

INFORMATION REPORT

June 22, 2005

SECY-05-0108

For: The Commissioners
From: William M. Dean, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: SECY-05-0108 - "WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK
ENDING JUNE 10, 2005"

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*No input this week.

/RA/

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 10, 2005

Information Notice (IN) 2005-15: Three-Unit Trip and Loss of Offsite Power at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station

On June 1, 2005, NRC issued the subject IN to alert addressees to electrical equipment failures and design deficiencies identified following the loss-of-offsite power event that had occurred in June 2004 at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station. The IN requires no specific action nor written response; however, licensees are expected to review the information for applicability to their facilities and consider taking actions, as appropriate.

Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) 2005-08: Endorsement of Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) Guidance "Range of Protective Actions for Nuclear Power Plant Incidents"

On June 6, 2005, NRC issued the subject RIS to inform addressees of NRC's endorsement of the NEI guidance as an acceptable range of early-phase protective actions that licensees may use in the event of a nuclear power plant incident. The RIS requires no specific action nor written response; however, licensees are expected to review the information for applicability to their facilities and consider taking actions, as appropriate.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 10, 2005

Staff Visit to German Nuclear Institutes to Discusses the Anticipated Behavior and Condition of Spent Fuel

On May 30, 2005, Division of High-Level Waste Repository Safety staff visited two nuclear institutes in Karlsruhe, Germany; (1) the Institute für Nukleare Entsorgung, a German laboratory; and (2) the Institute for Transuranic Elements, a European Union laboratory. The two institutes are active in research on the behavior of radionuclides under Germany's anticipated high-level waste repository conditions. The staff exchanged views with the institutes' staff on the anticipated behavior of actinides and the anticipated condition of spent nuclear fuel that would be received at a repository.

One-month Extension of the May 30, 2003, Confirmatory Order Issued to J. L. Shepherd & Associates

On June 1, 2005, the Office of Enforcement issued an Order to J. L. Shepherd & Associates (JLS&A), a manufacturer of nuclear irradiators and commercial research calibration equipment based in San Fernando, CA, extending the expiration date of the May 30, 2003, Confirmatory Order, from June 1, 2005, to July 1, 2005. The May 30, 2003, Confirmatory Order allowed relaxation of certain provisions of the Order dated July 3, 2001 (i.e., allowed JLS&A to make shipments through June 1, 2005), as authorized by a conditional approval of its QA Program. The NRC extended the expiration date of the May 30, 2003, Confirmatory Order by one month to accommodate the staff's review of JLS&A's April 7, 2005, request, to rescind the Order of July 3, 2001.

DOE's Hanford Facility

On June 1, 2005, staff and management from the Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection met with representatives of the Department of Energy (DOE) to discuss: (1) a review of the DOE Hanford Office of River Protection responses to NRC's Requests for Additional Information regarding the basis for exception to the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order, specifically dealing with waste retrieval criteria for Single-Shell Tank 241-C-106; and (2) the methodology for the Hanford Single-Shell Tank System Performance Assessment.

Quarterly DOE/NRC Meeting on Proposed High-Level Waste Repository

On June 6, 2005, NRC staff and the Department of Energy (DOE) representatives held a public management meeting in Pahrump, Nevada, to discuss the progress of the proposed geologic repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. After the meeting, NRC management and staff met informally with members of the public to discuss matters of interest related to the Yucca Mountain Project and NRC's role in licensing a geologic repository.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 10, 2005

Federal Interagency Public Workshop on Concrete Materials Performance for Nuclear Facilities

On June 2, 2005, RES organized and hosted the subject workshop. The objectives of the workshop were to facilitate communication among Federal agencies and interested stakeholders on research studies and their findings on concrete materials performance for nuclear reactor structures, and waste disposal facilities that may employ concrete-based engineered barriers for waste isolation. The participants at the Workshop included cognizant NRC staff from the Offices of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste, and concrete materials performance researchers from the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Technical presentations at the Workshop provided NRC staff with current research information on degradation mechanisms in concrete and methodologies that can be used to monitor concrete structure performance.

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Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 10, 2005

List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: HI-STORM 100, Amendment 2, Revision (AH64 - Part 72)

On June 7, 2005, NRC published a final rule in the Federal Register (70 FR 32977) that revises 10 CFR 72.214, "List of Approved spent Fuel Storage Casks," to incorporate Amendment No. 2 to Certificate No. 1014 for the Holtec International's Storage and Transfer Operation Reinforced Module System (HI-STORM 100). This action modifies the cask design to include changes to construction materials, types of fuel that can be loaded, shielding and confinement methodologies, and various temperature limits. The final rule became effective June 7, 2005.

