

INFORMATION REPORT

May 23, 2008

SECY-08-0075

For: The Commissioners
From: Vonna L. Ordaz, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
MAY 16, 2008

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*No input this week.

/RA/

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 16, 2008

Susquehanna Steam Electric Station License Renewal Application - On-Site Audit of Aging Management Program

On May 5 - 9, 2008, staff from the Division of License Renewal (DLR) conducted an on-site audit of the aging management programs (AMP) of the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station Units 1 and 2, located near Berwick, Pennsylvania regarding its license renewal application. The staff has not identified any major issues at this time, and will be following up the review process with a request for additional information.

Chemical Effects Testing at Atomic Energy of Canada, Limited (AECL)

During May 5 - 9, 2008, the Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) staff and a contractor traveled to Chalk River, Canada, to observe chemical effects head loss testing being performed by AECL, for six PWR units operated by Dominion. The testing was performed in six small-scale head loss test loops that were recently constructed at the AECL facility. The Dominion/AECL test procedure accounted for many previous staff comments on similar test approaches used by other strainer vendors. However, the staff made several observations regarding the Dominion/AECL testing and requested a follow-up teleconference with the licensee and test vendor when additional results from 30-day tests are available.

Vendor Inspection of PCI Energy Services

On May 5 - 8, 2008, NRR staff conducted a vendor inspection to review and evaluate selected portions of PCI's safety-related 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B and 10 CFR Part 21 programs at PCI's facilities in Lake Bluff, Illinois. Potential violations of 10 CFR Part 21 were identified regarding the adequacy of PCI's Part 21 procedure and posting requirements. Potential nonconformances to Appendix B requirements were also identified regarding welding procedure qualification records (PQRs). Specifically, PCI did not follow its QA program requirements that would specify adequate instructions for the preparation of bend test specimens. Additionally, heat treatment records that supported two PQRs were not readily retrievable; records for one of the PQRs could not be found at all.

Wolf Creek Generating Station (WCGS) - License Renewal Application - Issuance of Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)

On May 8, 2008, the staff completed and issued the Final Supplement 32 to NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants," regarding WCGS for publication in the *Federal Register* Notice. The SEIS represents the completion of the staff's environmental review of the license renewal application submitted by Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation. The SEIS will be filed with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency by May 26, 2008.

Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant - Safety Evaluation Report (SER)

On March 8, 2008, the staff issued the Shearon Harris Safety Evaluation Report (SER) with open items related to the Shearon Harris license renewal application. On November 16, 2006, the staff received from Carolina Power and Light, under the umbrella of Progress Energy Carolinas Inc., an application requesting the extension of the operating license for the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant for an additional 20 years. The SER has one open item and two confirmatory items. The staff met with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Subcommittee on May 7, 2008, to discuss the SER with open Items.

Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Monthly Meeting

On May 14, 2008, the Division of Inspection and Regional Support (DIRS) staff conducted the monthly ROP public meeting to discuss staff initiatives and obtain industry feedback. Attendees discussed mitigating systems performance index implementation, safety culture integration into the ROP, performance indicator issues, and open and new frequently asked questions. The proposed revisions to Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program," were also discussed during this meeting.

Public Meeting on ROP Health Physics Issues

On May 15, 2008, the DIRS staff and regional Health Physics staff conducted a Category 2 public meeting, via video teleconference with Nuclear Energy Institute and nuclear industry representatives to discuss the ROP assessment and screening process for disposition of health physics issues.

Office of New Reactors (NRO)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 16, 2008

Staff Issues Shearon Harris Review Schedule

On May 16, 2008, the staff issued its review schedule for the Shearon Harris combined license application (COLA). The staff published a 35-month schedule for issuance of the Shearon Harris Final Safety Evaluation Report (FSER). The staff is expected to issue the FSER in April 2011 and the FEIS in May 2010. Progress Energy submitted the Shearon Harris COLA on February 19, 2008, for two AP1000 reactor units to be located at the Shearon Harris site in New Hill, North Carolina.

Staff Issues Grand Gulf Review Schedule

On May 16, 2008, the staff issued its review schedule for the Grand Gulf COLA. The staff published a 34-month review schedule for issuance of the Grand Gulf FSER. The staff is expected to issue the FSER in March 2011 and the FEIS in May 2010. On February 27, 2008, Entergy submitted the Grand Gulf COLA for an Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor unit to be located at the Grand Gulf site in Port Gibson, Mississippi.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 16, 2008

Presentation to the Hanford Citizens' Advisory Board Tank Waste Committee

On May 8, 2008, the NRC staff participated in a meeting of the Hanford Citizens' Advisory Board Tank Waste Committee, in Richland, WA. The staff updated the committee on the NRC review of the U.S. Department of Energy regulatory processes for the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant. The staff described NRC review activities since February 2007, when the NRC last briefed the committee.

