

INFORMATION REPORT

October 25, 2006

SECY-06-0214

For: The Commissioners
From: Michael R. Johnson, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
OCTOBER 13, 2006

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*No input this week.

/RA/

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 13, 2006

Plastics Pipes XIII Conference

During October 3-5, 2006, staff attended the Plastics Pipes XIII Conference held in Washington, DC. This conference provided an opportunity for the staff to become familiar with the compatibility of plastic piping in nuclear plant applications. The nuclear industry has expressed interest in the use of plastic pipes such as polyethylene piping for underground service water piping because the plastic pipes are well suited for underground use due to their flexibility to soil movement and their corrosion resistance. The conference provided many discussions on various subjects such as developments in new materials, installation, lifetime and durability of systems, plastic pipe design, material science on slow crack growth and rapid crack propagation, joining, additive, composites, and standards and specifications.

License Renewal Application for Wolf Creek Generating Station (WCGS)

On October 4, 2006, the staff received an application from Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation requesting an extension of the operating license for the WCGS, Unit 1. WCGS's current operating license expires at midnight on March 11, 2025. The license renewal application was submitted pursuant to 10 CFR Parts 51 and 54, and requests an additional 20 years beyond the current 40-year term. The staff will conduct its acceptability review to determine whether the application has sufficient information for docketing. If found acceptable for docketing, the staff plans to hold a public information session near the site to describe the license renewal process.

Economical Simplified Boiling Water Reactor (ESBWR) Design Certification Status

On October 5, 2006, the staff issued a letter to General Electric Company (GE) regarding the ESBWR design certification review schedule. The letter notifies GE that, due to further delays in GE submittals and proposed changes to the design and the design control document, the staff has established a third milestone for issuance of request for additional information (RAIs) on January 31, 2007. The staff plans to issue a safety evaluation report (SER) with open items in October 2007, and anticipates that many of the issues identified in the third RAI milestone will not be resolved in time to be addressed in this SER. Further delays in achieving interim milestones could also increase the number of open items in this SER. GE's ability to close all open items will directly impact the staff's ability to complete a combined license review in 30 months for those applications referencing the ESBWR.

Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) Risk-Informed Regulatory Forum

During October 11-13, 2006, the staff attended the Nuclear Energy Institute Risk-Informed Regulatory Forum in Bonita Springs, Florida to participate in panel discussions on various risk related initiatives, including the Risk Management Technical Specifications initiatives. The staff also obtained information and observed industry presentations on the status and schedule of active risk-informed initiatives.

Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) Process for National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 805

On September 28, 2006, the staff held its monthly public meeting with NEI's NFPA 805 Transition Task Force to review ongoing FAQ's and receive new FAQ's. There are currently 10 FAQ's in various stages of review with the Task Force and the staff. The process is a few months old and is proving to be a benefit for those licensees transitioning to NFPA 805.

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ENCLOSURE A

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 13, 2006

Public Meeting on Groundwater Discharge Permit for Louisiana Energy Services (LES)

On October 5, 2006, staff attended a public meeting conducted by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) regarding the draft groundwater discharge permit for LES. The staff was asked by NMED to attend the meeting to answer any questions raised during the meeting relative to the NRC's licensing of LES. NMED and LES gave presentations and answered questions from the public. Approximately 50 people attended the meeting. Numerous public speakers were very supportive of LES, and recommended issuance of the permit. Several public speakers raised some issues with the draft permit.

Receipt of General Electric (GE) Letter Regarding Schedule for Separation of Isotopes by Laser Extraction (SILEX)

In a letter dated October 11, 2006, GE Nuclear informed the NRC of its intention to license an enrichment facility in the United States using the SILEX technology. They expect to install the first test phase at the Global Nuclear Fuel - Americas site in Wilmington, NC. This phase would involve laboratory quantities of material to verify design parameters. GE stated that they intend to submit an amendment request in January 2007 for anticipated startup of the test phase in November 2007. GE stated that they intend to submit a license application for a full-scale enrichment facility as early as December 2007, with approval anticipated in 2009.

