Nuclear Safety Standards Committee

36th Meeting

16 – 18 October 2013

Agenda item 2.4

DS460 Communication and consultation with interested parties

Jean-Rene JUBIN, RAS-NSNI
DS460 has been developed in compliance with the DPP Version 9 dated 11 October 2012 as spelt out below

- "The objective is to provide practical guidance, good practices and recommendations for regulatory bodies concerning communication and consultation with interested parties about the possible radiation risks associated with facilities and activities, and about processes and decisions of the regulatory body.
- The safety guide will not address communication during emergency situation."

- DS460 is expected to constitute a chapter in the new structure of the set of Safety Guides for regulatory body.
• Safety fundamental principle no 2 Role of government
  Para 3.10: The regulatory body must: (…)
  • Set up appropriate means of informing parties in the vicinity, the public and other interested parties, and the information media about the safety aspects (including health and environmental aspects) of facilities and activities and about regulatory processes;
  • Consult parties in the vicinity, the public and other interested parties, as appropriate, in an open and inclusive process.

• Safety Fundamental Principle no 9 Emergency preparedness and response
  • Arrangements for EPR have to (…) include the capability to take action (…) to inform personnel at the scene, and if necessary the public during an emergency
### Introduction

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<th>Step</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>Approval of DPP by the Coordination Committee</td>
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<td>4Q/2013</td>
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<td>10</td>
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Introduction

• DS460 comprises 5 section providing the Member States with guidance according to a logical manner
  1. Introduction
  2. Overarching Recommendations
  3. Legislation and Regulation
  4. Implementation issues
  5. Methods
Fukushima implications

- Fukushima showed the necessity to establish strong regular communication and consultation practices.
  
  - Ensure greater communication success during a possible emergency
  - Support the regulatory body in discharging its regulatory functions
  - Identify the regulatory body as a reliable and competent key organisation to protect people and the environment from harmful effects of ionizing radiation
  - Develop the safety awareness amongst interested parties
### Members’ comments |1

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<th>Number of Comments</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<th>AM</th>
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<td>12. WASSC Chairman</td>
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A: Accepted, AM: Accepted but Modified, R: Rejected
The comments resulted in many useful improvements to the document
Notable comment topics

1. Restructure and Rewrite the document: principles and most important aspect stand out and the structure more logical (5, 7, 62)
2. Political vs. regulatory decisions (16, 28, 40, 46, 48)
3. Communication on and perception of risks (17)
4. Assistance of communities to develop processes of communication and to understand issues (83)
5. DS460 to be established as a standalone document (2, 9.a)
Restructure and Rewrite the document

- Principles and most important aspect to stand out and the structure more logical (5, 7, 62)
  - Developed according to a logical structure from *Overarching Recommendations to Methods*
  - Readership is broader than professionals in communication: Communication principle along with more safety specific aspects
  - Streamlined and enhanced at several occasions
    - Technical Meeting (March 2013)
    - Coordination committee review
    - SSCs’ Members review (181 comments)

- Its has been proposed to reject it
Several comments recommend to clarify the differences between political decision making process and safety authority decision making process (28, 40, 46…)

- It is not intended to address political decisions and purposes such as public acceptance
- DS460 provides guidance related to regulatory decisions

Clarifications have been provided where needed, for others, it has been proposed to reject them
Communication on and perception of risks

- Perhaps a section on risk communication is warranted. The guidance lacks any details on how to communicate risk with members of public, educating public regarding radiation risk, and alleviating concerns regarding risk perception (e.g., in countries considering nuclear energy) (17)
  - Not the role of the RB to “alleviate” concerns regarding risk perception or to address public acceptance
  - DS460 guidance is aiming at strengthening the safety infrastructure

- It has been proposed to reject it
It is proposed to discuss in NUSSC para 4.8 (83)

It is proposed to keep the para but to modify it as follow: The regulatory body, where appropriate, should encourage and assist communities to develop processes of communication and to understand issues with its assistance and the assistance of operators.

This guidance is in line with 4.25 regarding local liaison groups (or committees) assistance

Other communities may also need some assistance, e.g., parties in a vicinity (town hall meetings..)
Need for a standalone document

- **Stand-alone safety guide on all the important obligations highlighted below from Agency safety standards, for effective public communication and consultation by both regulators and operators (2, 9.a)**
  - RB are responsible to set up appropriate means to inform and to consult interested parties (SF -1)
  - DS460 a chapter of the new Safety Guide for regulatory bodies
  - Operators and Regulators do not have same communication objectives:

- **It has been proposed to reject this proposal**
Conclusions

• This guide provides practical guidance and recommendations for regulatory bodies.

• The draft has been developed carefully and is in line with the DPP endorsed by the CSS considering in a balanced manner Communication and consultation principles and safety aspects.

• SSCs Members’ comments help to improve further the draft.

• It is proposed the Committee to approve the DS460 draft.