Public Meeting on Review of Hanford Waste Treatment Plant Regulatory Processes

On May 6, 2008, the NRC staff held a public meeting with the United States Department of Energy (DOE) in Germantown, Maryland related to the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant. At the meeting, participants discussed the DOE's comments on the NRC draft report assessing DOE'S regulatory processes for the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant. Representatives of the State of Washington, various media, and other stakeholders attended.

Meeting of the Nevada Legislative Committee on High-Level Radioactive Waste

On May 14, 2008, the NRC staff addressed a meeting of the Nevada Legislative Committee on High-Level Radioactive Waste (Committee). The staff presented an overview of NRC's process for deciding whether to authorize the construction of a proposed repository at Yucca Mountain, NV. The meeting took place in Las Vegas, Nevada with videoconferencing to other Committee members in Carson City, Nevada. The Committee also received testimony from the Nevada Agency for Nuclear Projects, the Nuclear Energy Institute, and the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 16, 2008

NRC Signs Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) On Cementitious Materials Performance

On May 7, 2008, the Director, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, signed an MOU with the Department of Energy Office of Environmental Management and Office of Engineering and Technology, and the Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology. The MOU initiates cooperation among the agencies to develop credible tools to predict performance of cementitious materials used in nuclear applications over extended periods. These tools will be useful to several NRC offices that evaluate long term performance of cement and concrete. Technical details are governed by the Cement Barriers Partnership, which includes the Federal agencies in the MOU, the Consortium for Risk Evaluation with Stakeholder Participation (CRESP) at Vanderbilt University, SIMCO Technologies of Canada, the Energy Research Center of the Netherlands and Savannah River National Laboratories. The MOU will remain in effect for 5 years.

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Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 16, 2008

Regulation of Advanced Nuclear Power Plants; Draft Statement of Policy (Chapter I)

On May 9, 2008, the NRC published a document (73 FR 26349) noticing the issuance of a draft revision of the NRC's policy statement for the licensing of advanced nuclear power reactors and providing the opportunity for public comment. The purpose of this revision is to improve the licensing environment for advanced nuclear power reactors by minimizing complexity and uncertainty in the regulatory process. The draft revision updates the policy statement to integrate the Commission's expectations for security and preparedness with the current expectations for safety. Comments are due by July 8, 2008.

Organization of Agreement States, Inc. PRM-34-06 (Part 34); Resolution and Closure of Petition for Rulemaking

On May 14, 2008, the NRC published a document (73 FR 27771) noticing the Commission's determination to consider the issues raised in a petition for rulemaking submitted by Barbara Hamrick, Chair, Organization of Agreement States, Inc. (OAS), in the NRC's rulemaking process. The petitioner requested that the NRC amend its regulations to require that an individual receive at least 40 hours of radiation safety training before using sources of radiation for industrial radiography, to revise the requirements for at least two qualified individuals to be present at a temporary job site, and to clarify how many individuals are required to meet surveillance requirements. The petitioner also requested that NUREG-1556, Volume 2, be revised to reflect the proposed amendments. The NRC has determined that the issues and concerns raised in the petition merit further NRC consideration and inclusion in a future rulemaking.

E. Russell Ritenour, PhD; PRM-35-20 (Part 35); Consideration of Petition for Rulemaking Process

On May 14, 2008, the NRC published a document (73 FR 27773) noticing the Commission's determination to consider the issues raised in a petition for rulemaking submitted by E. Russell Ritenour, PhD, on behalf of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM), in the rulemaking process. The petitioner requested that the NRC amend its regulations that address training requirements for experienced Radiation Safety Officers (RSOs) and Authorized Medical Physicists (AMPs). In its review and resolution of the petition, the NRC concluded that revisions made to the regulations in 2005 may have inadvertently affected a group of board certified professionals.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 16, 2008

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of May 9, 2008 through May 15, 2008:

