

# INFORMATION REPORT

December 7, 2006

SECY-06-0237

For: The Commissioners  
From: Michael R. Johnson, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO  
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING  
DECEMBER 1, 2006

## Contents

## Enclosure

Nuclear Reactor Regulation	A
New Reactors	B*
Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards	C
Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs	D*
Nuclear Regulatory Research	E
Nuclear Security and Incident Response	F*
Administration	G*
Information Services	H
Chief Financial Officer	I*
Human Resources	J
Small Business and Civil Rights	K*
Enforcement	L
Public Affairs	M*
International Programs	N*
Secretary	O
Region I	P*
Region II	P*
Region III	P*
Region IV	P*
Executive Director for Operations	Q*
Congressional Affairs	R*
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards/ Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste	S*

\*No input this week.

***/RA/***

Michael R. Johnson  
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:  
L. Rakovan, OEDO

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending December 1, 2006

Regional Utility Group Meeting

On November 30, 2006, the staff from the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) and from Regions I and III participated the Region III Utility Group safety culture workshop in Chicago, IL. The full-day workshop covered the recent Reactor Oversight Process safety culture related changes and how the licensees will be affected by those changes.

NRC/Technical Specifications Task Force Public Meeting Regarding Administrative Processing of Generic Changes to the Standard Technical Specifications

On November 30, 2006, the Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) and the staff conducted a public meeting regarding generic changes to the Standard Technical Specifications (i.e., Travelers). The staff and the TSTF discussed the NRC administrative processes associated with TSTF Travelers, and reviewed the status of Travelers formally proposed by industry. The TSTF also presented and solicited the NRC feedback on Travelers under consideration for submission to the NRC.

Public Meeting on the Proposed Revision to NUREGs-1122 and 1123

On November 29, 2006, the staff held a public meeting with members of the Pressurized Water Reactor Owners Group and Boiling Water Reactor Owners Group to discuss their proposed revision to the "Generic Section" of the pressurized water reactor and boiling water reactor "Knowledge and Abilities Catalogs," NUREGs-1122 and -1123, respectively, that the NRC uses to develop operator licensing examinations. The owners groups will submit their proposed revisions the week of December 4. The staff expects to complete its review of the industry proposed revisions and publish the draft revisions to the NUREGs for public comment during early part of 2007.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending December 1, 2006

European Commission Workshop on Design and Assessment of Packages for Radioactive Waste

On November 21-22, 2006, NRC staff participated in the subject workshop in Bergen, the Netherlands. The Workshop focused on information relevant to evaluating the performance of spent nuclear fuel and waste packages in a high-level waste repository, and on identifying and planning future international collaborative work. Participants discussed future collaborative tests and the development of international guidance on waste packages. Staff presented a paper on container, cladding, and waste forms in high-level waste, and exchanged information with participants from European Union countries, Japan, and Korea.

Issuance of S300 Certificate of Compliance

On November 28, 2006, the staff issued Certificate of Compliance No. 9329 to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for its Model No. S300 Fissile Material Transport Package (Model No. S300). The Model No. S300 packaging is designed to transport a single plutonium-beryllium special form capsule. DOE intends to use the Model No S300 for recovery and disposal of these capsules.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending December 1, 2006

November 2006 Publication of Brookhaven National Laboratory Report, "Recommendations for Revision of Seismic Damping Values in Regulatory Guide 1.61," NUREG/CR-6919

RES published the subject report which provides recommendations for the selection of damping values used in the seismic analysis and design of nuclear power plants. The recommendations in this report considered recently published guidance included in the American Society of Chemical Engineers Standard 43-05, "Seismic Design Criteria For Structures, Systems, and Components in Nuclear Facilities," and in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section III, Division 1, Non-Mandatory Appendix N, "Dynamic Analysis Methods", 2004 Edition.

Public Meeting to Discuss Plans to Develop Guidance for Implementing 10 CFR 20.1406, "Minimization of Contamination"

On November 21, 2006, RES staff conducted the subject meeting to exchange information on activities underway by industry and the NRC concerning the provisions of 10 CFR 20.1406. The Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) noted its members' voluntary activities, including waste minimization, contamination reduction, and ground-water protection. Westinghouse is developing Technical Reports for the Advanced Passive Reactor (AP1000) to address effluent releases and radiation protection. The NRC's activities include revising the Standard Review Plan for new reactor licenses, developing a regulatory guide, revising 10 CFR 20.1406 to broaden its applicability based on cost/benefit analyses, and preparing a report on implementation of environmental monitoring requirements. The next public meeting is being planned for early January 2007 for focused discussions on these activities.

