

April 26, 2001

SECY-01-0073

For: The Commissioners  
From: John W. Craig, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO  
Subject: SECY-01-0073 WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK  
ENDING APRIL 20, 2001

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\*No input this week.

**/RA/**

John W. Craig  
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:  
S. Morris, OEDO

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 20, 2001

Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company

On April 3, 2001, Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company (MYAPC) submitted a status report to the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board established to preside over petitions submitted by the State of Maine and Friends of the Coast - Opposing Nuclear Pollution, related to MYAPC's License Termination Plan (LTP). The filing stated that Maine Yankee had determined that June 1, 2001, "is more realistic" than its previously projected date of April 15, 2001, by which it would submit a revised LTP. MYAPC stated that it had conducted extensive meetings with the State and Friends of the Coast to discuss the methods being used to revise the LTP and that MYAPC had provided an initial draft of the revised LTP to both parties for their review. Based on the progress that had been made, MYAPC now estimates it will file the revised LTP with the NRC by June 1, 2001.

Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 3

On April 12, 2001, the NRC staff met with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and the Electric Power Research Institute Materials Reliability Program (MRP) to discuss the generic implications of the circumferential cracking found on pressurized water reactor (PWR) control rod drive mechanism (CRDM) upper head penetrations at Oconee, Unit 3. During the meeting, the NRC asked the industry representatives to provide a generic justification for continued operation of all PWRs until this issue has been successfully resolved. The staff sent a letter dated April 17, 2001, to NEI (as the regulatory point of contact for the MRP) to formalize that request and indicate the kind of information that needs to be addressed in the generic justification. NRR is also preparing an Information Notice related to the circumferential cracking of the CRDM vessel head penetrations at Oconee.

As a result of the CRDM head penetration cracking at Oconee, the NRC has formed a communications team to facilitate information exchange among internal and external stakeholders. This team is intended to support agency efforts in the follow-up of the Oconee cracking and its generic implications. The team includes representatives from RES, OPA, OEDO, all four Regions, and several groups in NRR. NRR has also created an Alloy 600 (generic) web page incorporating the information about the VC Summer weld crack and any other relevant information, such as any cracks that may be found at other plants. This web page can be found by going to the NRC external web page and then selecting the Nuclear Reactors page. The link to the Alloy 600 web page is: <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/REACTOR/MRP/index.html>. An Oconee CRDM crack web page is under construction.

Palisades

Inspection of control rod drives (CRDs) during the current refueling outage that started on March 30, 2001, revealed boric acid deposits on CRD No. 22 as a result of a through-wall circumferential crack in the seal housing. Subsequent investigation also revealed a short (about 50 mils) axial crack in the seal tube, very close to the location of a previously identified axial indication that was removed during the 1999 repair effort. CRD No. 22 was one of the 28 seal housings that had

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ENCLOSURE A

indications last outage (Fall 1999) that were repaired and put back on the vessel head. The circumferential crack and the axial crack exhibited the same morphology, trans-granular stress corrosion cracking, but the axial crack did not go through wall. Based on a risk ranking of the seal housings, the licensee selected and removed 10 housings for fluorescent dye penetrant examinations. Only one of the 10 (No. 23) showed any indication, and that sole indication was removed by the replication process, indicating that it was no more than a surface indication. Subsequently, the licensee decided to remove and dye penetrant test all of the installed seal housings (including CRD No. 22) that had indications identified by visual or dye penetrant testing during the 1999 outage for reinspection (i.e., an additional 19 housings). One indication was found (CRD No. 8 housing) which was located about 1.4 inches up in the tube. That housing was replaced with a Type 347 stainless steel housing. During this inspection process, the licensee plans to place 10 new Alloy 600 seal housings on the reactor head for evaluation during the next operating cycle. The licensee continues to evaluate the root cause of the CRD No. 22 cracks. Region III and NRR's Materials and Chemical Engineering Branch are monitoring the licensee's corrective actions.

#### Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant

On March 16, 2001, the BCOC filed a request with the Commission for an Emergency Stay of the ASLB's March 1, 2001, ruling which terminated the Harris proceeding and authorized the issuance of the spent fuel pool amendment for the Harris plant. On March 16, 2001, BCOC also filed a petition for the Commission to review the ASLB's May 5, 2000, ruling on the Technical Contentions, the August 7, 2000, ruling which admitted the Environmental Contention, and the March 1, 2001, ruling on the Environmental Contention.