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Office of Information Services (OIS)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending June 10, 2005

Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Requests Received During the Period of
 June 3 through June 9, 2005:

PSEG executive review board findings & letter of June 1, 2005 from NRC to PSEG	FOIA/PA-2005-0252
PSEG contractors interviewed during on-site inspection April 25 thru 27, 2005, how many & how selected	FOIA/PA-2005-0253
OIG report re: under reporting of FY03 financial statements	FOIA/PA-2005-0254
Radiation incidents in industrial gamma & electron beam irradiation facilities in U.S., past 10-20 years	FOIA/PA-2005-0255
Radioactive materials license authorizing the discharge of tritium to sanitary sewers in excess of 5 curies per year	FOIA/PA-2005-0256
I-131 study at Mass Memorial Hospital, Boston Medical Center, 750 Harrison Ave., Boston, MA, 1949-1951	FOIA/PA-2005-0257
Medical licenses, use building name, address, use of license	FOIA/PA-2005-0258
Palisades plant, task interface agreement relating to ISFSI, April 2005	FOIA/PA-2005-0259
Davis Besse Safety Culture Survey from 2002 to present, all information	FOIA/PA-2005-0260
Enforcement action of 4-21-05 to named individual; special inspection report 50-346/02-08 (DRS) dated 10-2-02; & OI Report 3-2002-06	FOIA/PA-2005-0261
Vacancy announcement OIS/IRSD-2005-0002, all notes, meeting summaries, rating panel notes, phone conversations/discussions	FOIA/PA-2005-0262

Office of Human Resources (HR)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending June 10, 2005

Demonstration of NRC's Strategic Workforce Planning System

On June 7, 2005, HR staff provided a demonstration of NRC's Strategic Workforce Planning System to representatives from the Smithsonian Institute.

Arrivals and Retirements at NRC

Arrivals		
Michael C. Alderman	Student Management Analyst (Summer)	OCFO
Joseph Deucher	IT Specialist	ASLBP
Gregory Fabian	Sr. Project Manager	OIS
Khosrow Golshan	IT Specialist	OIS
Bobby L. Holbrook	Consultant	R-II
Charles N. Kelber	Consultant	ASLBP
Mark King	Reactor Engineer	NRR
Michael King	Project Engineer	R-II
Hung-Quoc Lai	Student Engineer (Summer)	ACRS
Erikka LeGrand	Senior Budget Analyst	OCFO
Amanda M. Nerret	Student Administrative Clerk (Summer)	NSIR
Marilyn Pardinias	Secretary (OA)	R-II
Ram Tiwari	Budget Analyst	OCFO
Marlayna G. Vaaler	General Engineer (NSPDP)	NRR
Retirement		
Adrienne G. Allison	Secretary (OA)	ADM

Office of Small Business and Civil Rights (SBCR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 10, 2005

Comprehensive Diversity Management Plan (CDMP) Rollout

During the week of June 6, 2005, SBCR participated in two separate, division-level, all-employee meetings, one held at the Technical Training Center and the other held at the headquarters offices to rollout and discuss the objectives of the CDMP.

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ENCLOSURE J

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 10, 2005

The Office of Public Affairs (OPA) received significant media inquiries on the following:

Attention given to Seabrook nuclear plant security by members of the U.S. House of Representatives from Massachusetts.

An Atomic Safety Licensing Board ruling on the Louisiana Enrichment Services environmental contentions.

Other Public Affairs Items:

OPA coordinated an interview for the NRC's Chief Information Officer (CIO) with a local news radio station, WTOP's "Ask the CIO" program, which is expected to air in the next 2-3 weeks.

OPA provided support at the annual assessment meeting held June 8 for the Hope Creek nuclear plant.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
05-089	NRC ACNW to Meet June 15-17 in Rockville, MD (6/7)
05-090	NRC Restoring 70,000 Additional Documents to its On-Line Library After Security Review (6/9)
05-091	NRC Announces Opportunity for Hearing on Application to Renew Operating License for Palisades Nuclear Power Plant (6/9)
Regions:	
I-05-032	NRC to Send Team to Review Seabrook Security (6/6)
I-05-033	NRC, Pa. Company to Discuss Apparent Violation Involving Gauge (6/9)
III-05-030	NRC to Discuss 2004 Performance Assessment for Dresden Nuclear Power Plant (6/8)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 10, 2005

