Operating Guide for the ASME/ANS Joint Committee on Nuclear Risk Management (JCNRM) reporting to the Board on Nuclear Codes and Standards

Approved by the ASME/ANS Joint Committee on Nuclear Risk Management on August 8, 2023.
Approved by the Board on Nuclear Codes & Standards on August 24, 2023.
Approved by the ANS Standards Boards on August 28, 2023.

I. General (Reference Section 1)

This operating guide provides specific information related to the JCNRM Standards Committee reporting to the Board on Nuclear Codes & Standards, hereafter referred to as the "Committee", and provides guidance on its practices and procedural preferences.

II. Charter (Reference Section 1)

The Charter of the Committee is as follows:

The Joint Committee on Nuclear Risk Management (JCNRM) is responsible for the preparation and maintenance of voluntary consensus standards, standards-related guidance documents, guidance standards, and technical reports that support the application of risk-informed approaches. These efforts address currently operating and future nuclear power plants and other types of reactors, as well as the transport, storage, handling, and processing of new and used nuclear fuel and radioactive waste. The JCNRM may also support other consensus committees of the American Nuclear Society (ANS) and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), and other standards-developing organizations (SDOs), by reviewing and commenting on risk-related aspects of standards, guidance documents, and other documents prepared by those organizations, at their request.

III. Standards Committee Membership Number of Consensus Body Members (Reference Para. 3.3)

The Committee:
☒ prefers to operate with no more than [35] members.
☐ does not have a preferred upper limit on the number of its members

☐ prefers to operate with no fewer than [#] members.
☒ does not have a preferred lower limit on the number of its members

Additional Preferences for Number of Consensus Body Members:

Membership Duties (Reference Para. 3.3.1.1.1)

Members, their alternates, or their representatives are expected to be in attendance and participate in not less than 75% of all scheduled meetings of the standards committee.

Additional Preferences for Attendance at Meetings:

Members or their alternates are expected to participate on not less than 75% of all standards committee ballots.

Additional Preferences for Ballot Participation:

Interest Categories (Reference Para. 3.3.1.1.2)

Members of the Committee are typically identified by the following interest categories (See Appendix 2 for the definition of each interest category):

☒ AA Constructor
☒ AB Designer
☒ AC Designer/Constructor
☐ AD Distributor
☐ AE Employee/Union Interest
☒ AF General Interest
☐ AG Installer
☐ AH Insurance/Inspection
☒ AI Laboratory/Testing
☒ AK Manufacturer
☐ AM Material Manufacturer
☒ AO Owner
☐ AP Pipeline Operator/Owner
☐ AR Oil Refining/Production
☒ AT Regulatory
☒ AV Trainer/Educator
☐ AW User
☒ AX Utility
☒ AY Government
☐ CA Producer – Airframe/Power Plant
☐ CM Chemical Manufacturing
☐ DE Design/Engineering
☐ GS Gage Manufacturer
☐ MC Cast Boiler Manufacturer
☐ MH Water Heater Manufacturer
☐ MW Wrought Boiler Manufacturer
☐ OP Pressure Relief Device Manufacturer
☐ PP Petroleum Production
☐ PR Petroleum Refining
☐ RM Repair Manufacturing
☐ SP Standards Development Organization

Additional Guidance for Interest Categories:

For the purpose of consensus body approval, the ASME interest classification is used.

As a joint ANS/ASME Committee, each member must also be classified in accordance with ANS categories of interest requirements. See **Appendix A** of this Operating Guide for additional guidance.

