## **INFORMATION REPORT**

November 7, 2002 SECY-02-0197

For: The Commissioners

From: John W. Craig, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO

Subject: SECY-02-0197 WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK

ENDING NOVEMBER 1, 2002

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<sup>\*</sup>No input this week.

## /RA/

John W. Craig

Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:

M. Layton, OEDO

## Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation Items of Interest Week Ending November 1, 2002

#### North Anna Power Station, Unit 2

On October 29, 2002, the NRC staff met with representatives of Virginia Electric and Power Company (VEPCO) and Framatome in Glen Allen, VA for a public meeting to discuss the replacement of the reactor vessel head at North Anna Power Station, Unit 2. During this meeting, VEPCO presented an overview of its plans to reconcile the differences between the French and United States design, fabrication, and quality assurance standards. VEPCO notified the staff that a Belgium utility had reconciled the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and French (RCC-M) standards in which the application of friction welds was addressed. The staff informed VEPCO of its plans to conduct oversight of this project. This oversight will include interfacing with the French regulator and Framatome ANP to understand how the French regulatory process utilizes the French standards, specifically as they apply to the construction of the replacement head for North Anna Unit 2

#### Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 2

The inspection of all the control rod drive mechanism (CRDM) nozzles has been completed, and the licensee is repairing 15 of the CRDM nozzles. None of these had been previously repaired. The repair is in progress, using the Framatome repair method. The reactor vessel head has been washed, and a thorough visual inspection for wastage will be conducted in the near future. A conference call to discuss the status of the repair and inspection will be held on October 30, 2002.

#### H.B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit 2

H.B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant (Robinson), Unit 2 is currently in a planned refueling outage conducting the vessel head inspection, per its detailed inspection plan submitted August 12, 2002. The inspection scope includes: 1) a bare-head visual, 2) eddy current inspection of the inside diameter surfaces of the 52 penetration tubes, 3) eddy current testing on the outside diameter surfaces of the penetration tubes and J-groove welds and P-T of the inaccessible surfaces, and 4) a combination of eddy current and ultrasonic testing on the remaining 17 (out of a total of 69) vessel head penetration (VHP) nozzles.

As of October 29, 2002, the bare head visual inspection and the eddy current/ultrsonic inspection of all of the 69 nozzles have been completed successfully, with no major indications found. There was one minor axial indication at the VHP nozzle number 47. However, this was evaluated by the licensee and predicted to remain below the critical size for 16 years, per Westinghouse flaw tolerance hand book. The Region II staff observed the inspection activities at Robinson.

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#### Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1

The inspection of the vessel head nozzles is complete. This included a bare metal examination of the head and a volumetric examination of all 69 nozzles. Eight nozzles (including nozzle 56) appear to be candidates for repair.

The indications were primarily the result of axially-oriented primary water stress corrosion cracking. In addition, there were no circumferential indications. One nozzle (nozzle 56) was the only leaker identified from the bare metal examination. Nozzle 56 was also the nozzle that was found to have leaked during the previous refueling outage and it was discussed in detail during a public meeting on October 16, 2002.

A Framatome repair method, which will install a new pressure boundary weld between the shortened nozzle and the inside bore of the vessel head base material, is planned to be used on six of the nozzles. A Westinghouse repair method, which consists of a J-groove weld overlay, is planned to be used on the other two nozzles.

#### Public Meeting With the Nuclear Energy Institute

On October 23, 2002, the staff conducted a public meeting with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and other industry representatives on the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation's (NRR's) initiative to develop a Review Standard for Extended Power Uprates (EPUs). The purpose of the meeting was to describe the staff's efforts to develop the Review Standard and obtain feedback from interested stakeholders. The meeting was attended by 23 people, including representatives from NEI, Nuclear Steam Supply System (NSSS) vendors, licensees, and contractors. The staff's presentation included a brief description of the components of the Review Standard (e.g., technical guidance, procedural guidance, and model safety evaluations) and an explanation of the different tasks required for completing the Review Standard. The staff's presentation was followed by a combined presentation by NEI and 3 vendors representatives (General Electric, Westinghouse, and Framatome ANP). Industry's presentation provided the following feedback:

- 1. Industry has extensive domestic and foreign experience with power uprates and sufficient information and expertise to prepare thorough, high-quality power uprate applications.
- 2. Licensees are highly engaged in the rigor required for power uprates.
- 3. An EPU Review Standard would
  - help NRC managers standardize the staff's EPU review process
  - help licensees understand NRC staff's expectations
  - standardize format and content of EPU applications
- 4. The staff's approach for developing the Review Standard is comprehensive.
- 5. The Review Standard should be developed in a manner to allow consideration of plantspecific licensing bases.

