

INFORMATION REPORT

June 26, 2003

SECY-03-0107

For: The Commissioners
From: William M. Dean, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: SECY-03-0107 WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK
ENDING JUNE 20, 2003

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*No input this week.

/RA/

William M. Dean
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
R. Torres, OEDO

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 20, 2003

Power Uprate Public Meeting with State of Vermont

On June 11, 2003, NRR staff made a presentation to the Vermont State Nuclear Advisory Panel (VSNAP) regarding the process that NRR uses for reviewing extended power uprates. VSNAP is a State of Vermont panel of seven members that meets periodically and considers issues relating to present and future use of nuclear power in general, and of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station in particular. This panel advises the governor, general assembly, and agencies of the State of Vermont. VSNAP is considering an extended power uprate for the Vermont Yankee plant and requested this briefing to gain a better understanding of the extent of safety review that NRR conducts for these uprates. The meeting included a presentation on our review process, a question and answer session between VSNAP and NRR staff, and comments from members of the public that were present. The meeting was well attended by members of the public that were both for and against the power uprate. A common theme among members of the public that were opposed to the power uprate was a request for the NRC to conduct an independent safety assessment of the Vermont Yankee plant similar to the one that was conducted for Maine Yankee. A common theme among members of the public in favor of the power uprate is their confidence in the NRC to conduct a thorough review and ensure that the power uprate is safe before granting it. The meeting was covered by two local newspapers.

Quad Cities

Due to indications since late May of increased moisture carryover in the steam, Quad Cities Unit 2 was shut down on June 11, 2003, to inspect and repair the reactor vessel steam dryer. The licensee found through-wall cracking in one of the dryer outer bank hoods, as well as damage to some internal support struts and upper tie bars. The licensee believes the potential root cause of the failures is flow-induced vibration at low frequency. Repairs designed to reduce loads and stresses on the dryer are in progress, and the licensee estimates restarting the unit on June 28, 2003. An NRC inspection team consisting of Region III and NRR staff will arrive onsite on June 23, 2003, to review the licensee's engineering analysis. The NRC staff is reviewing the potential implications of the dryer failure on power uprate.

Decommissioning Completed at Iowa State University UTR-10 Research Reactor

On June 13, 2003, the staff terminated Facility Operating License No. R-59 for the Iowa State University UTR-10 Research Reactor. The reactor was located in the Nuclear Engineering Laboratory on the main campus of Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa. The reactor was a light water moderated and cooled, and graphite reflected Argonaut-type reactor which operated at a maximum thermal power level of 10 kW. Initial criticality of the reactor occurred on December 31, 1959, and the reactor shut down on May 15, 1998. This was the first research reactor to be decommissioned and have its license terminated under the revisions to 10 CFR Part 20 which established Subpart E, "Radiological Criteria for License Termination" and the first research reactor to have its final survey performed using the guidance of the Multi-Agency Radiation Survey and Site Investigation Manual. The staff determined that the site met the requirements of 10 CFR 20.1402, "Radiological criteria for unrestricted use."

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ENCLOSURE A

Preoutage Phone Call to Discuss the Planned Scope of the Seabrook Steam Generator Inspection

On June 16, 2003, the staff held a preoutage phone call with the Seabrook Plant to discuss the steam generator inspection scope for the October 2003 refueling outage. Seabrook uses thermally treated alloy 600 steam generator tubing and is the first plant to identify axial outside diameter stress corrosion cracking in this tube material. Over the past year, two NRC Information Notices have been issued regarding the identification and apparent cause of the cracking. The licensee attributed the cracking to irregular (non-optimal) tube processing. Currently, Seabrook plans on inspecting 100% of the tubes in all four steam generators with a bobbin coil and on performing supplementary inspections in areas of increased susceptibility to degradation using a rotating coil. The planned inspection scope exceeds that required by the plant's Technical Specifications and that typically performed by plants with thermally treated alloy 600 tubing. The staff will monitor the results from the upcoming inspections to determine if there are any generic implications.

American Nuclear Society Annual Meeting

A representative from the Materials & Chemical Engineering Branch attended the 2003 American Nuclear Society annual meeting in San Diego, CA to participate in a panel discussion on "Reactor Vessel Corrosion -- Prevention, Identification, & Replacement." The panel included presentations of and discussions about: (1) the North Anna reactor vessel head replacement activities, particularly the French Technical Code Committee (RCCN) versus American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) design reconciliation; (2) the challenging inspection issues related to Primary Water Stress Corrosion Cracking (PWSCC) in both upper and lower reactor vessel heads; and (3) the benefits of zinc addition in the mitigation of PWSCC.