Meeting with Dominion

On October 5, 2006, staff met with representatives from Dominion to discuss Dominion's spent fuel storage activities at its sites at North Anna, Surry, Millstone and Kewaunee. Dominion presented a schedule for planned loadings for the NUHOMS HD and NUHOMS 32PT casks. Staff provided the tentative rulemaking schedule for the NUHOMS HD cask system, and also discussed generic requirements associated with general licensing of spent fuel storage systems.

NRC Staff Meet with Representatives of Clark County, Nevada on Yucca Mountain

On October 10, 2006, staff and management attended a drop-in visit that was held at NRC headquarters with representatives of Clark County, Nevada. The purpose of the meeting was to listen to the County's concerns about a potential high-level waste repository at Yucca Mountain. Clark County representatives expressed their wish that NRC be more forthcoming with Congress about the Agency's views on proposed legislation concerning Yucca Mountain, especially with regard to those proposals that would affect NRC's role as independent regulator. NRC staff noted they are planning a number of public technical exchanges, in Nevada, with the Department of Energy. The County representatives invited NMSS staff to take advantage of County communication vehicles, including local television and podcasting, in order to reach Nevada stakeholders.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 13, 2006

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) Review of NUREG-1824

On October 5, 2006, RES and the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation staff, with support from the Electric Power and Research Institute (EPRI) and National Institute for Standards and Technology, briefed the ACRS on RES efforts related to developing NUREG-1824, "Verification and Validation of Selected Fire Models for Nuclear Power Plant Application." This report documents a joint RES and EPRI program to verify and validate five different fire models to be used by the NRC and industry when performing fire analysis. NUREG-1824 is expected to be issued in January 2007.

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ENCLOSURE E

Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)
Items of Interest
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Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-11-06-003, Surry Power Station - PARTIAL LOSS OF OFFSITE POWER TO SURRY UNITS 1 AND 2 SAFETY SYSTEM EMERGENCY BUSES AND UNIT 2 MANUAL REACTOR TRIP.
2. PNO-IV-06-012, Goolsby Testing - RADIOGRAPHER'S RADIATION DOSE IN EXCESS OF REGULATORY LIMITS.
3. PNO-I-06-011, Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station - LOSS OF CONTAINMENT INTEGRITY DUE TO LEAK IN A TEST RETURN LINE.

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ENCLOSURE F

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
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Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of October 6 through October 12, 2006:

Martin Marietta, 5312 SW 6 th Place, Ocala, FL, records re: nuclear materials used, stored or processed	FOIA/PA-2007-0011
NRC Systems of Records, all information on named individual	FOIA/PA-2007-0012
FY2005 log of FOIA requests	FOIA/PA-2007-0013
Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, correspondence between her office & NRC, from Jan. 1, 2001 to present	FOIA/PA-2007-0014
Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) re: fly ash contamination (Referral by the Department of Justice)	FOIA/PA-2007-0015

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ENCLOSURE H

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 13, 2006

Arrivals		
BENNETT, WILLIAM TYLER	GENERAL ENGINEER	NRR
BJORNSEN, ALAN	PROJECT MANAGER	NRR
BOGGI, MICHAEL A.	HUMAN FACTORS ANALYST/ENGINEER	RES
BREZOVEC, MICHAEL S.	SR. ACCOUNT	CFO
CLARK, CARINA A.	ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT TRAINEE	ADM
FOCHT, ERIC M.	MATERIALS ENGINEER	RES
FORD, CAROL P.	SECRETARY (OA)	NRR
GRICE, THOMAS	MC&A PHYSICAL SCIENTIST/STATISTICIAN	NMSS
HACKWORTH, SANDRA	SR CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR/OPER OFFICER	OI
KARIPINENI, NAGESWARA R.	REACTOR SYSTEMS ENGINEER	NRR
KELLUM, JAMES C.	EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SPECIALIST	NSIR
KIM, ERIC T.	ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT TRAINEE	ADM
KOHEN, MARSHALL D.	SECURITY SPECIALIST	NSIR
LIEN, PETER H.	REACTOR SYSTEMS ENGINEER	NRR
LILLY, MARK R.	PHYSICAL SCIENTIST	NRR
MONTGOMERY, CYNTHIA K.	PROJECT MANAGER	NRR
NEFF, RANDI K.	TRAINING PROGRAM SPEC (GRANTS)	HR
SPINDLER, DAVID I.	TRAINING PROGRAM SPECIALIST	HR
TODD, COLLEEN F.	HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST	RI
Retirement		
NALLUSWAMI, M.	HYDROGEOLOGIST	FSME
Departures		
GRAVES, DAVID N.	BRANCH CHIEF	RIV
HESSELINK, RACHEL J.	CHIEF, PROGRAM ANALYSIS TEAM II	CFO
NILES, IMARI R.	CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR	OIG