On April 2, 2001, the NRC staff and Carolina Power & Light Company filed answers opposing BCOC's requests.

On April 16, 2001, the Commission issued an Order extending, until May 16, 2001, the time within which it may rule on the Board of Commissioners of Orange County, NC's (BCOC's) March 16, 2001, petition for review of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board's (ASLB's) rulings in the Harris spent fuel pool proceeding. The Order also stated that BCOC's March 16, 2001, request for a stay remains under consideration.

#### Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station

On April 16, 2001, two months after regulators from the State of Vermont rejected AmerGen's bid to buy Vermont Yankee, its present owner, Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation, placed the plant up for auction. The plant has hired an investment firm, J. P. Morgan, to handle the auction. Previous auctions involving J. P. Morgan include Indian Point 3, FitzPatrick, Clinton, Palo Verde, Nine Mile Point, and Millstone. The licensee had stated earlier that they had hoped to have the selected bidder announced by the end of this year; however, as reported in the Brattleboro Reformer newspaper, the auction process might only take four to six months.

NRC Information Notice 2001-04: Neglected Fire Extinguisher Maintenance Causes Fatality, dated April 11, 2001

The NRC is issuing this Information Notice to alert addressees to the danger of corrosion of fire extinguishers. It is expected that recipients will review the information for applicability and consider actions, as appropriate, to ensure safety at their facilities.

Workshop to Review the NRC Program on Human Performance (PHP)

During the week of April 2, 2001, members of the Operator Licensing and Human Performance Section of IOLB, NRR along with staff from RES, NMSS and ACRS, participated in a workshop of stakeholder/peer reviewers to examine the NRC Program on Human Performance (PHP) in Nuclear Power Plant Safety as described in SECY-00-0053. Since SECY-00-0053 only described activities through 2001, the workshop was a commitment to the Commission prior to formulating longer term human performance activities. The participants represented stakeholders from industry including NEI, EPRI, Exelon Nuclear, Entergy Nuclear, TXU, PP&L and several individual nuclear power plants. Peer reviewers represented NASA, FAA, Air Force Research Laboratory, U. S. Coast Guard, OECD Halden Reactor Project, several national laboratories and several private contractors.

The major areas of discussion were the impact on the PHP of risk, operational experience, emerging technologies, industry experience and other government agency experience. Several recurring themes surfaced that generated detailed discussions. These included: the need for better human performance data and analysis techniques/models; the aging workforce and changing demographics; plant modernization/hybrid control rooms; advanced reactors; and maintenance technology. A report will be prepared for review by all interested offices.

Supplement 1 to Revision 8 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Issued

The Operator Licensing, Human Performance, and Plant Support Branch (IOLB) of the Division of Inspection Program Management (DIPM) issued Supplement 1 to Revision 8 of NUREG-1021, which provides policy and guidance to ensure the consistent development and administration of initial operator licensing and requalification examinations. Revision 8, which was published in April 1999, implemented an amendment to 10 CFR Part 55 that allows facility licensees to prepare the entire operator licensing examination and to proctor and grade the written portion of the examination. Supplement 1 has now been issued to update and clarify the NRC's guidelines regarding: (1) the systematic and random selection of topics and questions for the written examination, including limits on question usage; (2) the training and qualification of operator license applicants; and (3) the documentation of NRC staff concerns related to draft examination quality and a number of other minor issues. The availability of the document will be announced in the Federal Register, and the changes will take effect in approximately 180 days, unless facility licensees request to use it earlier.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 20, 2001

Advisory Committee on Medical Uses of Isotopes Meeting

The Advisory Committee on Medical Uses of Isotopes (ACMUI) held a public meeting at NRC Headquarters on April 18, 2001. The ACMUI provides the NRC staff with advice on medical issues related to use of radioactive material. Topics discussed at the meeting included: implementation of the new 10 CFR Part 35, recognition of medical certification boards, and brachytherapy licensing issues.

Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Meetings

On April 17, 2001, staff from the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS), with support from the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR), the Office of the General Counsel (OGC) and the Office of Public Affairs (OPA), held a public meeting in North Augusta, South Carolina, to gather comments from the public on the scope of the environmental impact statement (EIS) the staff will prepare for the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility (MOX Facility) license application review. Prior to the meeting, staff held an "open house" at which the public was invited to meet the staff, view posters about the NRC and its environmental review process, and ask questions in an informal setting. Approximately 100 persons attended the meeting at which 21 members of the public commented, following brief presentations by the NRC staff and a question and answer session. Comments were provided by local politicians (state representatives and local mayors), representatives of various environmental organizations (e.g., Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League, Nuclear Information and Resource Service, Georgians Against Nuclear Energy), and local residents.

A second "open house" and scoping meeting for the MOX Facility EIS was held in Savannah, Georgia, on April 18, 2001. Approximately 50 persons attended and comments were received from various environmental groups including those listed above, local politicians (e.g., representing the Savannah City Council and the City of Aiken, South Carolina), and other members of the public. Concerns were raised about the possibility of radionuclide releases into the Savannah River moving downstream to impact the City of Savannah. Members of the public who did not speak at either meeting were invited to provide comments on feedback forms by May 21, 2001.

On May 8, 2001, the NRC staff will conduct a third scoping meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, after which it will prepare a scoping report of the comments (both oral and written). That report will be made publicly available and staff will consider all comments received at the three meetings in its preparation of the EIS for the MOX Facility. The scoping report is scheduled to be issued in July 2001.

Meetings on the Department of Energy's High Level Waste Program

The NRC and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) management and staff held three meetings in Las Vegas, Nevada during the week of April 16, 2001, to discuss aspects of DOE's High Level Waste (HLW) Program, and the proposed Yucca Mountain Geologic Repository. These meetings,

held quarterly, are part of the pre-licensing consultation process between NRC and DOE regarding the proposed repository. Separate staff-level meetings were held on quality assurance issues and on the status of the key technical issue resolution process. Subsequently, NRC and DOE management met to discuss current and planned activities leading to a possible site recommendation for the proposed Yucca Mountain HLW repository, and eventually to a possible license application. The State of Nevada, affected units of local government, and members of the public attended these meetings.

#### Exxon Mobil Corporation's Highland Project

On April 10, 2001, the Exxon Mobil Corporation's (Exxon) Highland Project Manager, met with the NRC Fuel Cycle Licensing Branch staff to mutually introduce the Exxon/NRC staff. The Exxon Project Manager also stated Exxon's options for addressing actions required as a result of exceeding the Groundwater Protection Standard for nickel in Compliance Monitoring Well 176. He indicated that Exxon, having been informed by NRC of its options would likely exercise the alternative concentration limit (ACL) option. Exxon, in order to avoid the possibility of requesting an ACL for another constituent at some future time, will be looking into the possibility of requesting, in addition to nickel in Compliance Monitoring Well 176, ACLs for other constituents as well.

#### Meeting with Trustee for Moab Mill Reclamation Trust

On April 16, 2001, staff from the Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, the Office of the General Counsel, and the Office of State and Tribal Programs met with the Trustee for the Moab Mill Reclamation Trust, who was accompanied by two attorneys. Staff from the Utah Department of Environmental Quality participated in the meeting by telephone. By letter dated March 30, 2001, the NRC staff had requested the Trustee to advise NRC of its intentions with respect to carrying out its responsibilities under NRC Materials License SUA-917, and to perform interim activities, identified in an enclosure to the letter. The Trustee had concerns with respect to liability under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and had met with the counselor to the Secretary of the Interior (DOI) and the Fish and Wildlife Service's Assistant Director for Endangered Species earlier that same day. The DOI will send the Trustee a letter that should resolve his concerns. It will cover both Section 7 and Section 9 of the ESA. The Trustee committed to begin the process of contacting contractors on April 17, and agreed to participate in a conference call on April 18 to report on progress. The Trustee will respond to NRC's March 30 letter after receipt of the letter from DOI.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 20, 2001

Draft IPEEE Insights Report

The RES staff issued a draft of NUREG-1742, "Perspectives Gained from the Individual Plant Examination of External Events (IPEEE) Program," for public comment. This report provides results and perspectives from the reviews of IPEEE submittals for operating nuclear power plants in the United States. A notice announcing the availability of this report, with a request for public comments within 90 days, will be published in the *Federal Register*. After receipt of public comments, the staff plans to issue the final IPEEE insights report in October 2001.