Change in Interest Category (Reference Para. 3.3.1.1.2(d))

When a member's interest category changes, and that does not result in an imbalance, the Committee prefers to:

☐ Reaffirm the member to complete the present term, under the new interest category

☐ Reappoint the member for a new full term, under the new interest category

☒ No preference

Additional Preferences for Standards Committee Membership:

IV. Subordinate Group Membership

Establishment of Subordinate Groups (Reference Para. 3.2.2.1)

Subordinate groups that do not report directly to the standards committee are typically established by:

☒ The parent committee

☐ The consensus body

☐ Not applicable

Subordinate Group Membership (Reference Section 3.4)

Membership actions for subordinate groups that report directly to the standards committee are typically approved by:

☒ The consensus body

☐ The Chair of the consensus body

☐ Not applicable

Membership actions for subordinate groups that do not report directly to the standards committee are typically approved by:

☐ The parent committee

☒ The Chair of the parent committee

☐ The consensus body

☐ The Chair of the consensus body

☐ Not applicable

Additional Preferences for Standards Committee Membership:

Membership actions for subordinate groups that report directly to the standards committee are also typically approved by the subordinate group prior to consensus body approval.

Membership appointments for subordinate groups that do not report directly to the standards committee are also typically approved by the Chair of the subordinate group prior to approval by the Chair of the parent Committee.

Membership reappointments and terminations for subordinate groups that do not report directly to the standards committee are also typically approved by the subordinate group prior to approval by the Chair of the parent Committee.

Chairs and Vice Chairs of Subordinate Groups that do not report directly to the Standards Committee (Reference Para. 3.4.3.2)

Chairs and Vice Chairs of subordinate groups that do not report directly to the standards committee are typically nominated by

☐ The Chair of the parent committee

☒ Election method specified in 3.3.4.2.1.1

☐ Not applicable

Chairs and Vice Chairs of subordinate groups that do not report directly to the standards committee are typically appointed by:

☒ The parent committee

☐ The consensus body

☐ Not applicable

Additional Preferences for Subordinate Group Membership

V Standards Committee Ballot Authorization (Reference Para. 4.4.2)

The Committee prefers to authorize a standards committee ballot by:

☐ The subordinate group responsible for the standards proposal

☐ An officer of the subordinate group responsible for the standards proposal

☐ An officer of the standards committee

☐ Members of the standards committee

☒ No Preference

Additional Preferences for Authorization of Standards Committee Ballot:

VI Interpretations

Issuance of Interpretations (Reference Section 5)

Interpretations, generally, are
☐ not provided for any standards within the committee charter
☒ provided for all standards within the committee charter
☐ provided for all standards within the committee charter, except the following:
_____
_____

☐ provided for only the following standards:
_____
_____

Additional Preferences for Interpretations: See **Appendix B.**

Approval of Interpretations (Reference Para. 5.2)

When interpretations are issued, the Committee prefers to approve them via
☐ Consensus Body
☐ Cognizant Subordinate Group
☒ Special Committee
☐ No Preference

Additional Preferences for Interpretations:

It is recommended that Interpretations are also submitted to the Standards Committee for review and comment, either before or after Special Committee approval, prior to issuance. All comments should be addressed.

VII Cases

Issuance of Cases (Reference Section 6)

Cases, generally, are
☐ not provided for any standard within the committee charter
☒ provided for all standards within the committee charter
☐ provided for all standards within the committee charter, except the following:
_____
_____

☐ provided for only the following standards:
_____

Cases are typically reviewed on the following cycle: 5-year cycle

Additional Preferences for Cases:

VIII Technically Affected Parties

Parties Outside of ASME's Committee Structure (Reference Para. 4.4.5)

Technically affected parties outside of ASME's committee structure are typically provided an opportunity to review and comment on proposals during:
☒ the ANSI Public Review only
☐ a third party/industry review in addition to the ANSI Public Review
☐ the ASME Public Review only
☐ a third party/industry review in addition to the ASME Public Review

Additional Preferences for Review by Parties Outside of ASME's Committee Structure:

Parties Within ASME's Committee Structure (Reference Para. 4.4.2.1.2.2)

The committees noted below are typically affected by changes to this committee's standards as indicated below:

Standard	**Section/Part (if applicable)**	**Committees[1] typically technically affected by revisions**	**Typical Timing of Review & Comment**
All JCNRM Standards		ANS Standards Board	For Procedural Review after standards committee approval.

