Peter Hill, URSB Secretary started the Virtual Public Meeting by introducing himself and the meeting. Holly Welch, URSB Designee for the Ohio Emergency Management Agency called the Utility Radiological Safety Board (URSB) Statutory Board meeting to order at 1:33 PM on October 13, 2020. The meeting was conducted as a live public event utilizing Microsoft TEAMS. The public invitation and link to join the meeting were posted on the URSB website and in a press release.

The first order of business from the agenda was the roll call taken by Peter Hill, URSB board secretary.

I. **ROLL CALL (Board Members)**
   
   EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (Ohio EMA) HOLLY WELCH – Present  
   DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (ODH) STEVE HELMER – Present  
   ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (OEPA) JIM SFERRA - Present  
   DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (ODA) TERRI GERHARDT - Present  
   PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (PUCO) JOHN WILLIAMS - Present  
   DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (ODOC) JOHN SHARIER- Present

   A quorum was declared.

   **Other Notable Attendees:**
   Mr. Sean Zalesny, Energy Harbor Nuclear (EHN)  
   Mr. Allan Barker, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)  
   Mr. Chris Salz, Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA)  
   Mr. Sean O'Leary, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

II. **APPROVAL OF THE July 13, 2020 MINUTES**

   Ms. Welch provided a few minutes for the board to review the July 13, 2020 minutes. There were no corrections requested. Ms. Welch asked for a motion to approve the July 13 minutes as written. Ms. Gerhardt made a motion to accept the minutes and Mr. Helmer seconded the motion. A vote was called, all in favor, none opposed, the motion passed.

III. **APPROVAL OF THE SFY2020 Annual Report of the URSB.**

   Ms. Welch provided a few minutes for the board to review the URSB Annual Report. There were no corrections requested. Ms. Welch asked for a motion to approve the Annual Report as written. Ms. Gerhardt made a motion to accept the minutes and Mr. Helmer seconded the motion. A vote was called, all in favor, none opposed, the motion passed.
IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion concerning response to Radiological Power Plant Incidents during a pandemic. (Ohio EMA).

Mr. Chris Salz led a discussion of how Ohio made changes to their response to an incident at a nuclear power plant while contending with the national health pandemic for COVID-19.

1. Perry Nuclear Power Plant: Mr. Salz explained the dual path utilized working with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to request exemptions for the current exercise requirements of the REP program. The NRC was able to grant an exemption to Energy Harbor Nuclear (EHN) for their exercise requirements. FEMA would not grant an exemption, but was open to alternative means of demonstration for the Offsite Response Agencies (OROs). This led to the first VIRTUAL dry run and exercise for the State of Ohio utilizing an entire new system of channels within the Microsoft TEAMS platform. Contact between participants, evaluators and controllers was minimized using computers with cameras and microphones in keeping with COVID guidelines for safety. The methodology was successful and the exercise was a success. Mr. Sean O'Leary as FEMA Radiological Assistance Committee (RAC) Chairman thanked Ohio for the excellent job in coordinating the virtual event, and explained their position on the REP program during the pandemic. Mr. Sean Zalesny provided input from the perspective of the nuclear utility.

2. Beaver Valley Power Station: The exercise scheduled for April of this year was postponed until November. Requests for exemptions for the exercise requirements have been requested and denied by FEMA. The Dry Run after hours exercise has been scheduled for Thursday October 15 from 4 pm to 9 pm utilizing the TEAMS platform. Participation in the normal demonstrations of functions in Columbiana County have been scaled back to interviews where possible in keeping with COVID protocols.

3. Davis Besse Nuclear Power Station: This exercise is scheduled for May of 2021. At this time, we anticipate that there will not be agreement between FEMA and the NRC regarding exercise requirements. Ohio EMA, Lucas, and Ottawa counties have begun planning efforts to conduct this required full scale, full participation exercise in the virtual realm. TEAMS has been built out to allow all Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) to participate virtually, as well as all 88 counties of Ohio. We are waiting on guidance from FEMA on what they are going to require for a full-scale virtual exercise.

