

Minutes
of the June 6, 2000, Meeting of the

American Nuclear Society
Standards Steering Committee

San Diego, California

Members Present:

N. P. Kadambi, *Vice-Chair*, U.S. NRC
S. M. Coyne-Nalbach, *Secretary*, ANS
P. J. Amico, *RISC Chair*, SAIC
B. K. Grimes, *Member-at-Large*, Individual
W. C. Hopkins, *Member-at-Large*, Bechtel Corp.
C. M. Hopper, *N16 Chair*, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
T. M. Raby, *N17 Chair*, NIST
D. J. Spellman, *NFSC Chair*, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
S. L. Stamm, *Member-at-Large*, Stone & Webster Engineers and Constructors, Inc.

Guests Present:

R. J. Budnitz, Future Resources Associates
J. F. Mallay, Siemens Power Corp.
T. L. Quinn, MDM Corp.
C. D. Thomas, Jr., Duke Engineering & Services
A. N. Tschaeche, Nuclear Standards Unlimited

Members Absent:

T. R. Hency III, *Member-at-Large*, NUS Information Services, Inc.
C. H. Moseley Jr., *Chair*, Lockheed Martin
S. L. Rosen, *Member-at-Large*, STP Nuclear Operating Company

1. Call to Order

Mr. Kadambi called the meeting to order in Mr. Moseley's absence, and introductions of attendees were made.

2. Approval of Agenda

Several items were noted as discussion points for the New Business portion of the meeting.

Motion was made, seconded and passed without dissent that the agenda be approved.

3. Approval of Minutes of November 16, 1999, Meeting

Motion was made, seconded and passed without dissent that the minutes of the November 16, 1999, SSC Meeting be approved.

4. Chair's Report

A. PRA Standards

Mr. Amico led this discussion as Chair of the RISC committee. The RISC committee has a broad membership of 26 people. RISC has had two physical meetings to date and regular conference calls. The committee's next meeting will be in June 2000 in Rockville, MD. This meeting will be significant in terms of the release of the External Hazards standard.

Mr. Budnitz continued this discussion in his role as member of RISC and Chair of the Working Groups. The working groups have been very actively involved with the oversight group to handle potential problems early. The project has been subdivided into two working groups reflecting the two documents to be created, the External Hazards group and the Low Power/Shutdown group.

The External Hazards project was discussed first. ASME began developing the Phase I PRA project prior to ANS's project. Our project and theirs are to appear "seamless" to users. After the initial comment period, ASME needed to completely rework their draft. The second draft will be released for its public review on June 20, 2000. ANS has committed to the NRC that the two standards be in agreement, so the ASME public review is critical to our project. This will also allow us to not have to repeat their work in our standard. Further, Mr. Amico and Mr. Ferguson (Vice President of ASME) have

agreed to coordinate their efforts. ANS will attempt to release its External Hazards standard by mid-July.

One week after the public review release of the ASME document, there will be a one day public workshop in DC to discuss it. The ANS project has not yet decided to conduct a similar workshop, but still keeps that option open. The ANS schedule includes a formal ballot and public review to be conducted after an informal comment period. The committee's goal is to deal with the substantive issues before a ballot or public review. Additionally, the committees have solicited preliminary reviews of their draft by a few select experts in the field. The committee hopes to have the public review and ballot completed by January 1. If, however, the June RISC meeting results in a decision that the standards is not appropriately ready, then it will not be released publicly yet.

A second contingency to be considered is the progress of the ASME draft. If that draft receives significant public comments and must return to the drafting table, there is no contingency plan for ANS. ANS cannot release its project without the ASME document and it would not be appropriate for ANS to rewrite the ASME portion. During this development process, our relationship has been a smooth and amicable one with ASME, and this is thanks to the cooperative-spirited relationship between Mr. Amico and Mr. Ferguson. ANS will also have a review group that will evaluate the ASME draft. Mr. Dykes will chair this group just as he did for the last ASME draft. ANS plans to review any other PRA standards that are developed by other organizations.