AP1000

The AP1000 Draft Safety Evaluation Report (DSER) was issued on June 16, 2003, to document the staff's review of the AP1000 design certification application. Included in the DSER is a description of the staff's remaining unresolved issues in the form of open items. The DSER included 174 open items to be resolved before issuance of the final safety evaluation report. The NRC will allow 14 days for Westinghouse to review the DSER for proprietary information. On July 1, 2003, following the 14-day proprietary review waiting period, the DSER will be made publicly available.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 20, 2003

Meeting with Private Fuel Storage, LLC

On June 16, 2003, Spent Fuel Project Office and Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response staff met with representatives of Private Fuel Storage (PFS), LLC, to discuss the submittal of the PFS analysis of consequences of a possible crash of an F-16 jet into the proposed PFS facility. PFS provided an overview of its planned approach for the consequence analysis and discussed its plans to submit the analysis to NRC by the end of June 2003.

NRC/State of Nevada Public Meeting

On June 17, 2003, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards staff met with representatives from the State of Nevada to provide an overview of NRC's Total-system Performance Assessment code. The State of Nevada requested the meeting to improve its understanding of the code. During the meeting, NRC staff discussed specific technical aspects of the code and its use as a review tool to assist staff in evaluating a proposed geologic repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. Discussions included detailed presentations regarding code architecture and execution, input parameters and sources, outputs, and implementation of conceptual modeling approaches used by NRC staff. The meeting was held via audio-conferencing hosted at NRC Headquarters, with connections to the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses in San Antonio, Texas, and other interested parties. Various stakeholders attended the meeting, including representatives from the Department of Energy, its contractors, the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, and the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste.

Staff Attends Kerr-McGee, Cushing, Oklahoma, Site Open House

On June 12, 2003, staff from the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) and Region IV attended the annual Open House sponsored by Kerr-McGee, the licensee for the Cushing, Oklahoma, Refinery decommissioning site. The Open House was held by Kerr-McGee to provide information to citizens who live near the site, and to former employees of the refinery, on progress made in decommissioning the facility and cleaning residual material from the site in the previous year. Kerr-McGee estimated that over 400 people attended this year's Open House. NMSS and Region IV staff provided copies of the current facility license, a summary of the most recent NRC inspection reports, and other brochures and items of interest to visitors to the NRC table at the Open House.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 20, 2003

San Onofre Units 2 and 3 Pilot Plant Review of the Standard for Probabilistic Risk Assessment for Nuclear Power Plant Applications (American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) RA-S-2002)

During the week of June 9 - 13, 2003, three individuals from the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research and the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation observed the industry peer review of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) study. This peer review was the first attempt to use the ASME PRA standard as the basis for evaluating the technical adequacy of the licensee's PRA study. As part of this effort, the industry participants evaluated the technical adequacy of the SONGS PRA, and tested the review criteria and guidelines of the ASME standard. Important observations are:

The industry stated that the ASME PRA standard "raises the bar" with respect to the technical adequacy of the PRA. That is, licensees may have to improve their PRAs to some degree to meet what the standard represents as "current good practices".

The review identified areas where the standard should provide additional guidance in interpreting and applying some of the requirements. The peer review team intends to provide this feedback to the ASME Committee.

An addendum to the ASME PRA standard is currently scheduled to be issued by ASME in September 2003. The ASME Committee intends to issue another revision to the standard in early 2004, which will incorporate feedback from the pilot plants.

Nuclear Security and Incident Response
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 20, 2003

Joint Department of Homeland Security and Nuclear Regulatory Commission State Homeland Security Outreach Workshop

The Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response and the Office of State and Tribal Programs hosted a Joint Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Homeland Security Outreach Workshop on June 17-18, 2003. The purpose of this workshop was to strengthen the NRC linkages with the State Homeland Security Advisors, State Liaison Officers, and Radiation Control Program Directors, and to make these representatives aware of the DHS and NRC homeland security, incident response, and other significant agency initiatives during this two day workshop. The workshop was attended by approximately 260 State and Federal representatives from 44 States and two U.S. territories and furthered dialogue between the State and Federal partners.