There was some general discussion on how the TEAMS environment has actually helped the partners to focus and communicate better, and suggestions that TEAMS be adopted as a best practice. This led to a discussion by Mr. Sean Zalesny on the definitions of participation in an exercise as it relates to the Nuclear Power Plant license. The TEAMS platform may not be acceptable to the current language in the license and definitions, where it was acceptable as a compensatory measure in this instance due to the public health emergency. This topic will require further research and discussion. Note that in a real event all of the OROs and Partners have said they would be responding physically.

Sean O’Leary also addressed the particulars of the exemption, and what was allowed. Mr. O’Leary reiterated that the utilities standards as regulated by the NRC and requirements for the OROs requirements
regulated by FEMA are quite different. This disagreement between the two regulators is the root of the very difficult position that the State and County governments are facing.

B. Member Agency Quarterly Reports

1. Ohio Department of Agriculture – Terri Gerhardt
   - Nothing significant to report.

2. Public Utilities Commission – John Williams
   - Nothing significant to report.

3. Ohio Department of Health – Steve Helmer
   ODH’s complete report was provided to each board member prior to the meeting, and is available by contacting the URSB Secretary at (614) 889-7150.
   - The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) had minimal involvement with the JIOP’s during the third quarter as most are now being completed by the NRC inspectors offsite. However, ODH was present at the Perry exit meeting on July 30th and the Davis-Besse entrance meeting on September 21 along with a debrief meeting on September 24, 2020 via Microsoft Teams. There will be a one-day plant walk down scheduled for October 28, 2020 to finish out the Davis-Besse inspection.
   - Currently, a total of 225 environmental samples have been collected during the 1st quarter of SFY 2021, specifically: 90 air particulate, 92 carbon cartridges, 30 water, 6 cabbage, 2 walleye, 2 white fish, 1 kale, 1 turnip greens, and 1 collard greens samples. The ODH Lab analyses shows samples were near or below the Lower Limit of Detection (LLD). ODH provided the necessary supplies for contractors to continue collection of environmental monitoring samples.
   - ODH attended the virtual state agency nuclear power plant emergency planning meetings on July 8, 2020, August 5, 2020 and September 2, 2020 using Microsoft TEAMS. ODH was also present for the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA’s) review of the submitted 2020 Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) plan for the State of Ohio.
   - The integrated plant practice drills scheduled for July 16th, August 4th and August 25th were cancelled. However, a couple of virtual tabletops were conducted as indicated below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Plant</th>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 6, 2020</td>
<td>Perry Nuclear Power Plant</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 3, 2020</td>
<td>Beaver Valley Power Station</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   - ODH virtually participated in the Perry Nuclear Power plant dry run on August 12, 2020 as well as the evaluated exercise on September 15, 2020. These were limited participation exercises with dose assessment and the executive room playing virtually and social distancing where necessary due to the guidelines with the COVID-19 pandemic. The exercise was successful with FEMA being able to evaluate the State using the Microsoft TEAMS platform to conduct the evaluation process virtually.
The spring Beaver Valley plant exercise was postponed and rescheduled for the fall. The exercise has been scaled back to a limited participation exercise similar to the Perry exercise that was just completed. Planning for the 2021 Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station has begun. Following is the current training and exercise schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Virtual Dose Assessment Training</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virtual Systems Training</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis-Besse Dry Run</td>
<td>March 30, 2021</td>
<td>8 – 2pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis-Besse Evaluated Exercise</td>
<td>May 4, 2021</td>
<td>8 – 2pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virtual Player Debrief</td>
<td>May 7, 2021</td>
<td>10am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A virtual meeting of the Nuclear Emergency Planning and Advisory Committee (NEPAC) was held on July 23, 2020 in which ODH participated. The purpose of NEPAC is to provide a quarterly meeting in which the 10-mile planning zone counties, the state, and the nuclear power plant company come together to discuss topics of interest and is hosted by Energy Harbor. The next meeting will be virtual as well and is currently scheduled for October 22, 2020.

