

Subcommittee D – Generating Station and Industrial Cables – Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

- **2:00 – 2:15 PM – Opening Remarks and Administrative Presentation**
- **2:15 – 3:15 PM – “Material Update”** – Robert Konnik, Chief Technology Officer, Champlain Cable Corp.
- **Abstract** – Update on material compliance relating to Regulatory issues with DBDPE, coupled with supply issues of antimony trioxide; Moving away from Group D Countries; Move to Zero Halogen Compounds; PFAS update
- **Robert Konnik** is Chief Technology Officer for Champlain Cable Corporation where he is on the leadership team and oversees research and development activities. Robert has over 35 years of wire and cable experience in a variety of areas including Leading a Business Unit, R&D, Business Development, and Engineering. Robert has an executive certificate from MIT in strategy and innovation. Robert is also an IEEE senior member and active participant, being the current Chairman of NPEC, past chair of SC2, past chair of ICC Sub D, Chair of IEEE 383, Chair of IEEE 690, Chair of IEEE 848, Chair of IEEE 622, and Vice Chair of IEC/IEEE 60780-323 as well as member of the NPEC conformity assessment steering committee.
- **3:15 – 3:30 PM – Break**
- **3:30 – 4:45 PM – “Addressing EMDA Knowledge Gaps for Continued Use of Cables Based on Research Results”** – Leo Fifield, Chief Scientist, Materials Aging and Detection, US DOE PNNL; Mo Sadollah, Senior Electrical Engineer, USNRC
- **Abstract** – The joint effort between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to evaluate potential electrical cable materials concerns with regard to extending reactor operation beyond 60 years resulted in the "Expanded Materials Degradation Assessment (EMDA) Volume 5: Aging of Cables and Cable Systems" report published in 2014. Since publication of the EMDA, research has been performed by the DOE, the NRC, the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) and others to address gaps in knowledge identified in the EMDA. IEEE and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) standards for cable qualification have been updated with new revisions since that time and the NRC has the endorsed newer standards in updated regulatory guides. This presentation reviews the gaps identified in the EMDA and research accomplished over the last decade to address them.
- **Leo Fifield** is Chief Scientist for Materials Aging and Detection at the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE’s) Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL). He leads cable research for the DOE Office of Nuclear Energy Light Water Reactor Sustainability (LWRS) program. Dr. Fifield’s interests include the effects of heat and ionizing radiation on polymeric materials and non-destructive condition monitoring techniques for electrical cables. His degrees are in chemistry, physics, and nanotechnology.

- **Mo Sadollah** is a Senior Electrical Engineer in the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Division of Engineering. He has been involved in cable research projects, electrical systems research, license renewal, and regulatory tasks. Prior to joining the NRC, he worked on several construction, engineering, operations, and startup of various nuclear reactor projects. He holds a bachelor's degree in physics from Shiraz university, and a master's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Aston in Birmingham, UK.
- **4:45 PM – 5:00 PM: Closing remarks and general discussion**