Additional Preferences Review by Parties Within ASME's Committee Structure:

IX Additional Honors & Awards (Reference Section 8 & Appendix 4)
[Additional honors and awards information applicable to this standards committee.]

- Nuclear Standards Committee Outstanding Service Medal – This is an annual award that is handed out by the Joint Committee on Nuclear Risk Management (JCNRM) to a member who exhibits

[1] Committees may include conference committees.

exceptional service and technical contributions to the JCNRM. For additional Guidance, refer to the Board on Nuclear Codes and Standards Operation Guide.

- Dedicated Service Award, Melvin R. Green Codes and Standards and Bernard F. Langer Medal Sector Award - For information on this type of award, refer to the Operating Procedures for ASME Codes and Standards Development Committees, Appendix 4.

X Additional Guidance

ANS Interface – See **Appendix C**

JCNRM Executive Committee

- The Chair of each Subcommittee is appointed by the standards committee to the Executive Committee for a term that aligns with their Subcommittee Chair position.
- Executive Committee Members who are not the Chair of a Subcommittee are to be appointed, reappointed, or terminated with majority approval of the Executive Committee followed by the Standards Committee.

Appendix A

ANS Interest Categories

In addition to ASME Interest Categories, the JCNRM shall not have more than one-third of its membership in any one ANS Interest Category. The following definitions shall be used to determine the ANS interest category of each member of the JCNRM.

1. OWNERS

Any organization (including utilities) that owns a nuclear power generation facility. Includes operators of such facilities where the operator and owner are different companies. Includes national or international organizations (e.g., Nuclear Energy Institute, Institute of Nuclear Power Operations, Electric Power Research Institute, and World Association of Nuclear Operators) that work on behalf of owners and consultants[1] that provide professional services to owners.

2. VENDORS

Any organization that provides equipment (including fuel) and services to an owner, the government, or to another vendor. Includes consultants that provide professional services to vendors. (Vendors are also called suppliers or manufacturers.)

3. ARCHITECT ENGINEERS AND CONSTRUCTORS

Any organization that provides services (but not equipment), design work (including architectural services), planning, construction management, and/or construction to an owner, the government, or a vendor. Includes consultants that provide professional services to architect engineer and constructors.

4. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Any federal or state agency (such as departments, administrations, commissions, and boards) with missions to regulate use of byproduct, source, and special nuclear materials to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety, to protect the environment, and to advance the national, economic, and energy security of the United States. Includes consultants that provide professional services to government agencies.

5. NATIONAL LABORATORIES/GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

Management & Operating (M&O) contractors operating national laboratories or government-owned facilities and consultants that provide professional services to national laboratories.

[1] Includes self-employed consultants and those employed by consulting organizations for the purpose of these standards development activities rules and procedures only.

6. UNIVERSITIES

Any recognized institute of higher learning whose mission is to educate and to provide research through an environment of open and interactive collaboration with industry and government.

7. SOCIETIES

Standards developing organizations, including insurance and nuclear inspection organizations, whose mission is to develop standards, consensus or otherwise, that have potential relevance to ANS standards (ANS representation is not allowed).

8. INDIVIDUALS

A person who is nationally recognized for expertise within the scope of the assigned consensus committee who is not paid for professional services provided to any other organization defined herein (with the exception of grants administered by ANS or a similar organization).

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION

An organization that is represented or pays for a person's participation in the activities of the consensus committee. Applies to employees of any organization defined herein regardless of financial support. This does not apply to national laboratories and government facilities whose employees are paid by the M&O contractor.

Appendix B

Interpretations Approval Process

1.0 Charter

The Special Committee is hereafter called the Interpretations Working Group. The JCNRM Co-Chairs shall identify the appropriate JCNRM group to which the Interpretations Working Group reports.