Volume 1 of this report contains general IPEEE perspectives, including a description of the overall IPEEE process and findings, as well as conclusions regarding the dominant risk contributors for the major areas of evaluation (i.e., seismic events, fires, high winds, and floods). Additionally, it includes: an overview of plant improvements made by licensees as a result of the IPEEE program; the resolution of external-event-related unresolved and generic safety issues; a description of the overall strengths and weaknesses in the licensees' implementation of the IPEEE evaluation methodologies; and an assessment of the overall effectiveness in meeting the IPEEE objectives, including the extent to which licensees have met the intent of Supplement 4 to Generic Letter 88-20. Volume 2 of the report contains tables of plant-specific information relevant to the IPEEE program.

Based on the reviews of the IPEEE submittals, the staff concluded that the IPEEE program has been successful in meeting the overall intent of Supplement 4 to Generic Letter 88-20. Licensees met four IPEEE objectives: (1) develop an appreciation of severe accident behavior, (2) understand the most likely severe accident sequences that could occur at the licensee's plant under full-power operating conditions, (3) gain a qualitative understanding of the overall likelihood of core damage and fission product releases, and (4) reduce, if necessary, the overall likelihood of core damage and radioactive material releases by modifying, where appropriate, hardware and procedures that would help prevent or mitigate severe accidents.

Regulatory Guide on Fire Protection

The staff has issued Regulatory Guide 1.189, "Fire Protection for Operating Nuclear Power Plants." This regulatory guide was developed to provide a comprehensive fire protection guidance document and to identify the scope and depth of fire protection that the staff would consider acceptable for currently operating nuclear power plants.

Incident Response Operations  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 20, 2001

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-II-01-012, Florida Testing and Environmental, STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE.
2. PNO-II-01-013, Redondo Construction Corporation, STOLEN AND RECOVERED PORTABLE MOISTURE/DENSITY GAUGE.
3. PNO-II-01-014, Radiation Oncology of Palm Beach, P.A., MEDICAL MISADMINISTRATIONS.
4. PNO-IV-01-015, Vons Grocery Store, ABANDONED RADIOACTIVE SOURCES FOUND IN PUBLIC DOMAIN.
5. PNO-IV-01-016, St. Joseph's Regional Health Center, MEDICAL MISADMINISTRATION.
6. PNO-IV-01-017, Geo Systems Engineering, Inc., STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE.



Office of Administration  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 20, 2001

Federal Acquisition Conference - 2001

On April 18-19, 2001, the Division of Contracts and Property Management staff attended the first annual Federal Acquisition Conference sponsored by the General Services Administration and the Procurement Executives Council and held in the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC. The conference featured the Honorable Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Director, OMB, as the keynote speaker. Mr. Daniels discussed the new Administration's emphasis on performance based service contracting and revision of OMB Policy Memo A-76 to simplify the process of contracting out agency services which are not inherently governmental. The conference also featured sessions on special topics of significance to all acquisition personnel. During these sessions, acquisition experts shared many new strategies and best practices on topics such as electronic contracting, reverse auctioning policies, award winning practices, and performance based service contracting. The conference was attended by 650 individuals representing the Office of Federal Procurement Policy, the Department of Defense, and various civilian agencies.

Changes to Adjudicatory Process (Part 2, et al.)

A proposed rule that would amend the NRC's rules of practice was published in the Federal Register on April 16, 2001 (66 FR 19610). The proposed amendments are intended to make the NRC's hearing process more effective and efficient. The proposed rule would fashion hearing procedures that are tailored to the differing types of licensing and regulatory activities that the NRC conducts and would better focus the limited resources of participating parties and the NRC. The comment period for this action closes July 16, 2001.

Charles T. Gallagher, Gammatron, Inc.: Denial of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-30-64)

A document that denied a petition for rulemaking submitted by Charles T. Gallagher, Gammatron, Inc. (PRM-30-64) was published in the Federal Register on April 19, 2001 (66 FR 20099). The petitioner requested that the NRC amend its regulations regarding financial assurance for decommissioning funding. The NRC denied the petition because the information submitted in the petition did not support a basis for changing the existing regulation.

