

American Nuclear Society
NFSC Minutes
November 13, 2006 • Albuquerque, NM

1. Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order and introductions were made.

2. Action Items

Old action items were reviewed and closed as noted appropriate.

3. Standards Issues and Discussion

A. Process for Addressing Clarifications

It was stated that we needed to make sure we had a structured way to deal with clarifications/interpretations, one that had reasonable expectations. As the NFSC received the most clarifications of the committees overseen by the Standards Board, an ad hoc committee was formed to determine a procedure for the best path to follow for response. The current policy on interpretations/clarifications was of a high level. More detailed instructions would be beneficial.

A clarification request concerning historical standard ANS-3.5-1985, "Nuclear Power Plant Simulators for Use in Operator Training," was received. This posed difficulties since there were very few active working group members that were involved in the writing of the 1985 version. A request was made for the NFSC to develop an improved policy concerning clarification for historical standards. The current working group for a standard, if exists, should be limited to answering the request in terms of the latest ANSI approved standard, and only answer the question in terms of the historical standard based on a literal reading of the actual words, since "intent" is unlikely to be discernible unless there were copious notes placed in the ANS Standards Administrator's file for that particular historical standard which would also need to have addressed the issue.

B. ANS-3.2/ASME-NQA-1

The NFSC was informed of a presentation to the NQA-1 committee in St. Louis to combine ANS-3.2, "Administrative Controls and Quality Assurance for the Operational Phase of Nuclear Power Plants," with ASME's NQA-1, "Quality Assurance Requirements for Nuclear Facility Applications." The NQA committee was receptive to the idea although it would not be an easy task. This will be evaluated during the next revision cycle.

C. ANS-4.5/IEEE P-497

The committee was informed that the NRC endorsed nearly all of IEEE 497, "Standard Criteria for Accident Monitoring Instrumentation for Nuclear Power Generating Stations," in Revision 4 to RG 1.97. The opinion stated was that the NRC liked IEEE 497 because it was performance-based. Conversations were held regarding the subject of revising ANS-4.5, "Criteria for Accident Monitoring Functions in Light-Water-Cooled Reactors."

With an existing prescriptive-based regulatory guide and a performance-based regulatory guide endorsing IEEE 497, it was recommended to keep ANS-4.5 historical for now and revise later if necessary.

D. ANS-58.3

It was reported that a working group for ANS-58.3, "Physical Protection for Nuclear Safety-Related Systems and Components," was formed. They needed to determine if the scope should be kept to nuclear power plants or expanded to all nuclear facilities. The current standard would be reviewed to determine if it should include DOE facilities.

E. ANS-3.5 & ANS-56.8 (ANS-21) Inquiry

The committee was updated on the two open clarifications being addressed by the ANS-21 Subcommittee. The clarification on ANS-56.8, "Containment System Leakage Testing Requirements," was received only a month ago. The clarification on ANS-3.5, "Nuclear Power Plant Simulators for Use in Operator Training and Examination," was on the 1985 standard. The working group was having difficulty determining what the 1985 working group intended. The inquirer had been contacted for clarification to his inquiry. The ANS-3.5 Working Group was debating a response.

F. ANS-58.2 (ANS-24) Inquiry

No report provided. An action item was assigned.

The committee was reminded that the ANS-58.2 working group also received comments from the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) unrelated to the clarification.

G. Emergency Management Standards Project Plan (ANS-26)

The committee was informed of conversations about the emergency preparedness standards. The working group chair was waiting on regulations from the Department of Homeland Security before beginning revisions to the emergency preparedness standards. A plan for the future emergency preparedness and response procedures was to be developed for discussion at the meeting but none was provided.

H. ANS-57.2 & ANS-57.3 (ANS-27)

No report provided.