Sen. John McCain, correspondence between his office and NRC since 1-1-1990	FOIA/PA-2008-0221
Investigation and report on an allegation involving a staff member of Nuclear Fuel Services in Erwin, Tennessee, all correspondence between Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman and NRC staff and Commission	FOIA/PA-2008-0222
Office of Inspector General (OIG) Case 0571, regarding Oconee nuclear plant, records of case and associated memoranda	FOIA/PA-2008-0223
Jersey City Medical Center, all documents, letters, investigatory material, e-mails, regarding complaint filed by named individual	FOIA/PA-2008-0224
Baylor Radiological Center d/b/a Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas, Texas, copy of license, amendments, adverse actions or disciplinary actions, all communications between Baylor, Baylor RSO and NRC, etc.	FOIA/PA-2008-0225

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 16, 2008

Arrivals		
ANZALONE, REED	STUDENT ENGINEER	NRR
CUBERO-PONCE, CARLOS	STUDENT ENGINEER	R-II
DZIARNOWSKI, RICHARD	CONSULTANT	OIG
MORGAN, THOMAS	STUDENT ENGINEER	NRR
RILEY, MARCUS	STUDENT ENGINEER	R-II
Departures		
SEIFRIED, JEFFREY	REACTOR SYSTEMS ENGINEER	RES

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Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 16, 2007

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following:

Cyber security

Westinghouse fuel facility in Columbia, South Carolina, declared an alert after a city water line coming into the plant site ruptured

Event reports recently released to the public for both facilities: Nuclear Fuel Service (NFS), Erwin, Tennessee, and BWX Technologies, Lynchburg, Virginia; as well as NFS safety-culture assessment report submission

U.S. low-level radioactive waste imports/exports

Possible strike at Pilgrim power plant, Plymouth, Massachusetts, and the NRC's role

ASLB conference in Las Vegas, Nev., on formats for contentions to be filed in the Yucca Mountain licensing hearings

Other Public Affairs Items:

Chairman Klein visited Turkey Point power plant near Miami, Fla., where he spoke to numerous reporters.

Chairman Klein spoke at the International Conference of Nuclear Engineering in Orlando, Florida, and following the conference, he addressed questions from the attending media on domestic and local topics. OPA also facilitated a longer interview with the St. Petersburg Times.

OPA regional staff assisted in numerous end-of-cycle meetings.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
08-091	NRC Releases Event Reports for Nuclear Fuel Services and BWXT Facilities for 2004 – 2007 (5/12)
08-092	NRC Invites Comment on Advanced Reactor Design Policy (5/12)
08-093	License Renewal Application for Prairie Island Nuclear Plant Available for Public Inspection (5/13)
08-094	NRC Approves Power Uprate for Hope Creek Nuclear Plant (5/14)
08-095	NRC Meeting June 5 in Crystal River, Fla., to Discuss Review Process for Expected New Reactor Application (5/16)

08-096	NRC Finds No Significant Environmental Impacts from Extended Operation of Wolf Creek Nuclear Plant (5/16)
08-097	NRC Issues New Guidance on Release of Thyroid Patients Administered Radioactive Iodine (5/16)
Regions:	
I-08-032	NRC to Discuss Inspection of Company's Assessment of Groundwater Contamination at Indian Point Plant on May 20 (5/13)
I-08-033	05/14/2008 NRC Seeks Input on Draft Environmental Report for Susquehanna Nuclear Plant License Renewal Application; Meetings on May 28 (5/14)
I-08-034	New NRC Senior Resident Inspector Assigned to Hope Creek Nuclear Plant (5/15)
II-08-029	NRC to Discuss 2007 Performance of Farley Nuclear Plant (5/13)
II-08-030	NRC to Discuss Apparent Violations at Global Nuclear Fuels (5/13)
II-08-031	NRC to Discuss 2007 Performance of Harris Nuclear Plant May 20 (5/13)
II-08-032	NRC Issues Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Vogtle Nuclear Plant License Renewal; Public Meeting June 3 (5/15)
II-08-033	NRC to Discuss an Apparent Violation by Areva in Lynchburg, Virginia (5/16)
III-08-020	NRC to Discuss Apparent Violations at American Radiolabeled Chemicals (5/15)
III-08-021	NRC Proposed \$3,250 Fine Against Michigan Hospital for Failure to Properly Secure Radioactive Material (5/13)
IV-08-018	NRC to Discuss 2007 Performance Assessment for Wolf Creek Nuclear Plant (5/13)
IV-08-019	NRC to Discuss 2007 Performance Assessment for Callaway Nuclear Plant (5/16)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 16, 2008