American College of Nuclear Physicians and the Society of Nuclear Medicine: Denial of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-35-16)

A document that denied a petition for rulemaking submitted by the American College of Nuclear Physicians and the Society of Nuclear Medicine (PRM-35-16) was published in the Federal Register on April 20, 2001 (66 FR 20214). The petitioner requested that the Commission rescind the final rule revising 10 CFR Part 35 that was approved by the Commission in a Staff Requirements Memorandum dated October 20, 2000; revoke all of the current Part 35 except for specifically identified requirements; and institute a new rulemaking to adopt a regulatory scheme for the use of byproduct material in diagnostic nuclear medicine that reflects the discipline's safety record. The NRC denied this petition because the Commission approved the final rule revising

Part 35 after an extensive rulemaking process that provided an unprecedented level of enhanced stakeholder and public participation and the Commission believes that the petitioners had ample opportunities to present their concerns as part of that process. Furthermore, the Commission believes that the petition did not appear to present any significant new information or recommendations that the Commission has not already considered.

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Chief Information Officer  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 20, 2001

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the Period of  
April 13, 2001 through April 19, 2001:

Budget, FY 2002 Information Technology (IT) Investment Portfolio (Exhibit 53), Capital Asset Plan & Justification (Exhibits 300A & 300B), and the most recent long-range IT plan.  
(FOIA/PA-2001-0223)

OI report 4-2000-029 exhibits, re "NRC Concerns About Chilling Effect at the Univ. of Missouri-Columbia Research Rector." (FOIA/PA-2001-0224)

Medina Air Base, AKA Medina Base Facility, Hondo, TX, report of AEC Area Manager regarding a 11/13/63 incident at the site. (FOIA/PA-2001-0225)

Quad Cities plant, May 2000 Operational Safeguards Readiness Evaluation (OSRE) violation inquiry. (FOIA/PA-2001-0226)

Western Nuclear, Inc./AKA Lost Creek Oil & Uranium, SUA-56 license, Jeffrey City, WY, application and correspondence regarding the establishment of the site and Jeffrey City.  
(FOIA/PA-2001-0227)

Site assessment, Park Avenue South & East 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, 303 Park Avenue South, New York City, NY. (FOIA/PA-2001-0228)

Atlas Mill Tailings, Moab, UT, all records related to the "Trustee" (Pricewaterhouse Cooper) and all reimbursement monies. (FOIA/PA-2001-0229)

U.S. Robotech, Inc., Contract NRC-31-97-246, Modification #9. (FOIA/PA-2001-0230)

Office of Human Resources  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 20, 2001

<b>Arrivals</b>		
GARRETT, Norman	PROJECT ENGINEER	RII
STEINGASS, Timothy	MATERIALS ENGINEER	NRR
<b>Departures</b>		
HIRSCHMAN, Alfred	SENIOR PROGRAM ANALYST	OCFO
PAPA, Dean	BRANCH CHIEF	RIV
SLOAN, Jim	SENIOR RESIDENT INSPECTOR	RIV
SUTCLIFFE, Lisa	SECRETARY	NMSS

April 20, 2001

ENCLOSURE I

Office of Small Business & Civil Rights  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 20, 2001

Federal Acquisition Conference - 2001

A member of the Office of Small Business and Civil Rights and several NRC staff from the Division of Contracts and Property Management attended the first annual Federal Acquisition Conference sponsored by the Procurement Executives Council held on April 18-19 at the Reagan Building.

April 20, 2001

ENCLOSURE J

Office of Public Affairs  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 20, 2001

Media Interest

Peter Behr of The Washington Post has completed a major story on the resurrection of the nuclear energy industry. Chairman Meserve conducted an interview with the reporter. The story will run next week.

John Fialka of The Wall Street Journal is writing an article on the revival of nuclear energy. As part of his research, he interviewed Chairman Meserve by phone during the chairman's visit to South Korea. The piece is expected to run shortly.

Institutional Investor magazine is scheduled to publish an article on pebble bed reactor technology in an upcoming issue.