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- 6.
- The Review Standard should provide improved guidance for
   ACRS [Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards] Review Guidance/Role
  - review of risk information
  - making reviews more consistent
  - separating Generic Issues from power uprate reviews

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## Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards Items of Interest Week Ending November 1, 2002

#### Staff Meets with AAR Corporation on Decommissioning of Livonia, Michigan, Site

On October 29, 2002, staff from the Division of Waste Management, the Office of the General Counsel, and Region III met with representatives and consultants of AAR Corporation to discuss the decommissioning options for the AAR site in Livonia, Michigan, including the possibility of a restricted release. The meeting was open to the public, and representatives of various licensees interested in restricted release attended the meeting. During the meeting, AAR presented the results of its recent dose analyses, completed to support its proposal for an unrestricted release of the eastern portion of the site and a restricted release of the western portion of the site. AAR plans to submit the dose analyses for NRC review, shortly. NRC staff discussed the requirements and options for restricted release in 10 CFR Part 20, Subpart E (License Termination Rule), and AAR presented its proposal for a possible restricted release at its site. Meeting attendees discussed the dose analyses, the details of a possible restricted release of the AAR site, and restricted release, in general, after the presentations. Persons discussed the next steps for AAR submittals and staff review, also.

#### NRC/Department of Energy Appendix 7 Meeting on Container Life and Source Term (CLST)

On October 22, 2002, staff from the Division of Waste Management and the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses (hereafter, the Center) attended an Appendix 7 meeting with Department of Energy (DOE) Yucca Mountain staff, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Approximately 20 representatives from DOE, the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, the State of Nevada, and the public attended the meeting. DOE presented information on preliminary results and future testing and modeling plans relating to CLST Agreement 1.01. CLST 1.01 addresses the water chemistry that may contact the waste package (WP) or drip shield (DS) currently identified for the proposed geologic repository at Yucca Mountain. The water chemistry is directly relevant to the type and rate of corrosion that is postulated for the WP and DS. NRC shared specific concerns that have arisen based on Center confirmatory testing and literature reviews. DOE said that it would consider the specific concerns. In addition, DOE identified the time frame, for revisions to Analysis/Model Reports, that would provide relevant information to CLST 1.01. The meeting was helpful for NRC's CLST technical staff and resulted in discussions regarding future meetings on topics relevant to CLST.

# <u>Commissioner Dicus and Representatives of International Commission on Radiological Protection</u> <u>Tour Yucca Mountain</u>

On October 22, 2002, Commissioner Greta Dicus toured the Department of Energy's Yucca Mountain site. The NRC On-Site representatives led Commissioner Dicus, members of her staff, the Deputy Director of the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, and members of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) on this tour. The tour included an entrance into the exploratory studies facility (main tunnel), with stops that included the drift-scale thermal test and the moisture-monitoring station for the continuing infiltration studies. The tour also visited the tunnel-boring machine, parked at the south portal to the main tunnel, and the crest

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of Yucca Mountain. The ICRP members, in particular, found the site visit informative and helpful for better understanding the activities occurring at Yucca Mountain.

### Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards Management Visit Nye County, Nevada

On October 23, 2002, the Deputy Director of the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS), a staff member from the Division of Waste Management, and the On-Site Representatives visited Nye County, Nevada. The purpose of this visit was to meet with county officials, including two Commissioners, local business representatives, and community members, to discuss NRC's oversight role in the potential licensing of the high-level waste repository at Yucca Mountain and to gain a better understanding of community concerns and perspectives. During these interactions, NMSS management clearly explained the independent role of NRC and effectively showed the willingness of the Agency to listen to the needs of affected communities. The visit to Nye County was productive and all the contacted community members appreciated the opportunity to meet and discuss items of local importance with NRC representatives.

