

INFORMATION REPORT

September 12, 2008

SECY-08-0132

For: The Commissioners

From: Vonna L. Ordaz
Assistant for Operations
Office of the Executive Director for Operations

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
SEPTEMBER 5, 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 September 5, 2008

Electric Power Research Institute and Joint Utility Task Group (JUTG) Procurement Forum

On August 26 to 28, 2008, staff attended the Electric Power Research Institute JUTG Procurement Forum in Orlando, Florida. The JUTG provides an opportunity for utility procurement personnel to exchange information and to work together to address common industry issues related to procurement of materials and services. The staff gave a presentation entitled, "Farley Breakers: Lessons Learned." The NRC presentation was well received and prompted discussion regarding dedication of commercial-grade components. Several nuclear vendors and representatives from the Nuclear Procurement Issues Committee also gave presentations and participated in the forum.

Meeting on Arkansas Nuclear One (ANO) Unit 1 Steam Generator Tube Inspection Findings

On August 27, 2008, staff met with representatives of ANO Unit 1 to discuss their root cause investigation into the bowing of several steam generator tubes and the rods that support the tube support plates (which prevent excessive tube vibration). Based on observations made during the last plant shut down, the licensee concluded that the bowing was a result of several of their upper tube support plates not being able to freely slide. An inspection of the primary and secondary side of the steam generators is planned for late October/early November 2008. As part of this planned inspection, the licensee will verify their root cause. The staff will be monitoring the results of the licensee's inspection to verify there will not be any long-term implications of the findings.

Calvert Cliffs Units 1 and 2 Measurement Uncertainty Recapture (MUR) Power Uprate Application

By application dated August 29, 2008, the licensee requested a 1.37% MUR power uprate for Calvert Cliffs Units 1 and 2, using the Caldon Leading Edge Flow Meter CheckPlus ultrasonic flow meter. The application requests NRC approval by March 1, 2009. The licensee indicated that they followed the guidance in NRC Regulatory Information Summary 2002-03, "Guidance on the Content of Measurement Uncertainty Recapture Power Uprate Applications" in developing its application. The NRC staff will be conducting an acceptance review of the application.

Previously, the licensee requested a similar MUR amendment using the Crossflow UFM, but withdrew that request in September 2007 when the NRC suspended its approval of the related Crossflow topical report.

Meeting with Nuclear Energy Institute

On September 4, 2008, there was a meeting with the Nuclear Energy Institute to discuss NRC Generic Letter 2008-01, "Managing Gas Accumulation in Emergency Core Cooling, Decay Heat Removal, and Containment Spray Systems," from 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., at the Westinghouse Twinbrook Office, Rockville, Maryland. Many licensees teleconferenced into the meeting.

September 5, 2008

ENCLOSURE A

Issuance of Safety Evaluation Report (SER) Related to the License Renewal of Wolf Creek Generating Station (WCGS)

On September 4, 2008, the staff presented the results of its safety evaluation in the final SER to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS). By letter dated September 27, 2006, Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation (WCNOC) submitted an application pursuant to 10 CFR Part 54 to renew the operating license for the WCGS, for an additional 20 years. On July 29, 2008, the staff issued its final SER related to the license renewal of WCGS. The staff reviewed the applicant's responses for closure of the SER open items and issued no open items in the final SER. Issuance of the ACRS letter of review is anticipated, as scheduled, by September 17, 2008.

September 5, 2008

ENCLOSURE A

Office of New Reactors (NRO)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 5, 2008

Victoria County Combined License Application (COLA) submitted

On September 3, 2008, Exelon submitted a COLA for two Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor units to be located in Victoria County, Texas. The staff commenced its acceptance review of the Victoria County COLA on September 4, 2008. The completion date is scheduled for November 4, 2008.

Revision 1 of the US-Advanced Pressurized Water Reactor (APWR) submitted

On August 29, 2008, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) submitted Revision 1 of the US-APWR Design Control Document (DCD) and Environmental Report. This submittal is a part of MHI's overall plan to periodically update its application. The changes to the DCD were presented and discussed with the staff at the June 25, 2008, public meeting. This revision mainly includes (1) incorporation of customer preference items appropriate for the DCD, (2) additional detailed engineering design information, (3) incorporation of NRC comments and responses to NRC questions, as appropriate, and (4) incorporation of recently submitted technical reports as appropriate.

Design Acceptance Criteria (DAC) Closure Schedule Discussion with Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor (ESBWR) Design Centered Working Group

On September 4, 2008, staff met with the ESBWR Design Centered Working Group. The staff provided the industry with feedback on, and alternative approaches to, the combined license (COL) applicants' proposed closure for a COL action item addressing the schedule for completing those portions of the design covered by DAC.