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SECY-08-0059	5/12/08	Rulemaking Plan: Part 74 – Material Control and Accounting of Special Nuclear Material
2. SRM-SECY-08-0033	5/15/08	Approaches for an Integrated Digital Instrumentation and Control and Human-Machine Interface Test Facility in the United States
Commission Voting Record on SECY-08-0033	5/15/08	(same)
3. COMGBJ-08-0002 – Corrected	4/22/08	Commissioner Jaczko's Request for Reconsideration of the Commission decision in SECY-05-0045
SRM-COMGBJ-08-0002	5/16/08	(same)
Commission Voting Record on COMGBJ-08-0002	5/16/08	(same)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-08-0064	5/2/08	Weekly Information Report – Week Ending April 25, 2008
2. SECY-08-0061	5/15/08	Semiannual Update of the Risk-Informed and Performance-Based Plan
3. SECY-08-0063	5/16/08	Annual Report on Activities Associated with Evaluating Scientific Information About Radiation Health Effects and Radiation Protection Recommendations
4. SECY-08-0066	5/12/08	Weekly Information Report – Week Ending May 2, 2008
Memoranda		
1. M080428	5/12/08	Staff Requirement Memorandum (SRM) – Briefing on Reactor Materials Issues, 9:30 a.m., Monday, April 28, 2008, Commissioners' Conference Room, One White Flint North, Rockville, Maryland (Open

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		to Public Attendance)
2. M080429	5/15/08	SRM – Meeting with Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes (ACMUI), 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 29, 2008, Commissioners’ Conference Room, One White Flint North, Rockville, Maryland (Open to Public Attendance)
3. M080516A	5/16/08	SRM – Affirmation Session: I. SECY-08-0058 – Entergy Nuclear Generation Co. and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station), Docket No. 50-293-LR – Entergy’s Request for Guidance on the First Circuit’s Administrative Stay

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congress, dated April 30, 2008, provides a semiannual report on the status of NRC’s licensing and other regulatory activities.
2. Letter to Susan Duley, Office of Management and Budget, dated April 28, 2008, provides NRC’s FY 2008 Regulatory Plan.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), Subcommittee Meeting on Planning and Procedures, notice of meeting (6/3/2008).
2. ACRS, Meeting of the Subcommittee on Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor, notice of meeting (6/3/2008).
3. ACRS, notice of 553rd meeting (06/04-06/2008).
4. Establishment of Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, Dominion Virginia Power (North Anna Nuclear Power Station Unit 3).

Region III (RIII)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 16, 2008

Region II Leadership Retreat

On May 13 - 15, 2008, regional Senior Managers, Branch Chiefs and Team Leaders participated in the Region II Leadership Retreat in Lake Lanier Islands, Georgia. The theme for the retreat was "Raising Our Game-Building Organizational Strength."

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Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 16, 2008

Annual Assessment Public Meeting with South Texas Nuclear Operating Company

On May 14, Region IV staff conducted a public meeting in Bay City, Texas, with representatives of the South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company to discuss the 2007 annual assessment results for the South Texas Project Electric Generating Station. Local and state officials, as well as a congressional staff member were in attendance. Members of the public and the local media attended, as well.

Annual Assessment Public Meeting with Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation

On May 15, Region IV staff conducted a public meeting in Burlington, Kansas, with representatives of the Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation to discuss the 2007 annual assessment results for the Wolf Creek Generating Station. Approximately 20 people attended the meeting including the county emergency director and a county commissioner. No members of the local media attended.

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Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
 Items of Interest
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CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 16					
OCA Contact	Date and Place	Time	Committee	Subject	Witnesses
Decker	05/20/08 2322 RHOB	10:00	House Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality (Representatives Boucher / Upton)	Importing Low Level Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margie Doane, NRC • Kent Bradford, Utah Radiation Control Board • Steve Creamer, EnergySolutions
Decker	05/21/08 311 CHOB	TBA	House Homeland Security Committee, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats, Cybersecurity, and Science and Technology (Representatives Langevin / McCaul)	Implications of Cyber Vulnerabilities on the Resiliency and Security of the Electric Grid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD
Powell	Spring 08 TBD	TBA	House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations (Representatives Stupak / Whitfield)	Inattentive Guards at Peach Bottom and other Security Related Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD
Shane/Dacus	07/16/08 406 DSOB	10:00	Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety (Senators Carper / Voinovich)	New Reactors and License Renewal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NRC Commission • Others TBD