4. Management Reports

A. Chairman (10 CFR 53, DG-1145)/Chair Report

The committee was provided a summary that included NFSC activities over the year. The NFSC balloted 2 draft standards, 5 reaffirmations, and 3 PINS forms; ANSI/ANS-3.11-2005, "Determining Meteorological Information at Nuclear Facilities," was published and ANSI/ANS-3.2-2006, "Administrative Controls and Quality Assurance for the Operational Phase of Nuclear Power Plants," was in print production. It was report that the NRC released DG-1164 that will be issued as RG 1.23 Revision 1, and estimated that the draft guide used 90% of the contents of ANSI/ANS-3.11-2005. The NFSC external outreach included submitting comments to the NRC on the ANPR on Proposed 10 CFR Part 53 and DG 1145.

A paper was presented at the Electric Utility Consultants, Inc. (EUCI), conference on November 6, 2006, on ANS meteorological standards designed for new nuclear facilities and asked that it be added to the ANS Web site.

B. Standards Coordinator Report

Current standards on the Maintenance Hot List Report were reviewed. Two of the listed standards were already involved in revisions; however, maintenance must begin on the rest. Those standards discussed included ANSI/ANS-3.1-1993;R1999, "Selection, Qualification, and Training of Personnel for Nuclear Power Plants," ANSI/ANS-59.51-1997, "Fuel Oil Systems for Safety-Related Diesel Generators," and ANSI/ANS-59.52-1998, "Lubricating Oil Systems for Safety-Related Emergency Diesel Generators,"

A suggestion was made to contact NuStart and INPO for a representative on the NFSC

C. Secretary Reports

It was reported that work had begun on the 2006 Standards Committee Report of Activities and that the Website continues to be updated. With an upgrade to the phone system, ANS was now able to host small conference calls appropriate for the NFSC ExC, subcommittees, or working groups. The ANS IT Department was scheduled to begin work on the On-Line Volunteer Database. Volunteer forms continue to be forwarded to subcommittee chairs by ANS staff, however, many volunteers remain on the list waiting for placement.

Feedback from many working group chairs showed that the PINS approval process was labor-intensive on the working groups. It was the working group chairs' opinion that time would be better spent on developing the draft standard. A couple suggestions to simplify were presented. It was decided to develop a streamlined process for PINS approval.

5. NFSC Subcommittee Reports

A. ANS-21 Nuclear Power Plant Design Criteria & Operations

The ANS-21 Subcommittee reported that they had been looking for working group chairs for ANS-3.1, "Selection, Qualification, and Training of Personnel for Nuclear Power Plants," ANS-3.4, "Medical Certification and Monitoring of Personnel Requiring Operator Licenses for Nuclear Power Plants," and ANS-58.6, "Criteria for Remote Shutdown for Light Water Reactors." Additionally, a new chair for ANS-58.11, "Design Criteria for Safe Shutdown Following Selected Design Basis Events in Light Water Reactors," was needed.

ANSI/ANS-58.6-1996 (R2001) should be reviewed for potential reaffirmation. A list of past working group members would be considered to conduct this review. It was stated that reaffirmation should be a two-step process: 1) approve the standard based on the current scope, then, 2) determine whether the scope needed to be expanded.

The committee was informed that the PINS document for ANS-3.5, "Nuclear Power Plant Simulators for Use in Operator Training and Examination," was approved. A draft would be distributed to ANS-21 in December 2006.

B. ANS-22 Nuclear Power System Level Design

The ANS-22 Subcommittee reported that ANSI/ANS-59.51-1997, "Fuel Oil Systems for Safety-Related Diesel Generators," and ANSI/ANS-59.52-1998, "Lubricating Oil Systems for Safety-Related Emergency Diesel Generators," had been reviewed and found acceptable for reaffirmation. ANSI/ANS-55.4-1993 (R1999), "Gaseous Radioactive Waste Processing Systems for Light Water Reactor Plants," and ANSI/ANS-55.6-1993 (R1999), "Liquid Radioactive Waste Processing System for Light Water Reactor Plants," were currently out for reaffirmation ballot with the NFSC. The committee was reminded that ANS-58.14, "Safety and Pressure Integrity

