

Minutes of the third meeting of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) held in the Public Hearing Room, CNSC Offices, 280 Slater Street, Ottawa, Ontario, Wednesday, August 16, 2000, beginning at 2:05 p.m.

Present:

Dr. A.J. Bishop, Chair

Dr. Y.M. Giroux

Mr. A.R. Graham

G.C. Jack, Secretary

A. Nowack, Senior Counsel

B. Gerestein, Recording Secretary

Commission staff advisers were R. Cawthorn, J. Harvie, K. Pereira, P. St Michael, T. Taylor, J. Waddington and P. Webster.

Chair and Secretary

1. The President took the chair and the Secretary of the Commission acted as Secretary of the meeting with the Manager, Commission Services Group acting as recording secretary.

Constitution

2. Notice of the meeting having been properly given and a quorum of Members being present, the meeting was declared to be properly constituted.
3. Since the meeting of the CNSC held June 29, 2000, Commission Member Documents CMD 00-M32 to CMD 00-M43 had been distributed to Members. These documents are further detailed in Annex A of these minutes.

Adoption of Agenda

4. The updated agenda, CMD 00-H33.1, was adopted as presented.

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5. Members approved the minutes of the June 29, 2000 meeting of the Commission; reference CMD 00-M34.

DECISION

Business Arising

6. Members received for information the report of business arising from previous meetings of the Atomic Energy Control Board; reference CMD 00-M35.

7. Members received for information the report of business arising from previous hearings and meetings of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission; reference CMD 00-M36.

Significant Development Report

8. Members reviewed with CNSC staff Significant Development Report (SDR) number 2000-02; reference CMD 00-M37.

Power Reactors: With respect to the Pickering NGS, CNSC staff added that spring 2002 is staff's target for the startup of Pickering A, but that OPG would like to start the facility sooner. Staff also added that a request for a licence has been received from Bruce Power Inc. for an operating licence for the Bruce facilities. In response to a Member's question regarding an environmental assessment for the Bruce facility, the Chair indicated that such an assessment is not required.

Secretariat and Fuel Cycle and Material Regulation: CNSC staff noted that a draft exclusion order for the Department of National Defence has been prepared and submitted to appropriate Ministers.

In response to a Member's question regarding transport of mixed oxide fuel (MOX), CNSC staff indicated that approvals for the container are in place.

Members discussed with CNSC staff two events; one involving depleted uranium found during the dismantling of an airplane in Montreal and the other a stolen portable gauge.

Members then discussed with CNSC staff the issue of MAPLE I reactor shut-off rods. CNSC staff indicated that a review of the causes and actions taken by AECL is being undertaken by CNSC staff. The Chair requested that CNSC staff prepare a full report for the Commission on this issue at the earliest possible time. J.-P. Labrie, AECL, gave a review of the situation regarding the shut off rods and added that AECL is doing an independent root cause analysis.

J.-P. Labrie gave a brief presentation and noted that an analysis points to a problem with the bushing design, and is being addressed.

ACTION
K. Pereira

2000-08-16

Temporary Exemption

9. Members received from CNSC staff a request for an amendment to CMD 00-M19, approved at the May 31, 2000 meeting of the Commission, for a temporary exemption from the requirement to use an IP-2 package for exclusive use transport of LSA-II and SCO-II materials in the *Packaging and Transport of Nuclear Substances Regulations*. Reference CMD 00-M41. (Continued in item 16)

Ontario Power Generation Inc. (OPG)

10. Members received for information a presentation from R. Osborne, OPG, accompanied by G. Preston and J. Murphy, on the report entitled "Concluding Report of Initial Activities Regarding Independent Review Panel Report and Path Forward"; reference CMDs 00-M38 and 00-38.A. The OPG representatives discussed the key findings of the Panel Report including: the transition from Ontario Hydro to OPG and the new management structure; closing plants; transfer of assets; decontrol and competition in the industry; nuclear as part of OPG, and Bill 35.

J. Murphy, discussed human resource issues at OPG including health and safety, the wellness group, employee communications, leadership development and strategic human resources initiatives. J. Murphy stressed that health and safety will continue to be the number one priority for the company. J. Murphy also discussed goalsharing, diversity, the ombudsman program, labour relations and security.

G. Preston then provided an update of Panel initiatives including training, observation and coaching, backshift tours, and community outreach.

R. Osborne gave concluding comments indicating that OPG is committed to working together with union leadership and membership, that the OPG focus is in managing a successful transition to respond to changing market and regulatory forces, and that the objective of the company is continued safe, reliable and competitive operations through the effective engagement of all employees.

D. MacKinnon, President of the Power Workers' Union, gave a presentation on union involvement and views. He noted that unionized employees and management are working in better harmony than in the past.

C. Throop, President of the Society of Energy Professionals, gave a presentation on the Society's views regarding union-management relations. He, too, noted improvements have been made and the situation continues to improve.

CNSC staff stated that OPG has addressed issues raised in the Panel report and that if programs can be sustained, progress will be forthcoming. CNSC staff added that performance indicators need to be developed.

In conclusion, the Chair noted that progress has been made and sustaining it is now the challenge.

Authorizations for Operations Personnel at Nuclear Power Plants

11. Members received for information the CNSC staff update on The Introduction of a Limit of Five Years on AECB Authorizations for Operations Personnel at Nuclear Power Plants; reference CMD 00-M39.

Research and Support Program for Fiscal Year 2000/01

12. Members received for information the CNSC staff report related to the Research and Support Program for fiscal year 2000/01, which was requested at the June 29 meeting; reference CMD 00-M40.

Extremity Overexposure of Technologist in Barrie, Ontario

13. Members discussed with CNSC staff the follow-up report regarding a possible extremity over-exposure of a nuclear medicine technologist in Barrie, Ontario; reference CMD 00-M42.

Informing the Public About Lost or Stolen Nuclear Substances or Devices

14. Members received for information the CNSC staff report on procedures that have been developed to inform the public about lost or stolen nuclear substances or devices; reference CMD 00-M43.

(The meeting continued in camera at 3:20 p.m.)

2000-08-16

Temporary Exemption (Continued from item 9)

15. The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, pursuant to section 7 of the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*, exempted consignors and carriers of Low Specific Activity group LSA-II materials (LSA-II) or Surface Contaminated Objects group SCO-II materials (SCO-II) under exclusive use transport from the requirement of subsection 16(4) *Packaging and Transport of Nuclear Substances Regulations* to act in accordance with paragraph 426 of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) regulations until November 30, 2001, provided that the LSA-II or SCO-II radioactive material is transported under exclusive use in an IP-I package. Exemption No.10 in CMD 00-M19, Transition Plan, approved at the May 31, 2000 Commission Meeting, is revoked and this exemption is substituted.

DECISIONClosing

16. The meeting concluded on consensus at 3:25 p.m.

Chair

Recording Secretary

Secretary