

# INFORMATION REPORT

August 3, 2007

SECY-07-0127

For: The Commissioners  
From: Vonna L. Ordaz, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO  
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING  
JULY 27, 2007

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\*No input this week.

**/RA by Tamara Bloomer Acting For/**

Vonna L. Ordaz  
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:  
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending July 27, 2007

Staff Participation in the Snubber Users' Group Meeting

From July 16-18, 2007, the staff attended a Snubber Users' Group meeting in Omaha, Nebraska. The meeting was attended by various nuclear industry owners, their representatives, and snubber suppliers. The owners' group discussed current issues related to inservice examination and testing of snubbers, as well as, issues regarding code relief requests related to snubber examination and testing. The staff discussed NRC regulatory activities related to snubber examination and inservice testing, and conveyed the NRC position regarding new reactors to eliminate or reduce the number of relief requests. The next meeting is scheduled in January 2008.

Staff Participation in Steam Generator NDE Workshop

From July 16-18, 2007, the staff participated in the 26th Annual Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Steam Generator (SG) Non-destructive Examination (NDE) Workshop. This workshop brings together a worldwide collection of SG NDE experts from utilities, nuclear steam supply system vendors, NDE service organizations, regulatory bodies, NDE equipment manufacturers and universities to exchange experiences, information, and views on issues related to the NDE of SG tubing. This workshop provides staff with a good understanding of current inspection capabilities, inspection findings, and planned development of new and improved inspection capabilities. The staff presented a paper on "Regulatory Perspective on Recent Steam Generator Issues," which described the status of inspection findings in U.S. plants, inspection and SG tube integrity issues, and new plant technical specifications for ensuring the integrity of SG tubes.

Meeting on Commercial-grade Dedication Program

On July 18, 2007 a public meeting was held between NRC staff that included representatives from NRR and Office of New Reactors (NRO), and representatives of Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), Nuclear Procurement Issues Committee (NUPIC), EPRI, and other industry stakeholders. The industry requested the meeting to discuss industry/NRC staff perspectives on implementation of a commercial-grade dedication program and for stakeholders to provide comments on draft Inspection Procedure 43004, "Inspection of Commercial-Grade Dedication Programs." The staff agreed to evaluate the comments as part of finalizing the inspection procedure.

National Institute of Standards & Technology - Draft Environmental Impact Statement

On July 18, 2007, notice of the availability of the "Draft Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of the National Bureau of Standards Reactor" for comment was published in the Federal Register. The comment period will end September 5, 2007. The environmental review is expected to be completed by the end of 2007. The safety review continues and is scheduled to be completed by the end of fiscal year (FY) 2009.

July 27, 2007

ENCLOSURE A

### Crystal River Unit 3 Measurement Uncertainty Recapture Power Uprate Application

By letter dated June 28, 2007, the licensee submitted Revision 1 of the MUR power uprate application, which replaces the April 25, 2007, application in its entirety. The licensee chose to do this in response to NRC's questions on the licensee's original submittal. By letter dated July 18, 2007, the NRC staff informed the licensee that it has performed an acceptance review of Revision 1 of the MUR power uprate application and determined that the licensee provided the necessary information for the staff to begin its detailed technical review.

### Public Meeting on Duane Arnold Dissimilar Metal Butt Weld Inspections

On July 19, 2007, NRR, Office Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) and Region III staff members, met with representatives of Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), Florida Power and Light (the licensee of Duane Arnold Energy Center), the Boiling Water Reactor (BWR) Vessels and Internals Program (VIP), and EPRI to discuss the industry's response to dissimilar metal butt weld ultrasonic testing issues at Duane Arnold and for the boiling water reactor BWR fleet. The discussions focused on: (1) review of previous testing at Duane Arnold, including methods and human factors; (2) summary of BWR industry experience; (3) concerns identified in the Technical Evaluation Report by PNNL; and (4) Performance Demonstration Initiative (PDI) qualified inspection schedules for Category D welds not yet PDI-tested. NRC staff requested from the BWRVIP documentation of the licensee's inspection schedule of Category D welds which have not yet received at least one PDI inspection. NRC staff will follow up with Entergy, the licensee for the James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Plant, regarding its plans for completing Category D weld inspections. The BWRVIP and EPRI agreed to investigate developing a formal process to "sunset" previously-qualified inspection procedures which are no longer in active use. A tentative future meeting on issues with PDI-qualified exams was suggested, although the location and date for any such meeting was not set.

### Staff Issues Pilgrim License Renewal Final Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement

On July 27, 2007, the staff issued the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) regarding Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. The SEIS represents the completion of the staff's environmental review of the license renewal application submitted by Entergy Nuclear, Inc. The SEIS contains the NRC's finding that there are no environmental impacts that would preclude license renewal for an additional 20 years of operation.