The KI shortage of 100,000 tablets was shipped and received on July 21, 2020. The purchase order for printing the plastic bags and product inserts was submitted in April 2020. The insert order has been received as of September 15, 2020. Two small partial shipments of bags arrived but the majority of bags are scheduled to arrive in early October.

A second set of emergency response procedures have been drafted for a virtual world where applicable. In addition, some worksheets/forms are being converted to PDF fillable documents to accommodate the current virtual protocol.

To maintain proficiency with TurboFRMAC software, problem sets are distributed quarterly to individuals who have completed the Assessment Scientist 100 course provided by FRMAC. The third quarter assignment is a webinar scheduled for October 1, 2020. ODH participated in the URSB Statutory Meeting on July 13, 2020.

ODH participated in the virtual NRC public meeting for the Davis-Besse and Perry plants on July 23, 2020.


ODH participated in the virtual 2019 REP Radiological Program Manual (RPM) changes meeting on September 25, 2020.

ODH observed Ohio’s 52nd Civil Support Team (CST) training activities pm September 28 and September 30, 2020.

ODH attended the virtual Beaver Valley Offsite Agency Training Session (OATS) on September 29, 2020.
4. **Ohio EMA – Chris Salz**

Mr. Salz talking points were provided to each board member prior to the meeting. He reviewed a few of them with the board; the complete list can be obtained from the URSB Secretary at 614-889-7150.

- Participated in PNPP REP plan review with FEMA region V REP staff, tri-county staff, and the utility staff.
- Construction and planning for move of Radiological Instrument Maintenance and Calibration (RIMC) facility from OSU campus to Ohio EMA building. Scheduled move in late 2020.
- Participated in State partner meetings with ODH and Ohio EPA regarding implementation of the 2017 US EPA PAG manual into the REP program and other radiological programs in the State of Ohio.
- Participated in an Energy Harbor cancelled BVPS integrated drill by still utilizing the TEAMS virtual concept to conduct a walkthrough with both state and local partners for practice in the virtual environment.
- Attended the Rad Technology meetings on Teams.
- Participated in PNPP mini-drill over TEAMS.
- Participated on Perry Nuclear Power Plant (PNPP) Table Top Exercise (TTX)
- Planning and execution of Dry Run exercise utilizing TEAMS for PNPP August 12, 2020.
- Planning and execution of PNPP FEMA evaluated exercise September 15, 2020.
- Planning for Beaver Valley Power Station (BVPS) dry run and evaluated exercises in October and November 2020.
- Hosted PNPP Systems and Dose Assessment training session.
- Participated in Beaver Valley Power Station (BVPS) enhanced TTX.
- Hosted virtual Nuclear Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee (NEPAC) meetings.
- Hosted Nuclear Power Plant Emergency Planning (NPPEP) meetings.
- Resident Analysts assisted in COVID PPE management and distribution in REP counties.
- Coordination and adaptation of REP program exercises and training under new COVID restrictions.
- Steve Bertonaschi created a Virtual Network of Channels and Rooms within the TEAMS environment to parallel the traditional logistics and lines of communication for response to a nuclear power plant incident. This system was tested during the PNPP Dry Run and Demonstrated during the evaluated exercise.
- Participated in the 2020 Ohio REP Plan review with FEMA Region V REP staff, based on FEMA’s recommendations and suggestions some changes will be adopted into the 2021 Ohio REP plan. This annual review was held virtual for the first time.
- Pete Hill and Chris Salz continued Radiation Operations Support Specialist (ROSS) qualifications.
- Worked with FEMA on allowances for Annual Letter of Certification requirements due to international pandemic.
- Begun planning for Davis Besse Nuclear Power Station (DBNPS) dry run and exercises in spring of 2021.
5. Environmental Protection Agency – Jim Sferra
   • Not much of significance to report beyond the activities already covered by the other agencies.
   • Continue to work on equipment calibration working with Rob Stone and the staff at the RIMC.