The Low Power/Shutdown standard is four months behind the External Hazards project. This working group quickly realized that there were two parts to be written. In March 2000, the team discovered that additional research would be required to support the project. Originally, the team anticipated that the NRC would fund this research, but they were unable to do so due to some broader policy issues not related to the standard. The RISC committee is now looking at this problem, and has some disagreement over how to resolve it. The committees are considering approaching EPRI for funding. The ideal situation would be for ANS to be given a grant and to manage the project which would be conducted by a consultant.

The current goal is to have a draft for the first portion of the LPSD standard by the end of 2000. The second portion would require additional research which would take an extra six to twelve months. Then the draft could follow six months after that. In terms of schedule, the External Hazards draft is on schedule; the LPSD project is four months behind with half to be completed later (the half that will be completed later is a portion added to the scope by the RISC committee and not one that we are tied to contractually).

The next question for the RISC committee will be what it intends to do next. This will be discussed at its June meeting in terms of grants and projects.

B. Standards Upgrade Project

At the March 2000 ANS Board of Directors Meeting, the Board approved a Standards Business Plan as presented by Ted Quinn. A copy can be found as **Attachment A**. The plan approved the funding to add part-time staff to the department and to support a technical/marketing consultant based out of the DC area. The proposal also included the addition of a Standards Advisory Group to work with the SSC.

Headquarters has already hired a part-time Standards Assistant. Sue Peccatiello started with ANS in May 2000. Headquarters is now collecting resumes from individuals interested in the technical/marketing position. An advertisement for the position can be found on the ANS web page.

This item will become a standing agenda item for the SSC meetings in the future. Additionally, the newly added technical/marketing individual may also provide a report at this time in the future.

The SSC membership queried themselves asking what they should do to facilitate the progress of this effort. The membership suggested the SSC develop a document responding to the proposal, stating what they SSC plans to do as a part of the plan, and when they plan to do it. Since this could not be accomplished in the meeting the following action item was assigned:

Action Item 6/00-1:

J. Mallay, D. Spellman, and S. Stamm will collaborate to develop a first draft of an internal document responding to the Standards Business Plan and the Board's approval of it.

C. Standards Service Award

Mr. Hency chaired this year's Standards Service Award Selection Committee (Mr. Grimes and Mr. Spellman were also on the committee). The selected recipient is Bill Hopkins. His award will be presented at the November Honors & Awards luncheon.

D. Maintenance of Standards

The continual need for the maintenance of our standard was again reviewed. Mr. Hopkins suggested informing ANS Divisions of standards that are related to their interest area and any delinquent projects that they might be able to assist with. This led to the following:

Action Item 6/00-2:

The SSC Chair and Vice Chair shall develop a schedule for attending the ANS Division meetings which would ensure that all Divisions had an awareness of ANS Standards activities.

B. Standards Upgrade Project

The committee returned to discussion of the March 2000 business plan that was presented and approved by the ANS Board of Directors (**Attachment A**). In response to the goal noted in section 2.1, the SSC felt an SSC report should be given to the Board of Directors each time they meet. In response to goals 2.1 and 2.4, the SSC suggested not only ensuring that an SSC representative was at each Division Meeting, but letting the Division Chairs know that they could expect such representation. One idea that was proposed to build the membership was to run advertisements for new members each time a new working group is started.

In response to the goal indicated in item 2.3, the committee noted that front-end marketing was needed, not advertising. Discussion of item 2.5 led to the following:

Action Item 6/00-3:

C. Hopper, B. Hopkins, and P. Amico shall develop some recommendations for how to develop and improve the ANS web page. C. Hopper will discuss some of this with Johnny Cison, the ANS staff person responsible for web page development.

Regarding item 2.6, the following was created:

Action Item 6/00-4:

C. Hopper shall develop a letter to go to government offices discussing the importance of support for the U.S. international standards program. Ms. Coyne-Nalbach will then distribute this to the SSC membership.

5. Reports on Outstanding Action Items

Many of the action items were closed. The remaining open ones were as follows:

11/99-1: Send a letter to D. Smith from the ANS President expressing appreciation for his years of service. Ms. Coyne-Nalbach will see that this is closed.

11/99-6: Consensus Committee Chairs shall evaluate their members' participation records and provide a report. The NFSC reported that they had completed such a review and one person has already been removed. The RISC Chair indicated that his committee was too new yet to have this kind of evaluation. The N17 Chair reported that he has been very happy with the participation record of his members. The N16 Chair reported that one member had retired and a replacement would be sought; otherwise he was content with his committee's participation record. Thus, this action item was closed

11/99-7: Consensus Committee Chairs to review delinquent status report and provide a status report. This item was closed during the "Maintenance" discussion earlier.

11/99-8: Mr. Saldarini, Mr. Spellman, and Ms. Coyne-Nalbach shall review the status of the ANS-59.51 open clarification. This item remains open.

11/99-9 and 11/99-10: SSC to develop a Standards vision statement and a mission statement based on that. These were deemed complete with the presentation to the Board of the Standards Business Plan. It will be further fine-tuned in the development of the SSC response to the business plan (new Action Item 6/00-1). This item was closed.

11/99-11: N17 to evaluate Bob Henry's proposed standard. Mr. Raby reported that no one in his committee felt it was a standard. It might, however, be a paper. This led to the following:

Action Item 6/00-5:

Mr. Raby to provide headquarters with a proposed paragraph for text of a letter to go to Bob Henry.

With this new action item, item 11/99-11 was closed.

6/98-4: SSC Members to review policies for overhaul. This item will be discussed further later in the agenda (see item 10).

6/95-6: Consensus Committee Chairs to review delinquent projects and contact chairs. This item was closed.

11/98-2: Headquarters to continue to develop the ICONS program and web page possibilities. This item remains open.

11/98-3: Headquarters to send a list of future executive conferences to the SSC. This will be incorporated into the Standards Program Plan being developed (Action Item 6/00-1), so the item was closed. A new action item was assigned:

Action Item 6/00-6:

Mr. Grimes to examine the executive conference schedule and see where standards sessions would be appropriate.

11/98-7: N16, N17, and NFSC Chairs to look at new NFSC reorganization to see if any items should be re-categorized. N17 has begun to review this; headquarters will discuss with Mr. Raby and Mr. Cokinos what decisions were reached at the ANS-19 meeting. Additionally, headquarters will provide a copy of the NFSC organization chart to N16.

11/98-8: R. Knief and T. Raby to review emergency planning issues. This item was closed. A new action item was created:

Action Item 6/00-7:

Mr. Mallay and Ms. Coyne-Nalbach shall review Mr Knief's response to K. Bhanot's inquiry and follow-up on any open clarification.

6. Secretary's Report

The Secretary provided the Staff Report (**Attachment B**), the Project Status Report (**Attachment C**), the Delinquent Projects Report (**Attachment D**), and the Clarification Request Report (**Attachment E**).

Ms. Coyne-Nalbach also gave the ANSI report. She noted that according to the audit report from 1999, ANS will need to consider submitting for reaccreditation with ANSI. ANS committed to evaluate this in June 2000. Additionally, she recounted a recent series of correspondence between ANS headquarters and ANSI. The correspondence indicates that ANSI is reviewing standards for administrative withdrawals, will not hold off on withdrawals simply because a ballot is in place, and will enforce the 10 year policy strictly based on the approval date (rather than until the end of that calendar year).

Ms. Coyne-Nalbach also provided a summary of the current NTAG situation. ANSI had been taking responsibility for the NTAG Administrator. No longer able to fund this, ANSI began asking industry for financial support. Some, but very minimal support was received. ANS was the only standards development organization to make a pledge. (The ANS Board pledged \$5,000 for 2000 and \$5,000 for 2001.) The deadline for funding commitments was April 15, 2000. However, in April the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) began to organize government grants to help support the US role in international standards development. While these plans have not yet been finalized, it does appear that NTAG will remain in existence.

7. Consensus Committee and Liaison Reports

RISC

This report was already given as a part of the discussion on the PRA standard.

N17

The Chair provided a written report of his committee. This can be found as **Attachment F**.