Probabilistic Risk Assessment (PRA) Scope and Quality Workshop

On November 6-7, 2006, RES staff participated in the subject Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) sponsored Workshop. Topics included the Treatment of Uncertainty, Support System Initiating Events, and Treatment of Loss of Offsite Power in PRAs. RES staff discussed a proposal to identify, prioritize and resolve model "technical adequacy" issues through an NRC-industry cooperative effort.

Office of Information Services (OIS)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending December 1, 2006

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of November 24 through November 30, 2006:

EEO investigations from contractors from 1-1-2005 to 10-30-2006; contractors for EEO investigations	FOIA/PA-2007-0043
NUREG/BR-0150, Response Technical Manual	FOIA/PA-2007-0044
Colorado's application for delegation as an agreement state; records reflecting periodic review, inspection of state's radiation program	FOIA/PA-2007-0045
FBI-NRC memorandum of May 29, 1991, regarding nuclear incidents	FOIA/PA-2007-0046

December 1, 2006

ENCLOSURE H

Office of Human Resources (HR)  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending December 1, 2006

<b>Arrivals</b>		
CHAKRABARTI, SAMIR	STRUCTURAL ENGINEER	NRR
CHIN, ALLISON	SECRETARY (OA)	NMSS
DAVID, MARSHALL	PROJECT MANAGER	NRR
GILLEN, DANIEL	CONSULTANT	FSME
HOMIACK, MATTHEW	GENERAL ENGINEER	NRR
KALLAN, PAUL	PROJECT MANAGER	NRR
LEFAVE, WILLIAM	SR. MECHANICAL ENGINEER	NRR
MCGAFFIGAN, MARGARET	STUDENT SCIENTIST (COOP)	NMSS
REAMER, CHARLES	CONSULTANT	NMSS
SHEMANSKI, PAUL	SR. ELECTRICAL ENGINEER	NRR
<b>Retirement</b>		
GILL, AMRITPAL	SENIOR ELECTRICAL ENGINEER	NRR
JAMGOCHIAN, MICHAEL	SENIOR NUCLEAR ENGINEER	NRR
RIPLEY, WILLIAM	NUCLEAR SYSTEMS ENGINEER	NSIR

Office of Enforcement (OE)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending December 1, 2006

Office of Enforcement Annual Counterpart Meeting

From November 28-30, 2006, OE held its annual counterpart meeting in Cambridge, MD. The meeting was attended by representatives from the Regional enforcement and allegations teams, as well as members of the OE headquarters staff. This year's conference was highlighted by a training session given by Employment Learning Innovations, Inc. The course, entitled "Safely Speaking for Managers," focused on the communications skills necessary to maintain a safety-conscious work environment at nuclear power plants. The conference also included discussions on a wide variety of issues involving the NRC's enforcement and allegations programs.

December 1, 2006

ENCLOSURE L

Office of the Secretary (SECY)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending December 1, 2006

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
<b>Decision Documents</b>		
1. COMSECY-06-0055	11/14/06	Renewal of Licensing Support Network Advisory Review Panel (LSNARP) Charter
SRM on COMSECY-06-0055	11/29/06	(same)
Commission Voting Record on COMSECY-06-0055	11/29/06	(same)
2. COMSECY-06-0056	11/14/06	Completion of Decommissioning at Kaiser Aluminum Facility and Consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Under the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission / U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Memorandum of Understanding
SRM on COMSECY-06-0056	11/29/06	(same)
Commission Voting Record on COMSECY-06-0056	11/29/06	(same)
3. COMSECY-06-0033	6/29/06	NRC Interim Pandemic Response Plan
SRM on COMSECY-06-0033	8/7/06	(same)
Commission Voting Record on COMSECY-06-0033	8/7/06	(same)
<b>Information Papers</b>		
1. SECY-06-0223	11/21/06	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending October 27, 2006
2. SECY-06-0229	11/22/06	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending November 3, 2006
3. SECY-06-0230	11/22/06	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending November 10, 2006

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congress, dated November 21, 2006, provides NRC's quarterly report (July through September 2006) on the status of its licensing and other regulatory activities.

December 1, 2006

ENCLOSURE O



2. Letter to Congressman Bart Gordon, dated November 21, 2006, responds to letter concerning NRC's handling of sensitive unclassified information following the events of September 11, 2001.
3. Letter to Wang Yuging, China, dated November 21, 2006, expresses appreciation for October 8 letter and invites delegation from NNSA to NRC.
4. Letter to Andre-Claude Lacoste, Nuclear Safety Authority, France, dated November 21, 2006, offers congratulations on appointment as Chairman of the Nuclear Safety Authority of France.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Reliability and Probabilistic Risk Assessment, notice of meeting (12/14-15/06).
2. Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW), Meeting on Planning and Procedures, notice of meeting (12/12/06).
3. ACNW, notice of 175<sup>th</sup> meeting (12/12-14/06).