NRO Staff Accompanied UK Regulators on Visit to GE-Hitachi's (GEH) Office

On September 3 and 4, 2008, the staff visited the GEH office in Wilmington, North Carolina, in support of a meeting between the regulators of the United Kingdom (UK) and GEH regarding the ESBWR instrumentation and controls system. The UK regulators requested NRC staff participation in the meeting. The staff supported a similar meeting in July when the UK regulators visited Westinghouse in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The UK is considering deployment of ESBWR along with other designs.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 5, 2008

Attendance at Volcanology Assembly in Iceland

From August 16 through August 25, 2008, a representative from the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses attended the "International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior (IAVCEI) General Assembly", Reykjavik, Iceland. A poster was presented on work performed to better understand the potential consequences of possible future igneous activity in the Yucca Mountain region. The trip was also used to gather information on current techniques being applied in volcanology that can be used to support the review of a license application for a high-level waste repository.

September 5, 2008

ENCLOSURE C

Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 5, 2008

Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. (CRCPD) History Document Published

On September 3, 2008, the CRCPD announced the publication of a new document about its history entitled, "CRCPD: The Continuing Saga, 1993-2007." The publication was prepared by Terry Frazee, CRCPD Historian. It is available for viewing and downloading at no charge on the CRCPD webpage at <http://www.crcpd.org/Pubs/CRCPD-TheContinuingSaga.pdf>.

September 5, 2008

ENCLOSURE D

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 5, 2008

Next Generation Nuclear Plant (NGNP) Licensing Strategy Development

From August 25 through 29, 2008, staff from RES and the Office of New Reactors (NRO) attended a meeting on high temperature gas-cooled reactor (HTGR) licensing topics with the National Nuclear Regulators of the Republic of South Africa (NNR) at its headquarters in Centurion, Pretoria. The meeting covered discussion of the NGNP licensing strategy development in the U.S., NNR regulatory activities on an HTGR demonstration power plant to be constructed in South Africa, and tours of the Pebble Bed Modular Reactor Pty. helium test facility and the heat transfer test facility, as well as the fuel fabrication facility of the Nuclear Energy Company of South Africa.

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ENCLOSURE E

Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 5, 2008

PNO IV-2008-008 – Entergy Operations, Inc., NRC Response to Hurricane Gustav

On August 31, 2008, the NRC Region IV office activated its Incident Response Center in response to Hurricane Gustav and the agency entered the Monitoring Mode. Potentially affected sites included Waterford 3, Grand Gulf, River Bend Station, and the South Texas Project. Region IV had previously dispatched inspectors to each of those sites to monitor licensee's hurricane preparations. Region IV staff members were also dispatched to FEMA Region 6 in Denton, Texas, for liaison purposes.

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ENCLOSURE F

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 5, 2008

Contract Award for Potassium Iodide Tablets

On August, 26, 2008, as the result of a competitive acquisition, contract NRC-07-08-508 was awarded to Anbex, Inc. of New York, New York, for the replenishment of 65 mg potassium iodide tablets to Agreement States. The period of performance is August 27, 2008, to February 27, 2009, with no options. The total fixed price contract award amount is \$924,300.

Contract Award for Independent Verification and Validation Services

On August 28, 2008, a GSA Federal Supply Schedule labor hour type Delivery Order, NRC-DR-41-08-006, was awarded to Aegis.Net, Inc. of Merrifield, Virginia, on a sole source basis. The order is for independent verification and validation support services for the Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs systems. The contractor will provide NRC with comprehensive independent verification and validation technical assistance which includes expert reviews and assessments of software development artifacts. The total value of the contract is \$817,428.62 with a period of performance of 6 months plus two 2 month options.

Contract Award for Incident Response Management System

On August 29, 2008, as a result of an 8a set aside procurement action, contract NRC-07-08-503, was awarded to Prime Source Technologies of Washington, DC. The contractor will provide software and hardware for the incident response management system. The total amount of this firm fixed price contract is \$413,463.91. The period of performance for this order is August 29, 2008, to September 30, 2009, with no options.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 5, 2008

Library Staff Participate in Preservation and Digitization Working Group Meeting

On August 21, 2008, a member from the Information and Records Services Division Library staff attended a meeting of the Preservation and Digitization Working Group at the Library of Congress. The Working Group is part of the Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC). Members gather information on topics such as preservation and digitization projects being done in the Federal government and what processes, standards and methods are being used to conduct these projects. The FLICC plans to share information on existing digitization projects within the Federal community and create benchmarks with universities and consortia memberships, within the greater library community, for project successes and lessons learned.

