NUCLEAR ENERGY AGENCY
COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR REGULATORY ACTIVITIES

Working Group on Inspection Practices

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE THIRTY-SIXTH MEETING

Held from 20th to 24th October 2008 in Veracruz, Mexico
WORKING GROUP ON INSPECTION PRACTICES (WGIP) – SUMMARY RECORD – 36th MEETING

The thirty-sixth (36th) meeting of Working Group on Inspection Practices (WGIP) took place from the 20th to the 24th of October 2008 in Veracruz, Mexico hosted by the Comision Nacional de Seg., Nuclear y Salvaguardias (CNSNS).

Significant Results/Actions

1. The Chairman, Mr. Lewis opened the meeting and welcomed the members to Veracruz.

2. Mr. Fernández de la Garza of CFE welcomed participants and made opening comments concerning recent activities related to the Laguna Verde NPP.

3. Mr. Kaufer reported on recent changes in the NEA Secretariat, current CNRA and CSNI activities. He noted that NEA celebrated its 50th anniversary the previous week. Regarding policy matters, he stated that the NEA had decided to strictly enforce the OECD policy which limits the locations of all working group meetings (Other than workshops or projects meetings) to Paris.

3.1. Members discussed the significance of this change and noted that implementing this requirement will have a negative aspect on networking between members and remove the possibility of site visits, which provide good experience, especially for smaller countries. Members were advised to discuss this issue with their CNRA member.


5. The Summary Record from the 35th meeting [NEA/SEN/NRA/WGIP(2008)1] was approved.

6. Exchange of Information: The normal round table discussion was held.

7. Report on Regulatory Inspection Philosophy, Inspection Organisation and Inspection Practices: The Secretariat reported that he will start posting country inputs on the open WGIP web site in the coming months.

8. Inspection of Fire Protection Programmes: Members reviewed the final draft of the report and agreed with a few minor modifications to forward the report to CNRA for approval.

9. International Workshop on Regulatory Inspection Activities:

9.1. 9th Workshop (Helsinki 2008): The Secretariat reported that the proceedings were still under preparation and inputs were still required from a few members. It was agreed that the proceedings would be issued by the end of 2008.

9.2. 10th Workshop (The Netherlands 2010): Members discussed potential issues to be selected for the workshop. A paragraph defining the issue, for each of the following topics, will be prepared by the members from the lead country and presented to CNRA in either December 2008 or June 2009.

- Safety Culture (USA lead)
- Aging and Life extension (USA lead)
• Management Process (Finland lead)
• Event follow-up inspections (Canada lead)
• Inspection Process/Programs (Spain lead)

9.3. CNRA will be asked to approve 3 of these (or other CNRA directed) topics for the 2010 Workshop.

10. **New Proposals:** WGIP members held a follow-up in-depth discussion on potential new work which was initiated by the Chair at the last meeting. Members prepared final draft proposals during the final session of the meeting. Consensus was reached on the following proposals:

10.1. Corrective actions (USA lead): Mr. Kobetz presented the proposal. WGIP Members agreed to forward this proposal to CNRA for approval. Finland, Spain, France, Mexico and the Netherlands agreed to take part in the task Group, if approved.

10.2. Maintenance programs (Canada lead).

10.3. Design & Construction (France lead).

11. **Coordination with other Working Groups:** The Chairman noted that he had continuing discussion with the Chairs of WGIP (discussion on general cooperation and the Fire task in detail), CSNI/WGHOF (safety culture) and the Chair of WGRNR (cooperation and coordination in general).

12. **Use of WGIP Results and Reports:** Several countries noted the use of WGIP results (Japan, Spain, Canada, Germany, etc.).

13. A site visit was made to the Laguna Verde NPP. Power Plant staff provided several presentation on their corrective actions programmes.

14. **Next Meetings and Workshops**

• 37th Meeting: NEA Headquarters, Week of 20th April 2009
• 38th Meeting: NEA Headquarters, Fall 2009
• 10th International Workshop and 39th Meeting, Netherlands, Spring 2010 (approved by CNRA, December 2007)

15. The Chair thanked CNSNS for hosting the meeting and Mr. Gutierrez and his staff in particular for the excellent arrangements including the site visit.
The following is a summary record of the meeting. All presentations and papers distributed at the meeting will be made available to participants on a CD Rom and will be posted in the WGOE member’s area of the NEA web site. Additional copies (to NEA Members) are available upon request to the Secretariat. A list of the participants is included as Appendix A.