## <u>Department of Energy Invites NRC to Participate as Cooperating Agency in the Development of the West Valley Environmental Impact Statement</u>

On October 15, 2002, the Department of Energy sent NRC, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation letters inviting each agency to participate in the West Valley Decommissioning and/or Long-term Stewardship Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The letter requests that NRC: (1) document its intent to act as a cooperating agency; (2) identify working contacts for EIS scoping; and (3) confirm its ability to support the projected development time frame for issuing a Record of Decision in 2005. In an October 24, 2002, letter response, NRC affirmed its commitment to participate as a cooperating agency, consistent with NRC's Final Policy Statement on Decommissioning Criteria for the West Valley Demonstration Project.

#### Meeting at the International Atomic Energy Agency

On October 21-25, 2002, a staff member from the Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety participated in a meeting at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria. The meeting was to analyze and propose resolutions for Member State comments on the draft safety guide, DS-161, "Radionuclide Content in Commodities not requiring Regulation for Purposes of Radiation Protection." A substantial number of comments concerned the concept of a Scope Defining Level (SDL), which many Member States believed to be a new, sometimes not clear, and even unnecessary quantity. Consequently, and with reference to the Basic Safety Standards, the concept of exclusion was revisited and interpreted to replace the SDL quantity. The new term, Exclusion Level, replaced the term SDL. The accompanying Safety Report on the same topic was reviewed and the modeling was substantially revised.

#### Amendment to the Trojan Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation Materials License

On October 23, 2002, NRC issued Amendment 2 to Materials License SNM-2509 for the Trojan Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI). Portland General Electric (PGE) is the site-specific license holder for the Trojan ISFSI. The amendment allows for use of a site-specific model of the Holtec International Multi-Purpose Canister (MPC) in lieu of the previously approved

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TranStor fuel basket. The Holtec MPC will be used as part of an integrated system that still uses the TranStor Concrete Cask. The integrated system is designed to have the spent fuel assemblies stored in a dry shielded canister (Holtec MPC), housed in a reinforced concrete vertical storage cask (TranStor Concrete Cask). Trojan will load 34 casks in total and is currently scheduled to begin loading this December. This amendment will support PGE's decommissioning plan for the Trojan facility.

#### Proposed Rule Signed by the Executive Director for Operations

On November 1, 2002, the Executive Director for Operations approved a proposed rule which revises 10 CFR Part 72.214, "List of approved spent fuel storage casks," revising the Pacific Sierra Nuclear Associates VSC-24 system listing within the "List of approved spent fuel storage casks." This amendment will permit a Part 72 licensee to store different specific fuel control elements as integral components to fuel assemblies under a general license. Also, Technical Specification (TS) 1.1.1 will be amended to change the flood condition velocity from 7.62 meters per second (m/s) [25 feet per second (ft/s)] to 5.39 m/s (17.7 ft/s); TS 1.2.1, 1.2.4, and 1.2.6 will be amended to address the additional fuel control elements approved for storage; and TS 1.2.10 will be deleted to eliminate redundant requirements for controlling moderator density.

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## Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research Items of Interest Week Ending November 1, 2002

#### Nuclear Safety Research Conference (NSRC)

The Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research sponsored its annual Nuclear Safety Research Conference (NSRC) on October 28-30, 2002 at the Marriott at Metro Center in Washington, DC. This year's conference was attended by approximately 400 persons, with representation from 18 different countries, including the USA.

The NSRC is an international conference focused on regulatory issues and continues to be a leading forum in which participants are provided an opportunity to interact with NRC staff and colleagues to obtain research results and insights from research programs performed in support of the mission of the NRC.

This year's agenda included presentations by Executive Director for Operations, William Travers, Chairman Richard Meserve, and Commissioners Greta Dicus, Nils Diaz, Edward McGaffigan, and Jeffrey Merrifield; three panel discussions on advanced reactors, formal decision methods and nuclear safety research, and risk informed initiatives methods; and six technical sessions on research in degradation of reactor coolant pressure boundary materials, advanced reactors, fuels, dry cask storage and transportation of spent nuclear fuels, control of slightly contaminated materials, and probabilistic risk assessment research (methods, analyses and operational experience).