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Information Paper		
SECY-05-0100	06/06/05	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending May 20, 2005

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congressman Edward J. Markey, dated June 1, 2005, responds to letter regarding NRC's rulemaking on controlling the disposition of solid materials.
2. Letter to Congressman Jay Inslee, dated June 1, 2005, responds to concerns about an application by Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company on disposal of radioactive demolition debris from the decommissioning of the Hadam Neck plant.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes: Meeting notice (6/28/05).
2. Final Rule - 10 CFR Part 9; RIN 3150-AH12; Public Records.
3. Petition for rulemaking; notice of receipt: 10 CFR Part 20 [Docket No. PRM-20-26], James Salsman, Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking.
4. Petition for rulemaking; notice of receipt: 10 CFR Part 54 [Docket No. PRM-54-02], Andrew J. Spano, County of Westchester, New York; Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking.

Region I (RI)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 10, 2005

Annual Assessment Meeting for Salem and Hope Creek

On June 8, 2005, Region I held its Annual Assessment Meeting with Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG) to discuss performance at the Salem and Hope Creek stations. The evening public meeting also included discussions of PSEG's progress in addressing equipment reliability and safety conscious work environment issues at the site as well as a recent manual reactor shutdown at Hope Creek. The reactor shutdown was in response to the increasing rate of reactor coolant system leakage inside the containment. There were approximately 75 people in attendance.

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ENCLOSURE P

Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 10, 2005

Public Meeting with Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E)

On June 7, 2005, Region IV held a public meeting in San Luis Obispo, California, with PG&E representatives to present the NRC's annual assessment of Diablo Canyon Power Plant safety performance. In addition to describing the Reactor Oversight Process and the assessment results, other topics of discussion included plant security, the National Academy of Science's recent report on spent nuclear fuel storage, PG&E's planned independent spent fuel storage installation, and emergency sirens. Approximately 60 people, including members of the public, public interest groups, and a local official attended the meeting. The meeting was video taped and will be shown on the local government channel.

Public Meeting with Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation

On June 9, 2005, Region IV held a public meeting with Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation to present the NRC's annual assessment of Wolf Creek Generating Station safety performance. The meeting was held at the Coffey County Library, in Burlington, Kansas. The purpose of the meeting was to describe the Reactor Oversight Process, discuss licensee performance at Wolf Creek for the Calendar Year 2004, and discuss topics of potential interest to the public. Three local officials and one member of the public attended the meeting. There was no media coverage.

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending June 10, 2005

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 23

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Keeling	06/14/05 S-128 Capitol	10:00	Markup	Draft FY 2006 Appropriations	Senators Gregg/Byrd Homeland Security Appropriations
Madden	06/14/05 SD-138 Tentative	2:30	Markup	Draft FY 2006 Appropriations	Senators Domenici/Reid Energy and Water Appropriations
Madden	06/14/05 SD-562	2:00	David Walker, GAO Clay Johnson, OMB and Eileen Norcross, GMU Baryl Radin, University of Baltimore	Accountability and Results in Federal Budgeting	Senators Coburn/Carper Federal Financial Management, Government Information and International Security Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Keeling	06/14/05 2154 RHOB	2:00	TBA	Elusive Antidotes: Progress Developing Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Countermeasures	Reps Shays/Kucinich National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations Government Reform
Combs	06/16/05 2318 RHOB	10:00	R. Shane Johnson, DOE Phillip J. Finck, ANL Roger Hagengruber, UNM Matthew Bunn, JFK School of Government, Harvard	Hearing on nuclear fuel reprocessing	Reps Biggert/Honda Science Energy

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ENCLOSURE R

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 23

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Madden	06/16/05 SD-106	2:00	Markup	FY 2006 Appropriations for Energy and Water Programs	Senators Cochran/Byrd Appropriations
Keeling	06/16/05 SD-106	2:00	Markup	FY 2006 Appropriations for Homeland Security Department Programs	Senators Cochran/Byrd Appropriations
Shane	06/23/05 SD-430	10:00	TBA	Family and Medical Leave Act (PL 103-3)	Senators Enzi/Kennedy Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
Combs	TBA SD-366	TBA	DOE, NRC	Status of Yucca Mountain	Senators Domenici/Bingaman Energy and Natural Resources
Combs	April 13 2247 RHOB Postponed	10:00	TBA	Yucca Mountain Project: Digging for the Truth	Reps Porter/Davis Federal Workforce and Agency Organization Government Reform