TOPOFF2 Exercise After Action Conference

The Office of Nuclear Security & Incident Response participated with representatives of other Federal/State/local agencies in the TOPOFF2 After-Action Conference held in Crystal City, Virginia, on June 18-19, 2003. The conference was attended by approximately 200 agency representatives and chaired by the Department of Homeland Security, Office for Domestic Preparedness - sponsor of the national-level exercise involving weapons of mass destruction. The principal purpose was to acquire input and insight from the multiple agencies on issues requiring examination and inclusion in the TOPOFF2 After-Action Report. Attendees were organized into working groups to examine the variety of issues from the perspectives of Federal, State and local agencies. Results of the working group sessions were presented to attendees and will be incorporated in the upcoming report.

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-IV-03-030, Sister of Charity of the Incarnate Word (St. Joseph's Hospital) - MEDICAL EVENT.
2. PNO-I-03-019, Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company - TERMINATION OF SITE DECOMMISSIONING CONTRACTOR.
3. PNO-III-03-026, Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station - CRACKS DISCOVERED IN THE UNIT 2 STEAM DRYER.
4. PNO-IV-03-031, Hospital Day Surgery Center d/b/a The Surgical Center - MEDICAL THERAPY EVENTS.
5. PNO-III-03-027, United States Enrichment Corporation - FIRE IN FLUORINE FACILITY.
6. PNO-I-03-020, Guthrie Healthcare System and Guthrie Clinic - POTENTIAL MEDICAL EVENT AT GUTHRIE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM AND GUTHRIE CLINIC.

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Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 20, 2003

Medical Use of Byproduct Material: Clarifying and Minor Amendments, Confirmation of Effective Date (Part 35)

A document confirming the effective date of July 7, 2003, for a direct final rule that amends the regulations pertaining to the medical use of byproduct material was published in the Federal Register on June 16, 2003 (68 FR 35534). The direct final rule clarifies certain definitions, notification requirements, and record keeping requirements. The direct final rule also allows training in ophthalmic treatment to be conducted in eye clinics or private practices in addition to medical institutions.

Union of Concerned Scientists and Mothers for Peace: Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-50-80)

A document announcing the receipt of a petition for rulemaking submitted by the Union of Concerned Scientists and the San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace (PRM-50-80) was published in the Federal Register on June 16, 2003 (68 FR 35585). The petitioners request that the NRC amend its regulations to require nuclear power plant owners to formally evaluate whether proposed changes, tests, and experiments cause protection against radiological sabotage to be decreased. The petitioners also request that licensees be required to formally evaluate specified intentional or accidental aerial hazards and make necessary changes to ensure that the plant can reach and maintain safe shutdown. The comment period for this action closes September 2, 2003.

Revision of Fee Schedules: Fee Recovery for FY 2003 (Parts 170 and 171)

A final rule that amends the licensing, inspection, and annual fees charged to the Commission's applicants and licensees was published in the Federal Register on June 18, 2003 (68 FR 36714). The final rule is intended to ensure NRC compliance with the Omnibus Budget and Reconciliation Act of 1990. The Act mandates that the NRC recover approximately 94 percent of its budget authority in Fiscal Year 2003, less amounts appropriated from the Nuclear Waste Fund. The amount to be recovered for FY 2003 is approximately \$526.3 million. The final rule becomes effective August 18, 2003.

Contract Awards

On June 20, 2003, Delivery Order No. CIO-03-325 was awarded to Orchid Technologies & Management, L.C., under the General Services Administration's Multiple Award Schedule. The purpose of this delivery order is to provide telecommunication services. Total award amount is \$416,320, for a one-year base plus one-year option period. The period of performance is June 20, 2003 through June 19, 2004 with a one-year option period of June 20, 2004 through June 19, 2005.

On June 20, 2003, Delivery Order No. 7 under Contract No. NRC-33-01-191 was awarded to Allied Technologies Group, Inc. under the Comprehensive Information Systems Support

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ENCLOSURE F

Consolidation (CISSCO) II Blanket Purchase Agreement for Computer Security. Specifically, the contractor will be required to assist the Office of the Chief Information Officer in completing the security self-assessments and program reviews for NRC major applications and general support systems. This delivery order was awarded on a labor hour basis in the amount of \$44,879.76. The period of performance is June 20, 2003 through March 31, 2004.