OPENING OF MEETING

1. The Chairman, Mr. Lewis opened the meeting and welcomed the members to Veracruz. Mr. Fernández de la Garza of CFE welcomed participants and made opening comments concerning recent activities related to the Laguna Verde NPP.

2. Changes in membership included Mr. des Bouvrie (replacing Mr. Stockmann) KFD, The Netherlands, Mr. Yoshihiro Yamamoto (replacing Mr. Takahshi( JNES Japan), Mr, Hans Rudolf Fierz (replacing Mr. Billete) HSK, Switzerland, Mr. Jirí Veselý (replacing Mr. Tipek) SONS, Czech Republic, Mr. Alexey Kovalevsky (Rostechnadzor, Russian Federation. Regrets were received from Hartmut Klonk (BfS, Germany), Philippe Goedertier (Bel-V, Belgium; Ales Janezic, (SNSA, Slovenia), Mikus Bencat (Slovak Republic), Staffan Forsberg and Matts Haggblom (SSM, Sweden). A list of participants is enclosed as Appendix A.

3. The Secretariat, Mr. Kaufer provided a presentation on recent changes in the NEA Safety Division. This included a brief overview of the current CNRA programme of work and CSNI related activities.

4. The proposed Agenda [NEA/SEN/NRA/WGIP/A(2008)2] was approved without comments.

5. The Summary Record from the 35th meeting [NEA/SEN/NRA/WGIP(2008)1] was approved without further comment.

Exchange of Information

6. The normal round table discussion was held National reports were tabled and will be posted on the WGIP web site. Delegates reported on recent significant inspection activities including:

- Japan provided an update on their inspections findings following the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa NPP earthquake and the status on a new inspection system being developed.

- USA presented information regarding its Special Inspection process for event follow-up.

- Several members (Korea, Hungary, Switzerland) reported on reorganisations or changes in their regulatory organisations including inspection programmes.

- Slovenia tabled information on the unidentified leakage from the primary circuit in excess of TS limit incident last summer.

- Several countries (Mexico, Germany) reported on the inspection findings from recent IAEA IRRS reviews of their regulatory organisations.
WGIP Programme of Work

Report on Regulatory Inspection Philosophy, Inspection Organisation and Inspection Practices.

7. The Secretariat reported that national reports had been placed on the NEA web site in the WGIP working area. These will be moved to the public area in the coming months. This area will be handled as a living space to present the up-to-date position on inspection programmes and practices.

Inspection of Fire Protection Programmes

8. Mr. Kobetz presented the final draft of the report. The Chair noted that he had discussed coordination of this report with the Chair of WGOE, which is completing a companion report. Following discussion it was agreed that the introduction should be changed to an executive summary and the conclusions needed to be clarified.

9. WGIP agreed on forwarding the report to CNRA for approval.

9th International Workshop on Inspection Related Activities, Helsinki, Finland

10. The Secretariat reviewed the results of the survey of participants. In general results showed a high level of satisfaction with the structure and format of the workshop. Participants also noted that they information obtained during the workshop would be valuable in their own countries.

11. The Secretariat reported that the proceedings were still under preparation and inputs were still required from a few members. It was agreed that the proceedings would be issued by the end of 2008.


12. Members discussed potential issues to be selected for the workshop. A paragraph defining the issue, for each of the following topics, will be prepared by the members from the lead country and presented to CNRA in either December 2008 or June 2009.

12.1. Safety Culture (USA lead)

   - Given the work that has been previously performed by WGIP at its Toronto 2006 workshop and by WGHOF and its workshop at Chester 2007, this workshop will give regulatory inspectors an opportunity to share their own experience regarding international practised approaches for the assessment of licensees safety culture by a process of inspecting some attributes of the behaviour of nuclear power plant (NPP) management and staff. The workshop should also compile the initial knowledge and qualification requirements for inspectors to assess NPPs, as well as further development of necessary skills for experienced inspectors. In addition, the workshop should evaluate methods to incorporate the findings of the inspectors into the overall assessment of plant performance.

12.2. Aging and Life extension (USA lead)

   - At the moment several countries are in the process of extending the operating period of nuclear power plants (NPPs). As such, there are many considerations on the aging of systems, structures, and components (SSCs). In most cases, aging of active systems is

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1 Definitions were prepared on the last day of the meeting.
monitored by maintenance programs. Therefore, extending the operating license for NPPs normally focuses on the aging of passive components and structures (e.g., structures and cabling). As part of the license renewal process licensees normally commit to assess the adequacy of the passive SSCs at some future date prior to entering the extension period. The challenge of the regulator is to choose which commitments to inspect and how to verify the adequacy of the licensee’s evaluations (e.g., direct inspection, analytical evaluations of aging of components) to verify that the licensee’s have met those commitments. The workshop participants will have the opportunity to share their own actual experience from inspection of license renewal commitments. They will draw conclusions to determine the most important issues of inspection of licensee commitments. They may also have the opportunity to develop new ideas and approaches.