Classification Criteria for Light Water Reactors,” was being reinvigorated. A working group meeting was scheduled for November 14, 2006. ANS-51.1, “Nuclear Safety Criteria for the Design of Stationary Pressurized Water Reactor Plants,” and ANS-52.1, “Nuclear Safety Criteria for the Design of Stationary Boiling Water Reactor Plants,” had been put on hold. The original plan was to reinvigorate both standards (ANS-51.1/52.1) to be performance-based, however, license applications for proposed plants are citing the deterministic, withdrawn standard ANS-58.14. The reinvigoration of the deterministic ANS-58.14 is in response to these applications.

A PINS for new standard, ANS-58.16, “Safety and Pressure Integrity Classification Loads and Behavior Criteria for Nuclear Facilities Other Than Large Nuclear Reactors,” was distributed for approval. It was felt that this standard was needed for facilities other than Light Water Reactors (LWR). The committee would decide if they were in agreement through the PINS approval process.

C. ANS-23 Decommissioning and Site Remediation

The ANS-3.12.1, “Decommissioning of Nuclear Production and Utilization Facilities: Defueled Security Plan,” and ANS-3.12.2, “Decommissioning of Nuclear Production and Utilization Facilities: Defueled Safety Analysis Report and Emergency Plan,” projects had been postponed indefinitely.

D. ANS-24 Analysis

No subcommittee report provided.

E. ANS-25 Siting/Kevin Bryson

The ANS-25 Subcommittee reported that they were looking for new chairs for ANS-2.2, “Earthquake Instrumentation Criteria for Nuclear Power Plants,” ANS-2.4, “Guidelines for Determining Tsunami Criteria for Power Reactor Sites,” ANS-2.8, “Determining Design Basis Flooding at Power Reactor Sites,” and ANS-2.25, “Surveys of Terrestrial Ecology Needed to License Thermal Power Plants,” and asked for recommendations.

It was recommended to contact ANS-16.1 Working Group Chair to see if he could review that standard for reaffirmation. It was report that a first draft of ANS-2.15, “Criteria for Modeling and Calculating Atmospheric Transport of Routine Releases from Nuclear Facilities,” was out for working group review. Once molded into a standard, the group will start on ANS-2.16, “Criteria for Modeling Design-Basis Accidental Releases from Nuclear Facilities.” ANS-2.3, “Determining Tornado and Other Extreme Wind Characteristics at Nuclear Facility Sites,” had a meeting in September 2005 and planned another meeting in January 2007.

F. ANS-26 Emergency Planning

No subcommittee report provided.

G. ANS-27 Fuel Cycle and Waste Management

Comments were reviewed on the reaffirmation ballot of ANSI/ANS-57.1- 1992 (R2005), “Design Requirements for Light Water Reactor Fuel Handling Systems.” A determination will be made if a revision should be started.

H. ANS-28 Gas-Cooled Reactor Standards

The ANS-28 Subcommittee reported that progress on ANS-53.1, “Nuclear Safety Criteria for the Design of Modular Helium-Cooled Reactor Plants,” was slow over the last six months, but they anticipated having a draft to the NFSC before the next meeting. The subcommittee would be meeting for two days during the ANS meeting in Albuquerque.

6. Liaison Reports

A. ASME

The ASME liaison informed the committee that ASME continued to flirt with developing a system-based code and that they were planning to revise the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code in 2007. Code cases were very valuable to address specific situations and that the only people to interpret the code were the writers.

B. ASME-NQA/Chuck Moseley

The ASME-NQA liaison reported that the NQA-1 Committee was working closely with the NRC to resolve final issues to gain NRC endorsement. Some members of NQA-1 considered ANS-3.2, "Administrative Controls and Quality Assurance for the Operational Phase of Nuclear Power Plants," to be a dead standard, however, as a result of working closely with NQA-1, "Quality Assurance Requirements for Nuclear Facility Applications", better dialogue had been accomplished. It was recognized that ANS-3.2 was more applicable to operating facilities, while NQA-1 was focused on design. It was reported that combining NQA-1 and ANS-3.2 in the near future was not probable.

