that the Board can be more directional and engage with the Working Group.

Ms. Dragani also noted that there will be training on Wednesday, January 17th of this week, a representative from FEMA Region V will be providing an IND planning training session. An IND plan was created for Chicago and the planners did a good job of thinking about cascading effects, such as restoration of water supply in terms of decontamination. Some priorities had to be reprioritized as the planners went through the process. That same afternoon, the Great Lakes Hazard Coalition is having a webinar/TTX on an IND event. This TTX will be 100% web-based and both will take place in Room 204 at EMA.

An 8-day exercise will be held in August, Vibrant Response, with the state of Ohio, Army North, NorthCom and Air Force North that is focused on an IND attack in an urban area in Ohio, probably in Columbus. The state of Ohio will have a large footprint in this exercise. FEMA and NorthCom are excited about Ohio fully participating in the exercise. We will take about 20 people from the EOC and involve ESF partners and the IZRRAG. This is a great opportunity to push our federal partners and for us to stretch on our response. Ms. Dragani will provide the one page memo that was sent to EMA employees regarding Vibrant Response to Mr. Bear to distribute. Funding for this trip will be paid out of HS grant money, so we will look for a way to off-set the cost.

FENOC grant negotiations will take place in early-mid February. Please send grant requests to FENOC by the end of January. EMA will coordinate the details of the negotiations.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Nancy Dragani, Ohio Emergency Management Agency, asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Chuck Kirchner, Ohio Department of Agriculture, made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Dan Fisher, seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.