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Chief Information Officer
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending June 20, 2003

Technical Library Reserve Collection of Waste Convention Reports

A special reserve collection of national reports for the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management is now available in the NRC's Technical Library. The national reports discuss the management of spent fuel and radioactive waste in all stages from generation to permanent disposal, such as uranium recovery, refining and conversion, nuclear fuel fabrication, and radioisotope manufacture and use. These "Waste Convention" reports were submitted to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) as the result of international discussions which took place following the adoption of the Convention on Nuclear Safety in 1994 and the ratification of the Waste Convention by the United States in April 2003, and meet the requirements of Article 32 of the Joint Convention adopted in Vienna in 1997. The special collection is also being made available to all IAEA Member States and the general public at their designated web page at URL: <http://www-rasanet.iaea.org/conventions/waste-jointconvention.htm>.

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the period of June 13 through June 19, 2003:

OI report 4-2001-054, exhibits 1,2,3,6, 8-10, 15-25, and 36	FOIA/PA-2003-0314
Solicitation No. RS-OCIO-03-314, Computer Facility Operations, bidders list, incumbent contractor, abstract bids, schedule B, and annual value of current contract	FOIA/PA-2003-0315
FRN dated 9-7-1960, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking revisions to 10 CFR Part 40 regulations, public comments, all records	FOIA/PA-2003-0316
Unspecified records on named individual	FOIA/PA-2003-0317
Security clearance records on named individual - Referral by the Central Intelligence Agency	FOIA/PA-2003-0318
Meprolight Inc., docket 030-35420 license amendment dated on or about February 24, 2003	FOIA/PA-2003-0319
Computer Facility Operations, current service provider, number of contract years, yearly cost of contract	FOIA/PA-2003-0320
Maine Yankee, 1996 Report of Lessons Learned Task Group, SECY-97-042, OGC guidance on lack of legal force of commitments	FOIA/PA-2003-0321
Allegation RIV-2001-A-0062, response from Columbia Generating Station dated 12-6-01	FOIA/PA-2003-0322

Office of Human Resources
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 20, 2003

Arrivals		
CALLAWAY, Gary**	REACTOR TECHNOLOGY INSTRUCTOR	HR
FLANAGAN, Michelle	STUDENT ENGINEER (summer)	RES
KRAYER, Peter ***	BUDGET ANALYST	RES
EICHENHOLZ, Harold*	SR. REACTOR INSPECTOR	RI

* Returning from IAEA to RI on 06/23/03.

** Reporting to HQ for Orientation on 06/30/03.

***Transferred from RIV to RES on 06/15/03.

Office of Public Affairs
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 20, 2003

Media Interest

Chairman Nils Diaz interviewed by *21st Century Science & Technology* magazine on NRC nuclear space initiatives, the agency's research programs, the current energy bill before Congress and third- and fourth-generation reactors, including the pebble bed model.

The Toledo Blade reported plant officials told the NRC two key pumps at Davis-Besse can be fixed in time for a planned August restart of the facility.

Public meetings and announced plans for dry cask storage facilities at the Millstone, Hope Creek and Salem nuclear power plants.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
03-081	NRC To Hold Meeting On Public Involvement Issues In Rockville, Maryland, On July 22 (6/16)
03-082	NRC Establishes Deputy Executive Director For Homeland Protection And Preparedness (6/17)
03-083	NRC Staff Issues Draft Safety Evaluation For Westinghouse AP1000 Advanced Reactor Design (6/17)
Regions:	
I-03-040	NRC To Discuss Haddam Neck, Yankee Rowe Decommissioning Work (6/19)
III-03-043	NRC Staff To Discuss Point Beach Inspection Plans June 24 (6/20)
IV-03-026	NRC Proposes \$6,000 Fine For Non-Destructive & Visual Inspection, Inc. of Harvey, La. (6/17)
IV-03-027	NRC To Meet With Nebraska Public Power District To Discuss Second Quarterly Inspection Findings At Cooper Nuclear Station (6/20)

Office of the Secretary
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 20, 2003