<b>Press Releases</b>	
<b>Headquarters:</b>	
01-041	NRC Announces Opportunity For Hearing on Proposed Mixed Oxide Fuel Facility
01-042	NRC Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards to Meet in Rockville, Maryland, On May 10-12
01-043	Note to Editors: NRC's Potassium Iodide Web Site Available
01-044	Chairman Meserve to Hold Press Conference
<b>Regions:</b>	
I-01-019	Millstone 1 Owner to Update NRC on Search for Missing Spent Fuel Rods
I-01-020	NRC to Discuss Performance Indicator on Unplanned Power Changes at James A. Fitzpatrick Nuclear Power Plant
I-01-021	NRC Prehearing Conference Scheduled for Haddam Neck Nuclear Power Plant
III-01-13	NRC to Meet With USEC Officials April 26 to Discuss Shutdown of Enrichment Operations at the Portsmouth Plant
III-01-14	NRC Names New Resident Inspector at Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant
III-01-15	NRC Approves Transfer of Operating Authority for Palisades Plant

Office of the Secretary  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 20, 2001

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
<b>Decision Documents</b>		
1. SRM on SECY-01-0009	4/16/01	Modified Reactor Safety Goal Policy Statement
Commission Voting Record on SECY-01-0009	4/16/01	(same)
2. SECY-00-0225	11/30/00	Proposed Rulemaking Plan on Submission of Financial Information for Applications to Renew or Extend the Term of an Operating License for Power Reactors (10 CFR Section 50.33(f)(2))
SRM on 00-0225	4/13/01	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 00-0225	4/13/01	(same)
<b>Negative Consent Documents</b>		
1. SECY-01-0054	3/27/01	Rulemaking Plan: 10 CFR Parts 72 and 73 - "Conforming Requirements of Event Notification"
SRM on 01-0054	4/18/01	(same)
<b>Information Papers</b>		
1. SECY-01-0057	3/29/01	Partial Response to SRM COMEXM-00-0002-"Expansion of NRC Statutory Authority Over Medical Use of Naturally Occurring and Accelerator-Produced Radioactive Material (NARM)"
2. SECY-01-0059	4/5/01	Status of USNR Research Conducted by the Russian Research Center (Kurchatov Institute) and the Russian Academy of Sciences

<b>Memoranda</b>		
1. M010410	4/19/01	Staff Requirements - Meeting on Rulemaking and Guidance Development for Uranium Recovery Industry (SECY-01-0026)
2. M010409	4/19/01	Staff Requirements - Briefing on 10 CFR Part 71 Rulemaking (SECY-01-0035)

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to James P. Riccio, Public Citizen's Critical Mass Energy & Environment Program, dated April 11, 2001, concerns regarding the completeness and accuracy of Commission information paper SECY-00-0238, "Emergency Planning for Indian Point 2 and Other Co-located Licensees."
2. Letter to Paul L. Leventhal, Nuclear Control Institute, dated April 9, 2001, concerns the application for the export of highly enriched uranium to Canada for production of medical isotopes in the National Research Universal reactor.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes: Call for Nominations.
2. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Meeting Notice.
3. 10 CFR Part 35 [Docket No. PRM-35-16]; American College of Nuclear Physicians and the Society of Nuclear Medicine; Denial of a Petition for Rulemaking.



Region I  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 20, 2001

Quarterly Presentation Before Community Decommissioning Advisory Committee

On April 17, 2001, an NRC Region I inspector and the NRR Project Manager for Haddam Neck attended the Community Decommissioning Advisory Committee (CDAC) meeting at the Connecticut Yankee (CY) facility in Haddam Neck. The Region I inspector provided a quarterly update on NRC inspection activities and an overview of inspection plans related to Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installations (ISFSI). Topics discussed included review of reactor pressure vessel segmentation, reactor cavity dive preparations and transportation of large components, such as the reactor coolant pumps and steam generator lower assemblies. Members of CDAC expressed a desire for continued NRC involvement and oversight, particularly for fuel transfer operations from the wet spent fuel pool to the dry ISFSI cask storage.

Preparations for Removal of the Connecticut Yankee (CY) Reactor Vessel

With reactor pressure vessel segmentation completed, CY is preparing for the draining of the reactor cavity and removal of the reactor vessel later this year. After transfer of the Greater Than Class C waste to the Spent Fuel Pool (SFP), a permanent flange will isolate the SFP from the reactor transfer canal. Preparations for installation of this permanent flange included a diver removing the existing reactor cavity transfer canal flange. An NRC RI inspector observed the pre-dive survey and extensive job briefings associated with removal of this flange, and the actual dive on April 17, 2001. The dive was successful, with a total effective dose equivalent of 10 mrem to the diver.

