

INFORMATION REPORT

November 14, 2008

SECY-08-0177

For: The Commissioners

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

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
NOVEMBER 7, 2008

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*No input this week.

/RA Tamara E. Bloomer For/

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 7, 2008

Public Meeting with the Pressurized Water Reactor Owners Group (PWROG) regarding PWROG Materials Subcommittee Programs

On October 28, 2008, the staff participated in a Category 2 public meeting with industry to discuss the status of a variety of tasks being undertaken by, and funded through, the PWROG Materials Subcommittee. The industry's presentations focused on PWROG programs regarding: PWR reactor pressure vessel (RPV) internals aging management; support for developing advanced RPV integrity evaluation guidance; proactive management of stress corrosion cracking of stainless steels in a PWR environment; and studying the effectiveness of zinc addition at mitigating primary water stress corrosion cracking in high-nickel alloys.

Catawba Lead Test Assemblies (LTA) Excessive Growth

On October 29, 2008, the staff participated in a Category 2 partially closed meeting with AREVA Fuel Services on the recent experience with mixed oxide fuel (MOX) LTA at Catawba. Based on empirical data they have collected, AREVA provided their conclusions about the excessive growth of the LTA guide tubes and specified that the LTA growth is not related to the use of MOX pellets. NRC staff from the Offices of NRR, New Reactors, Nuclear Regulatory Research, and Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards participated in the meeting.

Public Meeting with the Industry on Steam Generator Issues H*/B*

October 29-30, 2008, the staff participated in a Category 2 public meeting with industry at Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) to discuss steam generator H*/B* issues. H*/B* issues relate to a proposed industry approach to limit steam generator tube inspections in the tubesheet region, based on an expectation that residual forces from the hydraulic expansion of the tube into the tubesheet and thermal expansion forces will prevent the tube from pulling out of the tubesheet. This meeting identified several differences in the modeling approaches and assumptions by ANL and the Industry's vendor that require resolution. A follow-on meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 19, 2008.

Public Meeting with the NEI Licensing Action Task Force

On October 30, 2008, the staff participated in a Category 2 public meeting with the NEI Licensing Action Task Force. During the meeting, the staff discussed technical issues related to motor-operated valve failures due to magnesium rotor degradation and use of biodiesel fuel blends in emergency diesel generators. The purpose of this discussion was to raise industry awareness of the potential safety concerns related to these issues and to provide a status report on current staff actions being taken to address these concerns.

License Renewal Public Meetings for Beaver Valley Power Station (BVPS)

On October 30, 2008, the staff conducted two identical public sessions in Coraopolis, Pennsylvania to discuss the preliminary findings in BVPS draft supplemental environmental

impact statement (DSEIS). The staff summarized the environmental review process, the findings in the DSEIS, and solicited public comments concerning the DSEIS. Approximately 43 people attended the meetings including members of the public, representatives of FirstEnergy (the applicant), and local and state government officials. All public comments focused on support for extending the operation of BVPS.

Public Meeting on GSI-191, "Assessment of Debris Accumulation on PWR Sump"

On November 6, 2008, the staff held a public meeting with the licensees that had been relying on a specific vendor's testing as part of their resolution of GSI-191 and in responding to Generic Letter 2004-02, "Potential Impact of Debris Blockage on Emergency Recirculation during Design Basis Accidents at Pressurized-Water Reactors." The meeting assisted the staff with understanding the path forward that these licensees are pursuing to address the staff's concerns. The staff provided feedback to the licensees and vendor regarding their testing strategy, including identifying potential testing refinements to address chemicals. Interaction will continue with these licensees throughout their test protocol development, testing, and subsequent analyses as they continue on the path to closure of GSI-191.

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ENCLOSURE A

Office of New Reactors (NRO)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 7, 2008

Change to Bellefonte Combined License (COL) Review Schedule

By letter dated October 29, 2008, (ML082810431), the staff informed the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) that it would reschedule the safety review of the hydrology portions of the Bellefonte Units 3 and 4 COL application. The rescheduling is necessary because TVA has not been able to meet many of the schedule milestones it had established to respond to problems identified in a March 19, 2008 inspection report regarding TVA's dam breach and probable maximum flood calculations. The October 29, 2008, letter also states that the staff expects the rescheduling of the safety review will affect the environmental review because the description of the hydrologic resource in the environmental impact statement must be consistent with the staff's safety evaluation report. TVA has requested that the staff reschedule the review to begin in the first quarter of fiscal year 2010. The staff stated that it will not provide TVA with a new schedule in this area until the NRC has conducted an inspection to verify that the problems documented in the March 19, 2008, inspection report have been corrected, and has had a chance to assess the hydrology review resources that are available. Because the Bellefonte COL application is the reference COL application, the staff will take steps to minimize the impact on the subsequent COL applications by separating the site-specific evaluations from the evaluations that are needed to support the subsequent COL Applications.