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ENCLOSURE J

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

The Chairman's directive to staff to conduct an independent review of NRC's oversight of Indian Point.

The staff's study of severe accident consequences.

Other Public Affairs Items:

The Chairman held media availabilities in Omaha after visiting Fort Calhoun and at Region IV in Arlington, Texas.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
06-127	NRC Announces Availability of License Renewal Application for Wolf Creek Nuclear Generating Station (10/10)
06-128	NRC Chairman Directs Staff Plan for Independent Review of Execution of Reactor Oversight Process at Indian Point (10/11)
Regions:	
II-06-042	NRC Staff to Meet with TVA Officials in Rockville to Discuss Unit 1 Restart at Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant (10/12)
II-06-043	NRC to Send Special Inspection Team to Surry Nuclear Plant to Review Offsite Power Loss and Shutdown (10/13)
III-06-030	NRC Proposes \$60,000 Fine Against Indiana Michigan Power for Emergency Plan violation at D.C. Cook Nuclear Plant (10/11)

Office of International Programs (OIP)
Items of Interest
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Application Submitted to Export High-Enriched Uranium to Canada

On October 5, 2006, the Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration, Y-12 National Security Complex applied for a license to export 15.5 kilograms of high-enriched uranium (enriched up to 93% uranium-235) to Chalk River Laboratories in Canada. The material will be used by Atomic Energy of Canada Limited to fabricate targets in the Nuclear Fuel Fabrication Facility which will be irradiated in the National Research Universal Reactor to produce medical isotopes.

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ENCLOSURE N

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
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Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
- SECY-06-0195	10/10/06	Transition Plan for the Regulation of Certain Byproduct Materials Mandated by the Energy Policy Act of 2005
Voting Record for SECY-06-0195	10/10/06	(same)
Information Papers		
- SECY-06-0201	9/22/06	Periodic Assessment of the Activities of the Committee to Review Generic Requirements from June 1, 2005, Through May 31, 2006
Memoranda		
1. M061010	10/10/06	SRM-Affirmation Session: (1) SECY-06-0199 - Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station and Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station)
2. M060912A	10/11/06	SRM-Meeting with Organization of Agreement States (OAS) and Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD)

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, Notice of Hearing, System Energy Resources, Inc. (Early Site Permit for Grand Gulf Site).
2. Supplemental Proposed Rule, 10 CFR Parts 2, 50, 51, and 52, RIN 3150-AG24, Licenses, Certifications, and approvals for Nuclear Power Plants.
3. Power Reactor Security Requirements, Proposed rule, RIN 3150-AG63.

Region II (RII)
Items of Interest
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Turkey Point Regulatory Conference

On October 10, 2006, representatives from Florida Power and Light Company attended a Regulatory Conference in the Regional office. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Turkey Point Unit 3 loss of residual heat removal event.

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ENCLOSURE P

Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
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Chairman Klein Visit to the Fort Calhoun Station and Region IV

On October 12, 2006, Chairman Klein and Region IV staff met with representatives of the Fort Calhoun Station. The Chairman toured the plant and met with local media at the Fort Calhoun Joint Information Center. On October 13, 2006, Chairman Klein toured the Region IV office, met with Region IV staff, and addressed the local media.

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ENCLOSURE P