All material presented at the conference and the proceedings will be made available on the NSRC web site, <a href="https://www.bnl.gov/nsrc/default.asp">www.bnl.gov/nsrc/default.asp</a>.

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## Nuclear Security and Incident Response Items of Interest Week Ending November 1, 2002

#### National Communications System Council of Representatives Meeting

On October 30, 2002, the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response/Division of Incident Response Operations staff attended the National Communications System (NCS) Council of Representatives meeting at the Defense Information Systems Agency Headquarters. Topics discussed included an update on activities at the Office of Cyber Security, cyber security improvements at the Veterans' Administration, a Department of Defense briefing on access to secure networks, Project SAFECOM, updating the NCS database of critical facilities, the wireless priority service transition, and the SHARES radio network. A working group was formed to investigate best practices in assessing the robustness and diversity of agency access to telecommunications and Internet services. NRC will be represented on the working group.

#### **Preliminary Notifications**

- 1. PNO-IV-02-059A, GEOCON Northwest, Inc. STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE UPDATE.
- 2. PNO-IV-02-060, Wright Patterson Air Force Base TRITIUM CONTAMINATION EVENT.
- 3. PNO-IV-02-062, Little Company of Mary Hospital MISSING IODINE-125 SEEDS.
- 4. PNO-IV-02-061, Construction Testing Lab STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE.
- 5. PNO-IV-02-063, Alpha Testing, Inc. STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE.
- 6. PNO-II-02-037, Bayfront Medical Center MEDICAL EVENT.

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## Office of Administration Items of Interest Week Ending November 1, 2002

#### Submittal of Report by the Interagency Task Force on Performance-Based Service Acquisition

On October 31, 2002, the Division of Contracts (DC), was notified that the Interagency Task Force on Performance-Based Service Acquisition had submitted its report, "Recommendations for Improving and Increasing Use of Performance-Based Service Acquisition Principles," to the Administrator, Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) for review and approval. The Interagency Task Force, which included strong participation by DC staff, recommended several changes to the current Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR). Among the proposed changes, the Task Force recommended that the FAR be modified to give agencies more flexibility in applying performance-based contracting methods to contracts of varying complexity. The Task Force also recommended that OFPP goals for agency implementation of the Performance-Based Service Contracting (PBSC) in FY 2003-2005 be revisited based on FY 2002 governmentwide performance.

#### Nuclear Energy Institute; Denial of a Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-8-1)

A document that denies a petition for rulemaking submitted by the Nuclear Energy Institute (PRM-8-1) was published in the Federal Register on October 30, 2002 (67 FR 66074). The petitioner requests that the NRC amend its regulations to articulate applicable principles of Federal preemption under the Atomic Energy Act clearly and to update a formal opinion by the Office of General Counsel (OGC) regarding NRC jurisdiction over nuclear facilities and materials. The NRC denied the petition because the original OGC opinion remains correct and the expenditure of NRC resources necessary to grant the petition could not be justified when balanced against the minimal benefits anticipated from a supplement to the opinion and the suggested regulations and procedures.

#### Revision of the NRC Enforcement Policy

A document that amends the General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions (NUREG-1600) was published in the Federal Register on October 31, 2002 (67 FR 66311). The amendment includes an interim enforcement policy regarding enforcement discretion for certain fitness-for-duty issues. The interim enforcement policy becomes effective December 30, 2002.

#### Robert H. Leyse; Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-50-78)

A document requesting public comment on a petition for rulemaking submitted by Robert H. Leyse (PRM-50-78) was published in the Federal Register on October 31, 2002 (67 FR 66347). The petitioner requests that NRC regulations be amended to address the impact of the buildup of corrosion products on heat transfer surfaces throughout licensed nuclear power plants. The petitioner believes that the buildup of corrosion products on heat transfer surfaces is not adequately considered in licensing and compliance inspections, testing programs, and computer codes for nuclear power facilities. The comment period on this action close December 16, 2002.