6. Department of Commerce – John Sharier
   • Nothing significant to report.

C. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC): Mr. Allan Barker
Mr. Barker reported on the second quarter integrated inspection reports issued in August 2020 for each of the plants.

Davis Besse: On August 13, 2020, the second quarter integrated inspection report for Davis-Besse was issued. Based on the results of the inspection, there was one self-revealed finding of very low safety significance (Green) documented.

The licensee failed to verify the adequacy of a design modification for covers protecting various flux monitoring equipment, including the safety-related post-accident monitoring (PAM) instrumentation. Specifically, the failure to evaluate all design requirements for the new cover seal design resulted in two seals failing and the inoperability of PAM channel 1. After installing the modification, while the licensee was filling the refueling canal, operators noted an increase in containment sump level and halted the evolution. The licensee determined that two of the four new NI well covers leaked. With a lack of confidence in the new seals, the licensee performed rework and replaced all four NI well seals with new gaskets of the old design. After the gasket replacement, the refueling canal was refilled with no further issues. The licensee evaluated the failure and determined the leakage was due to a faulty design, which allowed the gasket to shift during flooding of the canal. The licensee also noted, “although the vendor built a mock-up and tested the system using the design drawings provided to them by the site, the testing did not account for the lateral forces against the seal (sideways flowing water).”

Perry Nuclear Power Plant: On August 14, 2020, the second quarter integrated inspection report for Perry was issued. Based on the results of the inspection, there were no findings or violations of more than minor significance identified during this inspection.

Beaver Valley: On August 13, 2020, the second quarter integrated inspection report for Beaver Valley Units 1 and 2 was issued. Based on the results of the inspection, there was one self-revealed finding of very low safety significance (Green) documented and is summarized as follows:

The licensee did not correct improper guide ring settings that were identified on a Unit 1 ‘A’ low head safety injection (LHSI) discharge relief valve in 2012. Specifically, on November 2, 2019, while performing a Unit 1 quarterly surveillance test on the 'A' LHSI pump during the 1R26 refueling outage, the Refueling Water Storage Tank (RWST) level began to drop resulting in a low-level alarm. It was later determined that approximately 850 gallons of water from the RWST was transferred to the safeguards building sump, resulting in the RWST being declared inoperable due to low level. The 'A' LHSI pump was secured to prevent further leakage and declared inoperable. The licensee determined that during the surveillance test on November 2, 2019, the 'A' LHSI discharge relief valve (RV-1S1-845A) lifted due to a pressure pulse on pump start and did not reseat as expected when system pressure dropped below the valve’s design blowdown pressure. The valve remained open during the performance of the surveillance, resulting in the discharge of 850 gallons from the RWST to the safeguards sump. It did not reseat until operators identified it was open and secured the ‘A’ LHSI pump.
The inspectors reviewed the licensee’s investigation and corrective actions for this event. The licensee identified similar relief valve events at Beaver Valley including a similar condition that occurred in 2010 that caused the 'B' LHSI discharge relief valve (RV-1SI-845B) to lift and fail to reseat. For that event, the licensee determined that the valve’s guide ring settings were incorrect because no process or procedural controls were in place to ensure the relief valve had the correct settings. No cross-cutting aspect was assigned to this finding because the inspectors determined the finding did not reflect present licensee performance.

D. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – Mr. Sean O’Leary

- Mr. O’Leary wished Director Merrick a Happy Birthday, and looks forward to celebrating many more with her as they have worked together his entire FEMA career.
- The major item for Ohio has been the Perry REP Exercise. Many requests for real world credit were requested and many were granted. This is the largest request for credit ever fielded by FEMA REP. This credit allowed the demonstration criteria to be cut in half for the exercise, as half of the criteria were demonstrated prior to the exercise with real world response to COVID, and the documentation of the response submitted.
- Ohio and the OROs performance for the Perry Exercise really pushed the envelope on how to demonstrate and conduct an exercise virtually. The alternative demonstration methods utilized were excellent.
- Mr. O’Leary thanked the utility for their efforts to support the exercise despite having an exemption waiver from the NRC. Energy Harbor Nuclear’s participation really helped the OROs to demonstrate their criteria successfully.
- The government-to-government (G2G) meeting really helped to clarify the differences between the NRC’s exemptions for licensee’s and FEMA’s exemptions for OROs. He feels that the agencies will be able to work well in the future, and again stated that this is something being worked out nationally on Ohio’s back, and appreciates that Ohio is caught in the middle. He vowed to continue working with us.

E. FENOC:

Mr. Sean Zalesny of Energy Harbor Nuclear (EHN) reported for the utility. A complete copy of his notes are available by contacting the URSB secretary 614-889-7150.

Beaver Valley Power Station

Beaver Valley Evaluated Exercise Preps

Beaver Valley Units 1 and 2 have operated safely at full power through the cycles. Preparations continue for the 2020 Evaluated Exercise, scheduled for November 10. Those preparations are highlighted by the performance of the Dry Run, which is taking place Thursday, October 15. There have been many challenges in 2020 due to COVID-19, and the safe performance of drills and exercises continues to be a priority for Energy Harbor facilities. In support of our offsite response organizations, we have submitted for a waiver from the requirements of 10CFR50 Appendix E, paragraph F.2.c. requiring a full participation exercise. This exemption request is currently under review by the NRC. Beaver Valley continues to work with the offsite partners, to assist in the preparation and level of performance each state and county believes is appropriate. The NRC is currently scheduled to send an evaluation team to the site on
November 10, to evaluate the site performance. Beaver Valley continues to pursue the best methods to conduct the exercise, while minimizing the risk to personnel.

The next Beaver Valley integrated drill is scheduled for October 15, 2020.

**Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station**

**Continued Safe and Reliable Operation**

Davis-Besse continues to focus on safe and reliable operations as they proceed through the refueling cycle operating at full power. The continued challenges of COVID-19 remain a focus as operation, maintenance and training have returned to their full schedules. Adapting emergency response drills, training and exercises to the current environment has taken significant effort but has been successful in preventing the spread of COVID-19 among the staff. Davis-Besse recently returned to implementation of the integrated drill schedule on Tuesday October 6, which is important to maintain proficiency of the Emergency Response Organization. Focused area drills continue through October and the first two weeks of November.

**Perry Nuclear Power Plant**

**Evaluated Exercise Results**

As Perry continued to operate safely and reliably at full power, they completed their evaluated exercise on Tuesday September 15, with no issues or findings identified during the NRC evaluation. Although Perry did receive an approved waiver from the requirements of Appendix E from the NRC, the first received in the nation, the offsite response organizations chose to participate, and performed very well. The flexibility and creativity demonstrated by the states and counties during the public health emergency provide the least risk possible to participants while enabling the demonstration of a minimal set of exercise objectives.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Meeting Dates for 2021: January 11, April 12, July 12, October 12.

After announcing the meeting dates for 2021, Ms. Welch led a discussion on the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) change that has allowed the URSB to meet virtually during the pandemic. That law is set to expire December 1, 2020 and unless it is replaced with similar legislation, the January 2021 meeting would have to be in person.

B. Questions from the Public

There was a Q&A dialog box opened on the virtual meeting. There were no questions from the public.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Welch asked if there was any further discussion on any of the topics covered, and hearing none requested a motion to adjourn. Ms. Gerhardt made a motion and a vote was taken, all were in favor, none opposed and the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 PM.