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. COMSECY-03-0023	5/30/03	Staff Requirements - SECY-01-0106 - Child Care Tuition Assistance
SRM on COMSECY-03-0023	6/17/03	(same)
Commission Voting Record on COMSECY-03-0023	6/17/03	(same)
2. SECY-03-0067	4/25/03	Proposed Amendments to 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E Relating to (1) NRC Approval of Changes to Emergency Action Levels (EAL) Paragraph IV.B. and (2) Exercise Requirements for Co-Located Licensees, Paragraph IV.F.2.
SRM on SECY-03-0067	6/18/03	(same)
Commission Voting Record on SECY-03-0067	6/18/03	(same)
3. COMNJD-97-001	3/5/97	Clarity of Public Communications
Information Papers		
1. SECY-03-0097	6/13/03	SECY-03-0097 Weekly Information Report - Week Ending June 6, 2003
2. SECY-03-0089	6/2/03	Proposed Bulletin: "Potenteial Impact of Debris Blockage on Emergency Sump Recirculation at Pressurized-Water Reactors"
3. SECY-03-0060	4/18/03	Annual Report to the Commission on Performance in the Materials and Waste Arenas
Memoranda		
1. M030529B	6/16/03	Briefing on Equal Employment Opportunity Program (SECY-03-0075)

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ENCLOSURE O

2. M030611AB	6/18/03	All Employees Meeting
3. M030528B	6/20/03	Meeting with Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congress (Reps. Lowey, Engel, and Hinchey), dated June 6, 2003, concerns the emergency evacuation plans for the Indian Point nuclear power plants.
2. Letter to Senator Frank R. Lautenberg, dated May 29, 2003, concerns security at the Oyster Creek Generating Station.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Petition for rulemaking State of Nevada; Denial of a Petition for Rulemaking; Correction.
2. Request for a License to Export Nuclear Grade Graphite.
3. ACRS Subcommittee Meeting on Planning and Procedures.
4. ACRS Joint Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittees on Reliability and Probabilistic Risk Assessment and on Plant Operations.
5. ACRS Subcommittee Meeting on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena.
6. ACRS 504th Meeting Notice.

Region I
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 20, 2003

Hope Creek/Salem Meeting

Staff from Public Service Electric Gas (PSEG) Nuclear met with NRC staff in the Region I office on June 19, 2003, to present plans for construction of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) at Artificial Island (NJ). The ISFSI would be used for spent fuel from the Hope Creek and Salem facilities. Vertical casks will be used that will contain both boiling water and pressurized water reactor fuel. Construction is scheduled to begin early in 2004, with first fuel movement planned for late 2006. In addition to regional staff and management, Spent Fuel Program Office staff attended the meeting, and Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation project managers participated by phone. The meeting was open to public observation, and staff from the State of New Jersey attended, as did two members of the public and two news media representatives.

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Region II
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 20, 2003

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Mission To Hungary

On June 16-27, 2003, the Director, Division of Reactor Safety, was on International travel in Hungary to support an IAEA Mission to a PAKS reactor that recently experienced fuel damage and a small radioactive release during refueling operations.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Mission To Bulgaria

On June 16-27, 2003, the staff from the Division of Reactor Projects, was on international travel to support an IAEA International Regulatory Team (IRRT) inspection in Bulgaria.

State Homeland Security Outreach Workshop

On June 16-19, 2003, the State Liaison Officer attended the State Homeland Security Outreach Workshop, sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security and the Commission, in Rockville, MD.

Region III
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 20, 2003

Meeting with Westinghouse on its Hematite Facility

On June 19, 2003, members of the Region III staff met with Westinghouse Electric Company in the regional office to discuss the company's plans for reviewing and correcting deficiencies in the materials control and accountability program for its Hematite, Missouri, fuels facility, which is in a decommissioning status.

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Office of Congressional Affairs
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending June 20, 2003

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 19

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Gerke	06/24/03 2154 RHOB	10:00	TBA	Cyber Security at Federal Agencies	Reps. Putnam/Clay Tech Policy, Info Policy, Inter-Governmental Relations Government Reform
Gerke	06/25/03 SD-342	9:30	Joshua Bolton	Confirmation as Director of OMB	Senators Collins/Lieberman Governmental Affairs
Gerke	06/26/03 2154 RHOB	10:00	TBA	A Preview of Competitive Sourcing for the 21 st Century	Reps. Davis/Waxman Government Reform
Gerke	06/12/03 TBA Postponed	A.M.	NRC Commission and Others	Davis-Besse	Reps. Greenwood/Deutsch Oversight and Investigations Energy and Commerce