

**Risk Assessment Technical Expert Working Group (RWG)
Conference Call Minutes
February 23, 2010**

PARTICIPANTS

Members: Steve Krahn (EM), Don Nichols (CDNS), Jim O'Brien (HSS), Carol Sohn (SC), Rich Stark (NE), Todd Lapointe (for Chip Lagdon CNS), and Sharon Steele (tentative for NNSA)

Others: Kamiar Jamali (NE), Andy Wallo (DNFSB 2009-1 Responsible Manager), Rama Sastry (HSS), Samuel Rosenbloom (HSS), PK Nyogi (NE)

SUMMARY

1. **Risk Assessment Technical Experts Working Group Charter** – discussed who should sign and at what level the charter should be authorized. It was concluded that the Under Secretaries as the Central Technical Authorities and HS-1 should ultimately authorize the charter. It was recognized that having such high level approval of the charter would likely increase the time needed to finalize it. However, it was concluded that any delay would not impact activities because the business of the working group will move forward in the interim. Members should provide comments on current draft to Jim O'Brien (with cc to all members) by March 8 with the goal of completing the charter that week and getting it into concurrence. Note: Andy Wallo had received confirmation of official designation of steering committee members except for NNSA.
2. **Web Page** – Latest draft (Beta) Web page will be sent to RWG steering committee for its review with the goal of going "live" the week of March 8.
3. **External Visits** – Jim O'Brien and Steve Krahn visited NASA on February 5. Jim O'Brien, Sam Rosenbloom and Bob Bari visited NEI on Feb 16, 2010. The visits were briefly discussed. Valuable insights were gained from viewing the topic from different perspectives. The perspective of the NRC is that of government regulator and NEI's perspective is that of the utility where PRAs support in-service inspections and are therefore important for improving efficiency, an important concern for the industry. Future visits to consider are DoD and FDA and possibly the Coast Guard. Steve Krahn was going to look into plans for a risk assessment workshop with external agencies.
4. **Internal Review** – Don Nichols will assist in coordinating the Y-12 visit. Target date was the week of March 8. The next site to be visited after Y-12 was discussed with SRS being the most likely candidate. It was agreed that the SRS visit should look at both NNSA and EM activities. Jeff Shackelford requested to attend some of the internal and external visits. The RWG agreed that this would be a good idea, that the more the Board is involved...the better.

5. **2009-1 Update** – Andy Wallo reported that he and Jim O’Brien briefed the Board staff on the status of Recommendation 2009-1 implementation. Discussion with the staff included progress on the RWG and initial peer review, the Justification Memo for revision of the nuclear safety policy, the Information Notice, and plans to revise the 2009-1 Implementation Plan. It was suggested that the Secretary’s letter be attached to the revised IP and that care should be taken to ensure that the changes are within the scope of the letter. The justification memo for SEN-35 policy revision is in HSS concurrence to go to the Directives Review Board. The risk assessment Information Notice has been redrafted and will soon be provided to the RWG steering committee. Ideally the notice should reference the website, so the website should be made active to support its issuance.
6. **WTP QRA Peer Review** – The team, lead by Bob Bari (BNL), has started its review in accordance with the peer review plan. Initial questions have been provided to the WTP and a meeting to discuss them was conducted. A meeting of the Peer Review Team is planned for March 1 at Brookhaven to put together the first draft of the report. The goal is to provide the RWG with the report for their review in mid March. It was noted that J. Shackelford, DNFSB staff, requested an opportunity to observe the peer review meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Official Designation of NNSA Member:** Andy Wallo to work with NNSA.
2. **Web Page:** HS-21 to provide latest beta version by March 4, comments from RWG to be provided by March 8 (or discussed during March 8 call).
3. **Internal Review Arrangements:** NNSA steering committee member to make arrangements for visit at Y12.
4. **Charter:** Group comments due March 8 to be discussed at next meeting.
5. **Workshop:** S. Krahn will report back on workshop plans at the next meeting.
6. **DNFSB staff interaction:** J. O’Brien will coordinate with J. Shackelford on possible attendance on site visits and peer review activities.

NEXT MEETING/UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Next RWG conference call tentatively scheduled for March 8, 2010 at 1 pm.
2. Y12 internal risk study data collection visit tentatively scheduled for week of March 8.
3. Since the meeting, HSS has been informed that the NTC risk assessment pilot course will likely be rescheduled for the week of May 17. This may give ample time for development of a nuclear safety risk assessment module for pilot. This will be discussed at the next meeting.