2.0 Membership

Typically, when voting to approve an inquiry response, the Interpretations Working Group is composed of a minimum of six members: at least five technical members familiar with the content, requirements, and format of the requirements documents for which they will be providing interpretations, plus the ASME Staff Secretary. The Interpretations Working Group may be augmented when needed with additional members, selected from among the authors of the specifically dated standard or part of the standard that is the subject of a particular inquiry, to draft the response. If such authors are not available, present members of the Working Group responsible for the standard or part of the standard that is the subject of the inquiry (who were not authors at the time the standard was prepared) should be included.

Appointed members will be selected by the Interpretations Working Group Chair, with approval by the JCNRM Co-Chairs. The JCNRM Co-Chairs may also recommend individuals to serve as members of the Interpretations Working Group. Should the Co-Chairs fail to agree on the membership, the members will be selected by majority vote of the full JCNRM.

The Interpretations Working Group may, at its discretion, solicit evaluation of an inquiry by subject matter experts, or by technical expert teams composed of members of the JCNRM, Subcommittee on Standards Development, or Subcommittee on Standards Maintenance. Such technical expert teams may provide input to the Interpretations Working Group, but do not vote on interpretations.

3.0 Officers

The JCNRM Co-Chairs shall designate one individual to serve as Chair of the Interpretations Working Group. Should the Co-Chairs fail to agree on a Chair, the Chair will be selected by majority vote of the full JCNRM.

4.0 Interpretations Process

Copies of all interpretations approved by the Interpretations Working Group shall be sent to the JCNRM Co-Chairs for concurrence, and then sent to the JCNRM for five working days to review and comment. An interpretation shall not be issued with unresolved Objections. Objections and

comments that cannot be resolved by the Interpretations Working Group shall be forwarded to the Subcommittee(s) responsible for the section(s) of the standard pertinent to the inquiry for resolution. If no objections or comments are received during this review and comment period, the Secretary shall prepare a formal transmittal of the interpretation and submit it to the Point of Contact (POC) for ANS Standards Board (SB) review. Upon approval by the ANS SB, the POC shall notify the JCNRM Secretary. If the ANS SB does not grant its approval, the ANS POC shall provide the JCNRM Secretary the basis for the objection and resolution to satisfy the ANS SB.

Appendix C

ANS Interface

1.0 ANS Point of Contact

ANS will appoint a Point of Contact (POC) to the JCNRM. The POC will be a member of the ANS Staff and a member of JCNRM without vote. The POC shall be on distribution for all JCNRM ballots (administrative/standards action) and have access to ballot materials and committee documents and information (i.e., rosters, membership information, minutes) available on ASME Codes & Standards Connect. The POC will be listed on the JCNRM Roster as Contributing Member (without vote).

2.0 ANS Approval and Certification of Leadership and Members

One of the JCNRM Co-Chairs shall be an ANS member elected by the JCNRM by ballot and subject to approval by the ANS Standards Board (SB).

The JCNRM Secretary shall submit documentation for one of the JCNRM Co-Chairs to the POC. Upon approval by the ANS SB, the POC will notify the JCNRM Secretary.

Annually, the JCNRM Secretary shall submit the JCNRM's Balance of Interest to the POC. The JCNRM Balance of Interest shall comply with both ASME and ANS Balance of Interest categories. Upon approval by the ANS SB, the POC shall notify the JCNRM Secretary. If the ANS SB does not grant its approval, the JCNRM's Balance of Interest shall be changed to satisfy the ANS SB.

3.0 ANS Certification of New Standards, Reaffirmations, Revisions, and Withdrawals

After a new standard, reaffirmation, revision, or withdrawal has been approved by the JCNRM, the JCNRM Secretary shall submit documentation to the ANS POC for ANS SB certification in accordance with its procedures, along with:

1) the completed BSR-9 as it will be submitted to ANSI;

2) a tally of the JCNRM vote;

3) a summary of unresolved disapproved votes and board comments, and project team responses;

4) comments resulting from ANSI Public Review, along with the corresponding responses and final JCNRM voting tally if applicable.

Upon certification of the ANS SB, a letter over the signature of the SB Chair shall be provided to the JCNRM Secretary confirming approval.