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<u>Voluntary Fire Protection Requirements for Light-Water Reactors; Adoption of NFPA 805 as a Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Alternative (Part 50)</u>

A proposed rule that would permit reactor licensees to adopt a set of fire protection regulations contained in the National Fire Protection Association Standard 805 on a voluntary basis was published in the Federal Register on November 1, 2002 (67 FR 66578). The proposed rule would provide existing nuclear power plant licensees with an alternative set of risk-informed, performance-based fire protection requirements. The comment period for this action closes January 15, 2003.

#### Lawrence T. Christian; Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-50-79)

A document requesting public comment on a petition for rulemaking submitted by Lawrence T. Christian (PRM-50-79) was published in the Federal Register on November 1, 2002 (67 FR 66588). The petitioner requests that the NRC amend its regulations regarding offsite emergency plans for nuclear power plants to insure that all day care centers and nursery schools in the vicinity of nuclear power facilities are properly protected in the event of a radiological emergency. The comment period for this action closes January 15, 2003.

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## Chief Information Officer Items of Interest Week Ending November 1, 2002

<u>Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the period of October 25, 2002 through October 31, 2002</u>:

Investigative reports on named individual (FOIA/PA-2003-0037)

FOIA Request 2002-0434, all documents reflecting the handling/process (FOIA/PA-2003-0038)

FOIA Requests 2003-0025, 2003-0026, 2003-0027, 2003-0028, and 2003-0029, all documents reflecting the handling/processing (FOIA/PA-2003-0039)

Vacancy announcement, all records relating to selectee; interview notes and reference check documents on self (FOIA/PA-2003-0040)

Zeolite and entities of the Oglala Lakota Nation, all records from 1976 to present (FOIA/PA–2003-0041)

Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, use and distribution of methamphetamines by employees from 1985 to 2000, all records (FOIA/PA-2003-0042)

Licenses for the Vatican, Commonwealth Edison, Florida Power, and any cover up for the Catholic church and nuclear energy (FOIA/PA-2003-0043)

Future planned nuclear unit outages, information; and unplanned outages, expected duration and return to service (FOIA/PA-2003-0044)

OI Report 4-2000-061, all documents (FOIA/PA-2003-0045)

NRC Project Manager's Handbook latest version (FOIA/PA-2003-0046)

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## Office of Human Resources Items of Interest Week Ending November 1, 2002

| Arrivals            |                                  |      |  |  |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|------|--|--|
| ALBRIGHT, Jennifer* | MANAGEMENT ANALYST               | NRR  |  |  |
| BHALLA, Neelam**    | OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT            | OE   |  |  |
| BICKETT, Brice      | REACTOR INSPECTOR                | RI   |  |  |
| EHRIG, Tina         | SECRETARY (OA)                   | RIII |  |  |
| GUERRERO, Cristina  | GENERAL SCIENTIST                | NRR  |  |  |
| LARCHE, Linda       | SECRETARY (OA)                   | RI   |  |  |
| RUBIC, Mark         | HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST       | RIII |  |  |
| TREFZGER, William   | IT SPECIALIST                    | OCIO |  |  |
| WILLIAMS, Patricia  | CIVIL RIGHTS SPECIALIST          | SBCR |  |  |
| Retirements         |                                  |      |  |  |
| BAJWA, Singh        | PROJECT DIRECTOR                 | NRR  |  |  |
| JORGENSEN, Bruce    | GENSEN, Bruce BRANCH CHIEF F     |      |  |  |
| Departures          |                                  |      |  |  |
| CONNELL, Edward     | SR. FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEER NRR |      |  |  |
| McCABE, Brian       | TECHNICAL ASSISTANT              | COMM |  |  |

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<sup>\*</sup>Returning from LWOP
\*\*Transferring from RI

## Office of Public Affairs Items of Interest Week Ending November 1, 2002

#### Media Interest

There was media interest in the Requests for Additional Information sent by NRC to PWR licensees regarding reactor coolant system pressure boundary integrity.