C. NEI

The NEI liaison reported on several activities that could touch ANS standards activities. The areas identified included NFPA 805 on Fire Protection, 10 CFR 52 on new plants, NRC DG-1145, NRC Standards Review Plan, and NEI's recommendation for NRC to take over operator licensing. It was discussed that implementation periods for NEI documents often don't allow the time to incorporate consensus standards.

D. NRMCC

The committee was updated on the Nuclear Risk Management Coordinating Committee (NRMCC) activities. The last meeting was in September 2006. The NRMCC recommended an integrated Level 1 standard that was assigned to ASME. Work had started on the integrated standard. ASME had thought ANS would not be publishing ANS-58.22, "Low Power and Shutdown PRA Methodology," and ANS-58.23, "Standard on Methodology for Fire PRA," as single standards, but released for trial use. ANS stated its intent to publish all Probabilistic Risk Assessment (PRA) standards.

E. ISO TC 85/SC-6

The committee was updated on the ISO TC85/SC6 meeting June 2006 in Ottawa, Canada. Working groups were revised. SC6 working groups now included: 1) Reactor Analysis & Measurements, 2) Research & Test Reactors, 3) Power Reactor Siting, Design, Operation, and Decommissioning, and 4) Reactor Facility Siting Design, and Decommissioning. SC6 was looking for conveners for new Working Group 3. The committee was reminded that the Nuclear Technical Advisory Group (NTAG) represents US positions on all nuclear energy standards.

F. Canadian Standards Association

While the committee had not recently heard from the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) liaison, it was recommended to continuing a point of contact to foster international cooperation.

7. Old Business

No old business was left from the previous meeting.

8. New Business

A. ANS Strategic Plan

It was reported that significant time was spent with the ANS Board of Directors to identify plans for the future. New reactors were driving the path. A recommendation was made to reconfigure the eight NFSC subcommittees into six. The suggestions being: 1) Power plant design, 2) Non-reactor facility design, 3) System level design, 4) Operations, training, and testing, 5) Siting, analysis, and emergency preparedness, and 6) Plant security integration.

The committee was reminded that the NFSC needed to solicit younger members while experienced members were on the committee to mentor them. A member suggested bringing a student or new member on to the committee, not necessarily as a voting member. A current program soliciting interest from the ANS Young Member Group to join a Standards Committee was discussed. An appropriate, meaningful project would need to be found for student members. The committee was informed of a decision by ANS divisions to support more students financially through technical sessions.

A member suggested appoint alternates that are young members of their companies explaining that Westinghouse has already begun this practice.

B. NFSC Tool Kit

A revised draft of the tool kit was completed and needed to be distributed to the committee for comment.

C. NFSC Glossary

An assignment was made for a member to review the NFSC glossary and attempt an update.

Miscellaneous

The committee was informed that the Operations and Power Division (OPD) started an initiative on an education track within the ANS meetings to develop a group of sessions for a broad understanding on a certain set of subjects. All ANS divisions would have to cooperate to make it happen. An agreement was made to support an education track on standards at the next ANS meeting in Boston.

Available methods to solicit volunteers were discussed. A suggestion was made to include a notice in ANS' monthly electronic newsletter Notes & Deadlines explaining that it reached over 10,000 ANS members. Detailed information about specific needs would be necessary.

NFSC members questioned whether a committee participation report was still being prepared. The committee was informed that the reports are regularly updated and provided to the chair prior to each meeting or when requested. The chair requested that the reports and updated roster be distributed to the full committee.

A committee member questioned whether historical standards were reviewed and considered for resurrection. While historical standards have been reviewed in the past, subcommittee chairs should continue the practice. It was noted that ANS-25 was in the process of resurrecting many historical standards and projects that never made it to standards level.

9. Review of New Action Items/Pat Schroeder

Action Items from the meeting were reviewed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm.