

March 4, 2016

NK21-CORR-00531-12687 NK29-CORR-00531-13124 NK37-CORR-00531-02533

Mr. B. Torrie
Director General, Regulatory Policy Directorate
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
P.O. Box 1046
280 Slater Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5S9

Dear Mr. Torrie:

Bruce Power comments on REGDOC-2.2.4 Human Performance Management: Fitness for Duty

The purpose of this letter is to comment on REGDOC-2.2.4, which introduces random drug and alcohol testing to high-security Canadian nuclear facilities and expands medical and psychological testing for workers.

At Bruce Power, ensuring the safety of our employees, the public and the environment is central to everything we do. Accordingly, we fully support what the CNSC is trying to achieve with this draft document.

As active members of the international nuclear community, we embrace the concept of adopting best practices and recognize that testing of this nature is common in many jurisdictions. In fact, this subject was identified during our recent International Atomic Energy Agency OSART Review and we believe regulatory and, more importantly, legislative changes are needed to make enhancements in this area. Against this backdrop, we appreciate the CNSC's efforts to ensure Canadian nuclear facilities are free from the influences of drugs and alcohol and workers in vital roles are physically and mentally ready to perform their duties.

Generally, we believe the requirements in this draft Regulatory Document are consistent with Bruce Power's existing, highly-effective fitness for duty protocols. We are proud of our mature, multi-faceted programs that keep our employees fit for duty and our plants and surrounding communities safe.

As might be expected, given the complexity of the subject and the introduction of new elements like random drug and alcohol testing, several technical and logistical questions have arisen from an extensive review of this early draft by subject matter experts within our organization. Our detailed comments, which were also developed in consultation with our industry peers at Ontario Power Generation, New Brunswick Power and

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Canadian Nuclear Labs, are provided in Appendix A. Given the issues raised during these reviews, we recognize the challenges associated with implementing this document will be significant. It is Bruce Power's position that federal legislation will be a critical component to realistically introduce random drug and alcohol testing within the Canadian context. Our nation's social, legal and labour relation's environments are unique and must be considered. In our experience, the necessary union negotiations, arbitration and potential litigation needed to fully implement all elements of this draft document could span a period of years.

Despite these complexities, we are committed to doing everything we can to support this initiative to enhance the already strong fitness for duty programs that ensure our nuclear facilities operate safely.

With respect, we recommend the CNSC:

#### 1) Incorporate random drug and alcohol testing requirements in legislation supported by a revised version of this Regulatory Document

While Bruce Power endorses the overall objective of this document, we recognize the introduction of random drug and alcohol testing is likely to generate privacy concerns and legal challenges by workers or the unions that represent them.

Given this, we believe the CNSC, its licensees and the public are best served if legislative changes are made first to clearly detail the overarching legal requirements regarding random biomedical testing. Supporting details and guidance can then be contained in a revised version of this Regulatory Document. We believe this is the best way to facilitate proper public debate and reduce the potential for implementation delays brought about by legal challenges.

Without legislative support, we are concerned the conditions of this Regulatory Document will conflict with arbitration and court decisions on the subject. In the absence of legal clarity, the potential for conflicting requirements exist. This could lead to significant issues for operators who may be obliged to follow an arbitration decision rather than the Regulatory Document.

#### 2) Refine the scope to better reflect the truly safety-sensitive population and the level of testing

Considering this document's goal is to enhance safety, we believe these requirements should focus on the subset of armed security and certified control room staff with an obvious and direct impact on nuclear safety.

While every employee at Bruce Power is vital to our success, many work in roles that do not explicitly impact nuclear safety. Yet under the requirements of this initial draft, hundreds of these workers would be subject to a testing regime with no evidence in the impact statement to indicate a need for additional controls beyond those already in



place. The level of effort and investment to create and maintain a round-the-clock organization for the proposed level of random and post-incident drug and alcohol testing would be substantial. So would the development of a suite of position-specific psychological and medical tests, which required nearly three years and extensive union negotiations to fully implement for our armed security personnel.

#### 3) Reconsider the requirements regarding psychological assessments

In our view, the requirement to psychologically assess workers in all safety-sensitive positions is too broad. We support the current obligation to test armed security staff before they assume their duties, but do not believe expanding it to other roles would demonstrably improve existing fitness for duty programs or selection processes.

Current requirements in Regulatory Document 204, Certification of Persons Working at Nuclear Power Plants, already ensure a robust system of selection, testing and evaluation of candidates for certified positions. We believe the rigorous certification and requalification processes already undertaken by certified staff precludes the need for additional psychological testing.

To be clear, Bruce Power will always fund and vocally support programs that improve nuclear safety. Our overall Safety Program is a complex series of interdependent initiatives, each one designed to address specific safety items and close identified gaps to excellence. As a responsible operator, our challenge is to ensure each initiative receives the level of investment and effort appropriate to the issue being addressed while protecting the integrity of the overall program. To aid our analysis of this particular initiative, we encourage the CNSC to revisit the impact statement associated with the Regulatory Document. As currently written, the statement is incomplete and does not provide the Commission enough information to understand the true level of implementation effort and cost needed to meet these requirements.

In closing, let me again emphasize Bruce Power's support for the overall intent of this document. With confirmation of its legal validity and refinements to its scope, we feel it will enhance the existing programs that already keep our workplace drug and alcohol free. We encourage the CNSC to take the necessary time to consider these suggestions and to gather additional feedback from impacted workers, unions and licensees through workshops or other appropriate forums. We are confident that feedback will allow the CNSC to amend this document in a way that aligns Canada with international best practices and enhances nuclear safety in an effective and truly workable fashion. As always, Bruce Power appreciates the opportunity to provide its views on this very important topic and we look forward to further participation as this process evolves.

Mr. B. Torrie March 4, 2016



If you require further information or have any questions regarding this submission, please contact Mr. Maury Burton, Manager, Regulatory Affairs, at 519-361-5291.

Yours truly,

Frank Saunders

Vice President Nuclear Oversight and Regulatory Affairs

**Bruce Power** 

CNSC Bruce Site Office (Letter only) K. Lafrenière, CNSC Ottawa cc:

L. Thiele, CNSC Ottawa

Attach.

#### Appendix A

Document/ Excerpt of Section 3.4 3.6.2 & 3.8
# Excerpt of Section  6. 3.4 Under the guidance heading, please clarify whether 'directed referrals' are mandatory referrals.  7. 3.6.2 & 3.8 The term 'detect' is inappropriate in the final three bullet points under the guidance sections — 'the ability to detect, assess, and effectively respond.' Supervisors may be trained to recognize behaviours and warning signs for a number of employee matters, but they are not expert. The term detect indicates a higher level of expertise.  Section 4.1 — IDENTIFICATION OF SAFETY-SENSITIVE POSITIONS  8. 4.1 The list of positions deemed safety sensitive is too broad. As currently drafted, all certified workers.
Suggested Changes (if applicable)  Clarify language.  Replace 'detect' with 'recognize' in the last three bullet points under guidance.  Limit the automatic designation of safetysensitive positions to certified workers and sensitive positions.
Major Comment/ Request for Clarification Clarification  Clarification
Impact on Industry, if major comment  Broad declarations such as 'safety-sensitive positions shall include' certified workers and minimum shift complement workers are unduly restrictive. Without the ability to use risk-informed analysis to truly determine safety-sensitive

5.1	13. 4.3.3
The	
There is an inconsistent use of language in the final	personnel' referenced in both this section and bullet #2 in Section 4.1. Industry assumes that designation does not include positions such as Security Analysts, Clearance Specialists, etc. and their Managers, but would like confirmation.  Including the statement, 'CSA Group nuclear standard N293, Fire Protection for CANDU Nuclear Power Plants [15] requires emergency response teams (ERT) / industrial fire brigade members to undergo a medical assessment annually, and after each medical leave of absence' is too specific a reference.
Replace 'employment limitations' with	'designated non-NRF personnel'  Remove specifics and rewrite to say, 'CSA Group nuclear standard N293, Fire Protection for CANDU Nuclear Power Plants [15] specifies requirements for medical assessments for emergency response teams (ERT) / industrial fire brigade
Clarification	MAJOR
	Do not document specific requirements that are outlined in a separate Simply point to the standard and state what requirements are therein. documents may be revised.

#	Document/ Excerpt of Section	industry issue
		paragraph under guidance. The phrase 'employment limitations' is used rather than 'work restrictions', which is used elsewhere.
$\Box$	TION 4.4 - PS	SECTION 4.4 – PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS
15.	4.4	The requirement to psychologically assess all safety sensitive positions is sweeping and would require
		significant time to develop position-specific tests, as was the industry experience when pre-placement
		testing was implemented for security personnel.
		Our regular health screening already includes the
		perspective. Psychological issues are often not
		identified at one particular point in time and can be the
		When Regulation 18.2 of the Nuclear Security
		Regulations was implemented, appropriate protocols
		were negotiated with our unions to address its
		requirements. There are no other classifications where
		individuals are required by law to submit to
		psychological testing as a condition of their
		employment. For certified staff, RD-204 contains
		extensive prescriptive requirements for the selection,
	Vie Vie	testing and evaluation of candidates. Industry has wide
	020	latitude to select candidates who exemplify the
		the Capital and technical attributes required for the
		and simulator training, testing and evaluation and are
		closely monitored and observed in both classroom and
		operational settings. A large percentage of initial
		candidates are screened out prior to certification. In
		summary, there is ample evidence that the actual
		cer dilication and redualitication processes reduited of
		certified staff would supplant any requiremen
		certified staff would supplant any requirement psychological testing. No evidence has been pr
		certified staff would supplant any requirement for psychological testing. No evidence has been provided that such testing would improve selection processes or

		21.		20.	ALCO		SECT	18.	17.	16.	#
		4.6.2		4.6.1	HOL AND DRUG TESTING		5-		5.2	4.4.1	Document/ Excerpt of Section
defined the circumstances that would prompt for-cause testing at their particular facilities.	using the broad definition of 'safety significance' provided is open to interpretation and potential challenge. This document would be strengthened if licensees' fitness for duty governance documents	Guidance regarding for-cause alcohol and drug testing	testing' is overly broad and generates significant human resource issues.	The statement, 'Licensees shall require <i>all</i> applicants to a safety-sensitive position to submit to alcohol and drug	UG TESTING	statement, 'In developing requirements for physical fitness standards for industrial fire brigades, licensees should consider the 13 essential job tasks of a local fire department defined in the National Fire Protection Association (US) Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments NFPA 1582 (2013) [16] in the context of fire response for an industrial fire brigade at a nuclear facility.'	OCCUPATIONAL FITNESS ASSESSMENT	The final bullet, which says the certificate should: 'include any temporary or permanent work restrictions,' is a business issue and not appropriate for a regulatory document.	The first sentence of the second paragraph indicates 'The psychological assessment shall include an interview and one or more tests.' If a requirement is implemented, the business should have final determination of what kind and number of assessments they feel is appropriate. This is a business issue and too specific for a regulatory document	See comment on Section 4.1 regarding certified staff on temporary assignments	Industry Issue
reasonable grounds and post-incident circumstances.'	shall define within their fitness for duty governance documents when workers in safety-sensitive positions will be required to submit to for-cause testing under	Rewrite the first sentence to say, 'Licensees	position to submit to alcohol and drug testing as a condition of placement.'	Rewrite to say, 'Licensees shall require all successful candidates to a safety-sensitive		reference to National Fire Protection Association NFPA 1582. Reference should instead be made to CSA N293, Fire Protection for Nuclear Power Plants.		Remove the sentence	Remove requirement	See comment on Section 4.1 regarding certified staff on temporary assignments	Suggested Changes (if applicable)
		MAJOR		MAJOR		SALC R		MAJOR	MAJOR	MAJOR	Major Comment/ Request for Clarification 1
	testing, we can anticipate varied and potentially conflicting interpretations and worker challenges.	Without clarity in governance documents on what would prompt for-cause	Society Society	As currently written, this requirement will lead to undue administrative burden with no corresponding exfets benefit		CSA N293, Fire Protection for Nuclear Power Plants is in the process of being revised to address fitness standards. CNSC is encouraged to have these requirements established in that nuclear standard rather than pointing to a separate document.		Managing employee accommodation is a business issue. From a requirement's perspective, the regulator should only have an interest in whether the employee is fit, unfit, or fit to perform with restrictions. It should not matter to the regulator if the employee has permanent or temporary restrictions.	Impedes industry ability to implement the requirements in the most optimum way.	If applied to all certified staff performing any role, this requirement this will lead to undue administrative burden with no corresponding safety benefit	Impact on Industry, if major comment

		37.	36.		35.			·					34.				33.					32.									#	
	<b>C.</b> 4	Appendix	Appendix D.3	D.2	Appendix								Appendix C				Appendix B					5.5						•		Section	Excerpt of	Document/
may be anneare to determ it enditeriged.	Dilution substance testing programs, Dilution substance testing protocols have not been broadly accepted for workplace testing programs, and may be difficult to defend if challenged	Dilution substance testing protocols have not been	This appears to be missing Oxymorphone		This appears to be missing Oxymorphone	this unsafe practice.	CNSC is asked to explain the basis for re-introducing	direction. The safety-related concerns still exist. The	under e-doc4413805 dated, 23 April 2014 provides this	regulatory correspondence issued to Bruce Power	testing due to safety concerns raised by industry. CNSC	requirement was temporarily eliminated from the	Page 25, Station 2b – Stair climb station. This	determine if the requirements are appropriate	response force personnel' before industry can	what positions qualify as 'designated non-nuclear	The requirements are unclear. Clarity is required as to	alcohol program addressed in the document.	dependency. This is a duplication of the drug and	sensitive positions for substance abuse and or	assessment process to evaluate workers in safety-	Licensees shall establish, implement and maintain an	process as unreasonable.	or whether the unions will challenge this part of the	what assistance EAP could offer in such circumstances,	automatically require a referral to EAP. It is not clear	acknowledge a substance abuse problem will	limit and where the employee does not otherwise	program. A test that only fractionally exceeds a policy		Industry Issue	
		Remove reference to dilution protocols	Add Oxymorphone to be consistent with available laboratory testing panels.	available laboratory testing panels.	Add Oxymorphone to be consistent with							use the railing during the stair climb.	Remove the direction for personnel <b>not</b> to				Clarify the affected work groups					Remove this redundant requirement.									Suggested Changes (if applicable)	
		Clarification	Clarification		Clarification								Clarification				MAJOR					Clarification								Clarification 1	Request for	Major Comment/
																	Industry cannot comply without confirmation of affected work groups & does not								circumstances.	difference between self-referral circumstances, and policy violation	providers provide both SAP and EAP services. But it is still important to note the	program violation occurring. That said, in some circumstance, some service	49 CFR Part 40. EAP is a program for self-referral prior to a drug and alcohol		Impact on Industry, if major comment	