Remarks by Chairman Meserve, Brian Sheron and Commissioners Nils Diaz and Jeffrey Merrifield at the three-day Nuclear Safety Research Conference were reported by the media.

| Press Releases |   |  |  |
|----------------|---|--|--|
| Headquarters:  |   |  |  |
| 02-126         | NRC Approves Transfer of Operating License for Seabrook to FPL Energy                               |  |  |
| 02-127         | NRC Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards to Meet November 7 - 9 in Rockville, Maryland          |  |  |
| 02-128         | NRC Issues Interim Enforcement Policy For Fitness-for-Duty  |  |  |
| Regions:       |   |  |  |
| IV-02-045      | NRC to Hold Public Meetings in Mississippi on the Early Site Permit Process for the Grand Gulf Site |  |  |

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## Office of the Secretary Items of Interest Week Ending November 1, 2002

| Document Released to Public |                    | Date     | Subject  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|----------|--|--|--|--|
| Info                        | Information Papers |          |  |  |  |  |
| 1.                          | SECY-02-0182       | 10/9/02  | Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Briefing                              |  |  |  |
| 2.                          | SECY-02-0189       | 10/23/02 | SECY-02-0189 Weekly Information Report -<br>Week Ending October 18, 2002 |  |  |  |
| 3.                          | SECY-02-0186       | 10/15/02 | Status Report on Performance-Based Approaches to Regulation              |  |  |  |
| 4.                          | SECY-02-0193       | 10/29/02 | SECY-02-0193 - Weekly Information Report - Week Ending October 25, 2002  |  |  |  |

## Federal Register Notices Issued

- 1. Advisory Committee for Reactor Safeguards Subcommittee Meeting on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena (GSI-189); Revised Notice of Meeting.
- 2. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Notice of Meeting.
- 3. Denial of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-8-1) Nuclear Energy Institute.
- 4. NRC NUREG-1600 Revision of the NRC Enforcement Policy Policy statement: revision.
- 5. Robert H. Leyse; Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking.
- 6. Proposed Rule; Voluntary Fire Protection Requirements for LWR; Adoption of NFPA 805 as a Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Alternative.
- 7. Lawrence T. Christian, et al.; Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking.

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## Region I Items of Interest Week Ending November 1, 2002

## Region I Senior Management Site Visit to Oyster Creek

During October 29-30, 2002, the Region I Deputy Regional Administrator, and members of the Region I staff, toured Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station and met with the resident inspectors and AmerGen managers and staff. The Regional Administrator participated in the management site visit on October 30.

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## Region II Items of Interest Week Ending November 1, 2002

#### The Nuclear Safety Research Conference

On October 28-30, 2002, the Regional Administrator participated in the Nuclear Safety Research Conference, organized by the Office of Regulatory Research and held in Washington, D.C. As part of a panel discussion with representatives of industry and public interest groups, the Regional Administrator provided insights on NRC risk informed initiatives. The panel was moderated by Commissioner McGaffigan.

#### Senior Resident Inspector's Counterpart Meeting

On October 29-30, 2002, managers in the Regional Office held a counterpart meeting with the Senior Resident Inspectors from the Region II nuclear power plant sites. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss reactor oversight process issue lessons learned and focus areas for improvement. The Chief of the Inspection Program Branch, in the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, participated in the meeting discussions.

#### Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Program

Members of the Regional Equal Employment Opportunity Committee and other managers and staff in the Regional Office observed the Commission Briefing on the status of NRC Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Program on October 31, 2002. This is part of the regional program to integrate the Committee's activities with Agency goals and activities.

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## Region IV Items of Interest Week Ending November 1, 2002

## Predecisional Enforcement Conference with Cooperheat-MQS, Inc.

On October 31, 2002, the Director, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety and other members of the NRC staff conducted a closed predecisional enforcement conference with Cooperheat-MQS, Inc. The purpose of this conference was to discuss apparent violations of NRC requirements associated with radiographic operations in NRC jurisdiction.

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## Office of Congressional Affairs Items of Interest Week Ending November 1, 2002

| CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 72 |                    |      |                                  |   |   |
|--|--------------------|------|----------------------------------|---|---|
| OCA<br>Contact                         | DATE<br>&<br>PLACE | TIME | WITNESS                          | SUBJECT   | COMMITTEE   |
| Combs                                  | Tentative          | TBD  | Dr. Paperiello, DOE, DOD,<br>DOS | Combating Terrorism: Preventing Nuclear Terrorism | Reps. Shays/Kucinich Natl Security, Veterans' Affairs and International Relations Government Reform |

Note: Congress is in recess until Tuesday, November 12.

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