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ENCLOSURE B

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 7, 2008

Teleconference on Yucca Mountain Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

On October 30, 2008, NRC and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) held a public teleconference to discuss DOE's forthcoming supplement to its Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed geologic high-level radioactive waste repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. The supplement will address potential impacts of the repository on groundwater and from discharges of groundwater to the surface. Stakeholders and interested members of the public who listened to the call as observers included representatives from many of the counties surrounding Yucca Mountain, and staff from supporting law firms, as well as other stakeholders.

Bi-Weekly Teleconference on Yucca Mountain License Application

On October 30, 2008, NRC and DOE held a routine bi-weekly teleconference aimed at providing each other with a status update on existing and upcoming requests for additional information, and other licensing issues and schedules. At this meeting, topics in the pre-closure and post-closure areas were discussed. Stakeholders and other interested members of the public were able to listen to the call as observers.

Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 7, 2008

Public Meeting on the Decommissioning Planning Rule

On November 5, 2008, the staff held a public meeting with representatives from the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) to discuss NEI comments provided during the public comment period on the Decommissioning Planning proposed rule, for clarification purposes. The proposed rule public comment period ended May 8, 2008, with 35 letters received by the NRC. NEI stated in its comments, in part, that the rule coupled with survey and monitoring draft guidance will have substantial impacts on licensees' facilities and procedures and that the NRC should have performed a Backfit Analysis. The draft final rule was sent to the Commission in SECY-08-0144, dated October 1, 2008, and made public on the NRC website during October.

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ENCLOSURE D

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 7, 2008

Security Records Schedule Changes

On October 27, 2008, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) notified the Information and Records Services Division that the Archivist of the United States signed N1-431-08-1 on October 23, 2008. Schedule No. N1-431-08-1, "Nuclear Safeguards and Security Program Review and Policy Development Records" modifies previously NARA-approved retention schedules for records of the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response involving security at nuclear facilities. The schedule covers both unclassified materials and records that are classified as either Safeguards Information or as a National Security Classification up to Secret Restricted Data. The schedule modifies storage locations, formats, and retention durations. The schedule also establishes media neutrality, meaning that the dispositions apply regardless of the format of the records.

Public Users Group Meeting

On October 29, 2008, staff hosted a meeting of the Agency Document Access and Management System (ADAMS) Public User Group. Participants included staff from the Office of Administration and 11 external attendees. Staff answered a number of questions submitted earlier through the ADAMS User Group distribution list and presented an update on the Enterprise Content Management program. Questions addressed included status of the ADAMS Citrix server change, problems in viewing the full list of documents retrieved in an ADAMS search, system "timing out" during a search, and plans for the future of ADAMS.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of October 31, 2008 through November 6, 2008:

Decommissioning of Indian Point, FitzPatrick, Vermont Yankee, Pilgrim, and/or Palisades facilities, communications between NRC and Entergy and/or TLG Services, from July 1, 2008, to October 31, 2008	FOIA/PA-2009-0026
Nuclear Material Events Database, January 1, 2000, to present regarding scrap metal industry	FOIA/PA-2009-0027

Office of Human Resources (HR)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending November 7, 2008