Region II  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 20, 2001

Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. - Management Meeting

On April 18, 2001, the Region II Regional Administrator and the Director of the Division of Nuclear Materials Safety in Region II and managers from the Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards participated in a management meeting at Nuclear Fuel Services (NFS), Inc., in Erwin, TN. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss NFS performance from November 14, 1999, to January 13, 2001, and results achieved in improving safety culture and regulatory compliance.

Institute of Nuclear Power Operations - New Maintenance Manager's Seminar

On April 19, 2001, the Region II Regional Administrator participated in the New Maintenance Manager's Seminar at the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations in Atlanta, GA. He discussed current issues in the Agency's reactor inspection oversight program.

Duke Energy Corporation - Catawba

On April 16, 2001, representatives from Duke Energy Corporation were in the Region II office to attend a management meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the licensee's self-assessment of performance at the Catawba Nuclear Station.

Annual Allegation Program Audit

On April 17-18, 2001, the Agency Allegation Advisor, accompanied by the NRR Senior Allegations Coordinator, and the Region IV Allegations Coordinator, were in the Region II office to conduct the Annual Allegation Program Audit of the Region II implementation of the program.

Region IV  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 20, 2001

Meeting with Framatome ANP Richland, Inc. (Formerly Siemens Power Corp.)

The Director, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, Region IV, along with DNMS staff members met with Framatome ANP's Vice President, Manager and Consultant to discuss the joint venture between Framatome ANP and Siemens Power Corp., and to discuss the management changes resulting from the joint venture. The meeting was open for public observation.

Meeting with Framatome ANP Richland, Inc. (Formerly Siemens Power Corp.)

The Regional Administrator and other members of the NRC staff conducted a closed, predecisional enforcement conference on April 17 with Framatome ANP. The purpose of the conference was to discuss apparent willful violations of NRC requirements related to the 1996 shipment of UO<sub>2</sub> packages in excess of applicable weight limits for the shipping containers (reference NRC Inspection Report 70-1257/97-04, and NRC letter to licensee dated February 22, 2001). The conference was closed to the public because it involved an investigation related to potential wrongdoing.

Office of Congressional Affairs  
 Items of Interest  
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CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 12

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OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Gerke	04/24/01 2154 RHOB	10:00	IRS, OMB, GAO	Paperwork Reduction Act	Reps. Ose/Tierney Energy Policy, Natl Resources & Regulatory Affairs Government Reform
Keeling	04/24/01 2167 RHOB	3:00	Members, Gov. Gillmore, CSIS	Federal Counterterrorism Efforts	Natl Sec, Vet Affairs, Intl Rel Subc House Government Reform Econ Dev, Public Bldgs, Energy Management House Transportation and Infrastructure
Portner	05/01/01 SD-124	10:00	DOE	FY02 Appropriations for Nuclear Energy	Senators Domenici/Reid Energy and Water Development Appropriations
Gerke	05/03/01 SD-362	10:00	NRC, DOE, Exelon, and others	The Future of Nuclear Power	Energy and Water Development Senate Appropriations Energy and Natural Resources
Combs	05/03/01 SD-124	2:00	DOE/OCRWM	FY02 Appropriations for Nuclear Waste	Senators Domenici/Reid Energy and Water Development Appropriations

Keeling	05/08/01 SH-216	1:30	NRC, DOE, DOD, DIA	Federal Government's Capabilities to Respond to Terrorist Attacks	Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary Senate Appropriations Emerging Threats & Capabilities Senate Armed Services Senate Intelligence Committee
Combs	05/09/01 2362 RHOB	10:00	DOE/OCRWM	FY02 Appropriations for Nuclear Waste	Reps. Callahan/Visclosky Energy and Water Development Appropriations
Portner	05/10/01 2362 RHOB	10:00	DOE	FY02 Appropriations for Nuclear Energy	Reps. Callahan/Visclosky Energy and Water Development Appropriations
Portner	TBA	TBA	TBA	Nuclear Power Programs	Senators Domenici/Reid Energy and Water Development Appropriations