12.3. Management Process (Finland lead)

- Effective and safety oriented management system is one of the prerequisites for nuclear safety. In many countries the nuclear industry is under major changes. Nuclear power companies are privatised, electricity markets are open for competition, more activities are outsourced, ageing installations are shut down and new plants are under construction and commissioned. All these changes are challenging licensee’s capability to manage nuclear power plants safely.

- This is a challenge also for regulatory authorities and their inspection programs and inspection methodologies. Inspection of Management System should cover most important elements of the management system e.g. the establishment and the basis of the management systems, responsibilities and documentation, resource management, process implementation and continuous development. During these changes the regulatory inspection programs and inspection methodologies should be adjusted according the licensees activities and current situation.

- The objective of the work shop topic is to share and compare practices as well as formulate commendable on regulatory supervision of management systems.

12.4. Event follow-up inspections (Canada lead)

- To be added later\(^2\)

12.5. How to assess the effectiveness of the regulatory inspection process/programmes. (Spain lead)

- As an essential part of their mission the Regulatory Bodies must carry out inspections of the NPPs. The inspections are designed to verify that the Licensees operate their facilities in a safe manner, in accordance with design/licensing basis, and regulatory requirements are met, (laws, regulations standards, etc.).

- While findings are identified and corrected on routine basis, there is a challenge on how does the regulator determine whether the inspection program is effective in maintaining and improving the safety of the plant. Therefore it is important for the Regulatory Bodies to get a tool for the periodical assess and measure of the effectiveness of their inspection process and programs. This may be accomplished by the regulatory body through various self-

\(^2\) Definition was not finalized at time of issuance of the Summary Record and will be added in next revision.
assessment processes or by other means such as 3rd party independent evaluations, and taking into account all the stake holders.

**New Proposals**

13. WGIP members held a follow-up in-depth discussion on potential new work which was initiated by the Chair at the last meeting.

14. Mr Kobetz presented the proposal on Inspection of Corrective Actions. WGIP Members agreed to forward this proposal to CNRA for approval (attached as Appendix D). Finland, Spain, France, Mexico and the Netherlands agreed to take part in the task Group, if approved.

15. Members discussed two other topics raised at the last meeting and agreed to develop proposals for discussion at the next meeting. The topics were as follows:

   15.1. Maintenance programs (Canada lead) Spain and Germany agreed to take part in the task Group.

   15.2. Inspection of Design & Construction (France lead). Finland and the United States will take part in the task group.

16. WGIP members discussed the status of safety culture inspections considering recent work performed by WGIP and CSNI/WGHOF. It was agreed that countries are still in the process of developing these programmes and WGIP should continue to monitor progress and is proposing further discussion as a topic at the next workshop in 2010 (see Item 13).

**Use of WGIP Results and Reports**

17. Several countries noted the use of WGIP results. These included:

   17.1. Japan used information from WGIP reports and exchanges in developing their inspection programme.

   17.2. Spain and Canada used results from the Helsinki workshop in developing new training programmes for their inspectors.

   17.3. Germany used information from WGIP reports and exchanges in preparing for the IRRS mission.

   17.4. Many member countries are using WGIP and WGHOF information in formulating planning on Safety Culture inspections.

   17.5. Canada (Russian Federation also communicated to the Secretariat) used the results from the Digital I&C workshop.

18. The Chair noted and members agreed that based on the inputs it would be useful to WGIP to have a discussion item at the next meeting exchanging information on IRRS inspection module (#7).

**Co-operation with other CNRA and CSNI Groups**

19. The Chair has communicated with the Chairs of the following CNRA and CSNI Working Groups during the past period:

   19.1. WGOE: As noted WGIP and WGOE are cooperating in their respective Fire Tasks.
19.2. WGRNR: Continue communications to ensure good exchange on construction inspection activities.

19.3. WGHOF: Safety culture is a current focus.

19.4. MDEP: WGIP agreed to invite the Co-Chairs of MDEP Vendor Inspection Cooperation Working Group to the next WGIP meeting to get a better understanding of each other’s work.

Next Meetings and Upcoming Workshops

20. The following meeting schedule was agreed to (based on approval of CNRA, unless noted):


20.2. 38th Meeting: NEA Headquarters, Fall 2009.