Arrivals		
BARR, REBECCA	PURCHASING ASSISTANT	RI
CARNEAL, JASON	PROJECT MANAGER	NRO
CARUSO, RAYMOND	DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM MGR	OIS
DONNELLY, PATRICK	PROJECT MANAGAER	NRO
DUGANDZIC, AARON	PROJECT MANAGER	NRR
EGAN, NATHAN	SECURITY SPECIALIST	NSIR
GLASS, SHAYLA	SECRETARY (OA)	FSME
HYLTON, ETOY	LICENSING ASSISTANT	NRO
JEFFRIES, JEFFREY	ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE (TECHNICAL)	ASLBP
JENKINS, JOEL	MATERIALS ENGINEER	NRO
LYNCH, JEFFREY	PROJECT MANAGER (ECONOMIST)	FSME
PALMER, ANTHONY	REACTOR TECHNOLOGY INSTRUCTOR	HR
PEARSON, LAURA	INTELLIGENCE ANALYST	NSIR
RANDIKI, CAROLINE	SECRETARY (OA)	NRR
SAFFORD, CARRIE	ATTORNEY	OGC
SCHRADER, ERIC	EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SPEC	NSIR
SIMPSON, ERIC	NUCLEAR SYSTEMS ENGINEER	RIV
WAGNER, RYAN	PLANNING & SCHEDULING ANALYST	NRO
WANG, ZEECHUNG	MECHANICAL ENGINEER	RES
Retirements		
PARCZEWSKI, KRZYSZTOF	SENIOR CHEMICAL ENGINEER	NRR
YOUNG, RONALD	REACTOR SYSTEMS ENGINEER	NRR
Departures		
BYWATER, RUSSELL	BRANCH CHIEF	RIV
BLOUGH, ALLEN	CONSULTANT	RI
CHEMBARS, MICHAEL DEVIN	HUMAN FACTORS ENGINEER	NRO
HIMMELBERG, JUDE	HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST	OIS

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 7, 2008

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following:

Licensing activities on the current set of design certifications and combined construction and operating license applications under review

Commission affirmation of an Atomic Safety Licensing Board Panel's decision to deny a motion to add a new contention in the Oyster Creek nuclear plant's license renewal proceeding

NRC staff paper on depleted uranium

Tritium leak at Davis-Besse nuclear plant

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
08-199	11/03/2008 NRC Public Meeting November 18 in St. Francisville, Louisiana, to Discuss Review Process for New Reactor Application
08-200	11/03/2008 NRC Workshop December 10-11 Focuses on Overseeing New Reactor Construction
08-201	11/05/2008 NRC Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards to Meet November 6-8 in Rockville, Maryland
08-202	11/06/2008 License Renewal Application for Cooper Nuclear Plant Available for Public Inspection
08-203	11/07/2008 License Renewal Application for Duane Arnold Nuclear Power Plant Available for Public Inspection
Regions:	
1-08-059	11/03/2008 NRC Assigns New Resident Inspector to Limerick Nuclear Plant
1-08-60	11/04/2008 NRC to Discuss Results of License Renewal Inspection for Beaver Valley Nuclear Power Plant on November 12

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
 Items of Interest
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Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SECY-08-0158 *Enclosure 2 (non-public)	10/20/08	Proposal on the Potential Program to Pay Credit Monitoring Services
Information Papers		
1. SECY-08-0165	10/31/08	Weekly Information Report – Week Ending October 24, 2008
Memoranda		
1. M081106B	11/06/08	Staff Requirements – Affirmation Session: I. SECY-08-0148 – Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc., Docket Nos. 50-247-LR and 50-286-LR Appeal of Joint Petitioners Nancy Burton and CRORIP; II. SECY-08-0156 – AmerGen Energy Company, LLC (License Renewal for Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station), Docket No. 50-219-LR, Citizens’ Petition for Review of LBP-08-12

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congresswoman Jane Harman, dated October 30, 2008, provides an update to the July 17, 2008, letter expressing the view that it is important for the Commission to develop and use the capability to analyze the economic consequences of a radiological dispersal device.

Region II (RII)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 7, 2008

Regional Administrator Attends IAEA Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) Lessons Learned Meetings

From November 1-5, 2008, the Regional Administrator attended a Spanish Nuclear Safety Council workshop for IRRS lessons learned in Sevilla, Spain.

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ENCLOSURE P

Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 7, 2008

Meeting with Entergy

On November 3, 2008, Region IV staff conducted a public meeting in Arlington, Texas, with representatives of Entergy to discuss an open substantive crosscutting issue at Arkansas Nuclear One, Units 1 and 2. One member of the public attended.

Meeting with Nebraska Public Power District

On November 5, 2008, the staff met with representatives of Nebraska Public Power District in the Region IV office to discuss performance at Cooper Nuclear Station and the status of the station's performance improvement plan. The public meeting was held at the request of the licensee. Nebraska Public Power District formally announced their readiness for the NRC supplemental inspection to be conducted per Inspection Procedure 95002. The supplemental inspection will begin the week of December 1.

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ENCLOSURE P