Renewal of Information Collection Request

On August 27, 2008, the Information and Records Services Division published a 30-day Notice in the *Federal Register* for the renewal of an information collection request titled, "NRC Form 313, Application for Material License and Form 313A, Medical Use Training and Experience and Preceptor Attestation." On August 29, 2008, the Office of Management and Budget approved the renewal of the information collection titled "10 CFR Part 75 - Safeguards on Nuclear Material, Implementation of U.S./IAEA Agreement."

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of August 29, 2008 through September 3, 2008:

Employment records, compensation claims, medical records on named individual	FOIA/PA-2008-0313
Engelhard Corp., Engelhard Industries, D.E. Makepeace Co., Union Plate and Wire Co., and Baker & Co. Inc., all records including licenses SNM-185, SNM-98, C-4941 and SUB-172	FOIA/PA-2008-0314
Office of Investigations Case 1-2006-020, all documents	FOIA/PA-2008-0315
List(s) of periodic employee colloquia, brown bag lunch talks, and employee seminar discussions held at NRC in 2006, 2007, and 2008 to date, including at minimum title/subject, speaker and date	FOIA/PA-2008-0316

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 5, 2008

Arrivals		
ARNOLD, VALANITA	TRAINING PROGRAM SPECIALIST (CO-OP)	RII
SLAGGIE, E. LEO	CONSULTANT	OGC
Retirements		
BAKER, LYNDA	INVESTIGATIONS ASSISTANT (OA)	OI
BEST, GERALDINE	BUDGET ANALYST	CFO
Departures		
AKHAVANNIK, HUDA	STUDENT ENGINEER (CO-OP)	NMSS
LICKUS, ROLAND	REGIONAL GOVERNMENTAL LIAISON OFFICER	RIII
TRAYNHAM, BROOKE	STUDENT ENGINEER (COOP)	FSME

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ENCLOSURE J

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 5, 2008

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following:

Review schedule extension for license renewal application of Indian Point nuclear power plant (New York)

Interaction between Tennessee Valley Authority's request to reinstate Units 1 & 2 construction permits and the existing combined license application for proposed Units 3 & 4 at Bellefonte nuclear power plant (Alabama)

Status of docketing decision on the Yucca Mountain application (Nevada)

NRC response to allegations by a former employee regarding the mixed oxide licensing review

NRC inspection report of the reactor building crane at Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant (Vermont); status of license renewal application

NRC response to Office of Inspector General's report regarding inattentive security guards at Peach Bottom nuclear power plant (Pennsylvania)

A highway accident involving the transportation of an empty dry cask canister near the Humboldt Bay nuclear power plant (California)

Other Public Affairs Items:

OPA supported an interview of Chairman Klein and WILL-AM radio talk show, the NPR affiliate on the campus of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign that covered a number of questions from new reactors to Yucca Mountain.

OPA facilitated a number of interviews with local media outlets during the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board pre-hearing conference for Duke Energy Lee Combined Operating License Application in Gaffney, South Carolina

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
08-163	NRC Issues Mid-Cycle Assessments for Nation's Nuclear Plants (9/4)
08-162	NRC to Co-Sponsor Workshop for Minority Serving Institutions Sept. 22-25 in Dallas, Texas (9/3)
08-161	License Renewal Application for Kewaunee Nuclear Plant Available for Public Inspection (9/2)
08-160	NRC Extends Review Schedule for Indian Point License Renewal Application (9/2)

Regions:	
II-08-045	NRC to Send Special Inspection Team to Brunswick Nuclear Plant to Assess and Inspect Emergency Diesel Generator Issue (9/5)
II-08-044	NRC to Hold Two Public Meetings Sept. 10 in Piketon, Ohio (9/5)
II-08-043	NRC Announces New Region II Public Affairs Officer (9/5)
III-08-032	NRC Proposes \$3,250 Fine Against Indiana Company for Failing to Secure Nuclear Gauges (9/2)

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ENCLOSURE M

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 5, 2008

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SRM-SECY-08-0093	09/03/08	Resolution of Issues Related to Fire-Induced Circuit Failures
Commission Voting Record on SECY-08-0093	09/03/08	(same)
Memoranda		
1. M080812	09/04/08	SRM – Meeting with FEMA and State/Local Representatives on Offsite Emergency Preparedness Issues

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Establishment of Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, Nuclear Management, LLC (Prairie Island Nuclear Generation Plant, Units 1 and 2).
2. NRC Enforcement Policy: Extension of Discretion Period of Interim Enforcement Policy - Policy Statement Revision

Region II (RII)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 5, 2008

Region II Diversity Day Observance

On September 3, 2008, the Region II Equal Employment Opportunity Committee sponsored the Annual Region II Diversity Day Observance in the regional office.

Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) Mission

On September 5-19, 2008, the Deputy Regional Administrator for Operations participated as the Deputy Team Leader for the IRRS team to Germany, as part of the International Atomic Energy Agency mission.