20.3. 10th International Workshop and 39th Meeting, Netherlands, Spring 2010 (approved by CNRA, December 2007).

Closure of 36th WGIP meeting

21. The Chair thanked CNSNS for hosting the meeting and Mr. Gutierrez and his staff in particular for the excellent arrangements including the site visit.
Appendix A

ATTENDEES LIST

Francois Rinfret (CNSC), Canada      Jiri Vesely (SONS), Czech Republic
Timo Eurasto, (STUK) Finland         Benoit Zerger (ASN), France
Walter Glockle (UM), Germany         Gyula Fichtinger (HAEA), Hungary
Hirozo Shiomi (JNES), Japan          Yoshihiro Yamamoto (JNES), Japan
Jong-Tae Ha (KINS), Korea            Antonio Hernandez Maldonado (CNSNS), Mexico
Luis Gutierrez Ruiz (CNSNS), Mexico  Kees des Bouvrie (KFD), Netherlands
Julio Crespo (CSN), Spain            Hans Rudolf Fierz (HSK), Switzerland
Stephen Lewis (NII), United Kingdom  Tim Kobetz (NRC), United States
Ling Quan Guo (IAEA)                 Barry Kaufer (OECD/NEA) Secretary
# TABLE OF WGIP PROGRAMME OF WORK (REVISED: OCTOBER 2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic / Issue</th>
<th>Internal WGIP Meeting Topics</th>
<th>Formal Task Groups</th>
<th>Status / Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inspection of Pre-Construct, Site Selection and Construction</td>
<td>Discussion (WGIP)</td>
<td>Task (Proposed by WGIP)</td>
<td><strong>X</strong> Information to be kept in working area and additional inputs provided as knowledge is obtained.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inspection Philosophy, Inspection Organisation and Inspection Practices Update</td>
<td>Survey (WGIP)</td>
<td>Task (Approved by CNRA)</td>
<td><strong>X</strong> Inputs placed on the WGIP web site. Updates will be posted when received.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inspection of Fire Protection Plans</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>X</strong></td>
<td>Final draft report to be presented to CNRA for approval, December 2008.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th International Workshop on Regulatory Inspection Practices</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>X</strong></td>
<td>Completed. Preparation of proceedings in progress</td>
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<tr>
<td>Safety Culture Inspections</td>
<td><strong>X</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Round table on recent developments at next meeting. Proposed topic for 2010 Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inspection of Corrective Actions</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>X</strong></td>
<td>Proposal to be presented to CNRA, December 2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inspection of Maintenance Activities</td>
<td><strong>X</strong></td>
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<td>Proposal to be prepared and discussed at next WGIP Meeting, April 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inspection of Design &amp; Construction</td>
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### WGIP - LIST OF ACTIONS (Revised October 2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTION ITEM</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>WHO DOES?</th>
<th>FOR WHEN?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000-3</td>
<td>WGIP table of programme of work to be issued after next CNRA meeting then updated after each WGIP meeting (to be attached to the minutes).</td>
<td>Secretariat / Chairman</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000-4</td>
<td>List of published WGIP reports to be revised prior to each WGIP meeting, and attached to the minutes.</td>
<td>Secretariat</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<td>2001-4</td>
<td>Add discussion item at WGIP meeting to review the use of WGIP products by Member countries</td>
<td>All members</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<td>2004-2</td>
<td>Inspection Philosophy, Inspection Organisation and Inspection Practices Update</td>
<td>Secretariat</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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| 2005-2      | Co-operation with WGOE  
  • Add agenda item to each WGIP meeting | Secretariat | Ongoing |
| 2005-3      | Inspection of Fire Protection Plans:  
  • Work jointly with WGOE to answer open questions (and FIRE Project)  
  • Complete joint report | WGOE & WGIP Task Groups | December 2008 |
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<tr>
<th>ACTION ITEM</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>WHO DOES?</th>
<th>FOR WHEN?</th>
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<tr>
<td>2005-4</td>
<td>Use of WGIP Reports and Results</td>
<td>All Members</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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| 2006-1      | Digital I&C Inspections  
  • Issue Proceedings (if approved by CNRA) | Secretariat | Completed June 2008 |
| 2006-2      | Safety Culture Inspections – Consult w/WGHOF Members | All Members | Ongoing   |
| 2009-1      | Inspection of Corrective Actions | All Members | For CNRA approval |
Appendix D: Proposal for New Work

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>CNRA PROPOSAL – WGIP(2009)1</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Title</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Objective/Scope</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Interaction with Others</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Approved by CNRA</strong></td>
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