NFSC

In the days previous, the NFSC held both its Executive Committee meeting and its full membership meeting. During the meetings they revisited the list of subcommittee organization and came up with new ideas for standards topical areas on which to work. Other discussion points included what subcommittee chairs and members need to do next, how to define the criteria for actively withdrawing a standard, and how to work with other bodies like FEMA and NEI. Additionally, the committee began to consider contacting foreign groups for participation.

N16

This committee is in good shape. Currently they have two standards that will need a first extension by the end of 2000.

Other Liaison Roles

Mr. Hopkins has attended the recent NRC SDO meetings. He noted that Mike Mayfield (who works for Thadani through research) has replaced Jon Craig's role as an NRC SDO contact. The meetings have had significant discussions regarding the now disbanded NSB. At the next NRC SDO meeting, both Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Amico plan to attend. This led to the following:

Action Item 6/00-8:

Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Amico to work together to coordinate dates, attendance, and topics for the next NRC SDO meeting.

8. Consensus Committee Balance of Interest

Mr. Raby noted that one change should be made to his committee's roster. S. Weiss's name should be replaced by T. Marsh. The revised balanced rosters can be found as **Attachment G**.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the Consensus Committees' Balance of Interest as modified. The motion was passed without dissent.

9. SSC Liaisons

Ms. Coyne-Nalbach discussed the need to update our list of SSC liaisons and formalize their responsibilities. This led to the following:

Action Item 6/00-9:

Ms. Coyne-Nalbach shall send letters to SSC liaisons reaffirming their activity and defining the role expectations.

10. Discussion of SSC Policies and Their Possible Revision

This was discussed at an earlier portion of the meeting. The following action item was created:

Action Item 6/00-10:

Ms. Coyne-Nalbach and two other SSC members to be named shall constitute a small ad-hoc committee to review the SSC policies and propose revisions.

Because of this, Action Item 6/98-4 was closed.

11. Review of New Membership

The committee reviewed the list of newly submitted Standards Volunteer forms. A list of all forms submitted can be found as **Attachment H**.

Motion was made and seconded to approve all submitted volunteer forms. The motion passed without dissent.

12. New Business

Ms. Coyne-Nalbach presented the suggestion that the committee consider its size. With an increase in standards activities, a slightly larger committee might spread the work. The membership did not support this idea.

Questions were raised as to the benefits of having our standards accredited by ANSI and being an ANSI member. ANS does pay significant dues to ANSI, based on the number of standards we approved the previous year. One benefit to having the ANSI name on our standards has to do with liability issues. The committee wanted a full understanding of the full range of benefits from ANSI. Mr. Stamm suggested inviting ANSI to come to the November SSC meeting to discuss these questions with the committee. This led to the following:

Action Item 6/00-11:

Mr. Kadambi will contact ANSI and invite them to speak at the next SSC meeting in DC in November.

Al Tschaech joined the committee meeting as a representative from N13. The question of the effects of low doses of radiation is a big issue in the industry. There are currently no standards on this point. The NCRP doesn't write standards, and it only agrees with the linear hypothesis. In general, no one seems willing to look at the data that says that low doses are not harmful. He

attended this meeting to suggest that ANS, along with HPS, write a standard for this topic. This would fall under the N17 committee, and Mr. Raby expressed caution about approaching the issue. He also had concerns regarding its sales and ability to convince others. Mr. Amico replied that if there's a market for it, then we should pursue getting funding and begin it. This item was tabled for further discussion after Mr. Tschaeche returned with a more specific proposal.

The committee also briefly discussed international standards development participation.

At this time motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. With no dissent, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn M. Coyne-Nalbach
SSC Secretary
ANS Standards Administrator

**List of Attachments
SSC Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2000**

- Attachment A: ANS Standards Program Proposal, March 2000
- Attachment B: Staff Report
- Attachment C: Project Status Report
- Attachment D: Delinquent Projects Report
- Attachment E: Outstanding Clarification Request Report
- Attachment F: N17 Progress Report June 2000
- Attachment G: Balance of Interest Rosters for All Consensus Committees
- Attachment H: List of New Volunteers