Office of New Reactors (NRO)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending July 27, 2007

Meeting with GNHEA Regarding Revision to ESBWR Design Control Document

On July 20, 2007, the staff met General Electric Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas (GHNEA) and other stakeholders concerning GHNEA's plans to provide the Tier 1 Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor (ESBWR) design control document Revision 4 by September 28, 2007. GHNEA stated that the revised document would be an improvement, would include standardized wording, and would eliminate redundancy. The staff expressed its concern that the level of design detail in Tier 1 is not consistent with Tier 2 and significant information related to the containment system was missing.

Meeting with NEI Regarding New Reactors High Frequency Seismic Issues

On July 23-24, 2007, the staff and its consultants and NEI representatives met in the EPRI office in Palo Alto, CA. The primary objective was to review the conclusions of two technical studies on: (1) the function describing spatial variation of seismic input motion; and (2) validation of software that implement soil-structure interaction analysis using coherency function to account for the effects of high frequency ground motion. Based on the review of the report sent before the meeting and discussions at the meeting, the staff has reached closure on the issues and a staff position paper is in preparation.

NRO Staff Visited Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station as Part of Pre-COLA Activities

On July 23-24, 2007, as part of the pre-combined license application (pre-COLA) activities planned by the staff for all sites, the staff and contractors from PNNL visited the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station in preparation for the upcoming combined license application. The purpose of this visit was to familiarize the staff with the proposed site and to begin establishing a working relationship with the applicant and local agencies. Topics discussed during the visit included hydrology, meteorology, ecology, radiation protection, socioeconomics, energy alternatives, and alternative sites.

Unistar Nuclear Partial Combined License Application

On July 24, 2007, the staff completed the sensitive, unclassified non-safeguards information (SUNSI) review of part 1 of UniStar Nuclear's application for a combined license for an U.S. Evolutionary Power Reactor (EPR) to be designated as Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant Unit 3. The partial application was dated July 13, 2007, and supplemented on July 16, 2007. The NRC made those portions of the partial application that are not subject to withholding available to the public on July 25, 2007 (a press release was issued on July 25 to announce the availability of the partial application in ADAMS). The staff will also publish a Federal Register Notice of receipt and availability of the partial application. The next step is for the staff to complete its acceptance review of the partial application and, if found acceptable, docket. Generally, the determination on acceptability for docketing will be made within a period of thirty days. The staff is also utilizing the partial application to pilot its technical sufficiency review

process and intends to publish a schedule for review of the application within approximately 60 days from the date of receipt.

Joint AP1000/ESBWR Design-Centered Working Group Public Meeting

On July 24-25, 2007, the staff held the latest in a series of public meetings with the AP1000 and ESBWR Design-Centered Working Group regarding pre-COLA. On July 24, 2007, the staff presented information regarding the electronic submittal process for COLA, the acceptance review process, the staff's licensing program plan, pre-application site visits, general design criteria #17 "Electric Power Systems," radioactive waste programs, and probabilistic risk assessments. On July 25, 2007, the staff and industry discussed several technical programs, as well as the planned organization and content of COLA. The staff will follow-up on selected topics at a public meeting in early August and at the next Working Group meeting which is scheduled for September 11-12, 2007.

July 27, 2007

ENCLOSURE B

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending July 27, 2007

Differing Professional Opinion Issued

On July 24, 2007, the Director, NMSS issued a decision on a Differing Professional Opinion (DPO) involving on management policy licensing new fuel cycle facilities (DPO-2006-005). On November 15, 2006, several NRC employees submitted a DPO that focused on the acceptability of the staff's approach in licensing new fuel cycle facilities, including whether an August 4, 2006 memorandum that provided guidance to staff reviewers was consistent with NRC requirements in 10 CFR Part 70 and associated staff review guidance. On March 30, 2007, an Ad Hoc Review Panel provided the results of its independent review to the Director, NMSS. The Panel concluded that a programmatic review, as described in the August 4, 2006, memorandum is consistent with the requirements of Part 70. The Panel also recommended that licensing review guidance and the NRC's oversight program for fuel facilities be revised to clarify aspects identified in the review. Based on a review of the Panel's report and additional comments from the DPO submitters, the Director, NMSS, agreed with the Panel's conclusions and recommendations and tasked the Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards to review and revise licensing guidance and inspection guidance, as well as develop and execute a communications plan regarding the clarifications and revisions.

Meeting with Department of Energy/Idaho Field Office

On July 25, 2007, staff met with representatives of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)/Idaho Field Office and its contractors. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the topical report for the design of standardized canisters as part of a package for transporting DOE-owned spent nuclear fuels. The plan is to reference the topical report when the Safety Analysis Report for an overpack is submitted sometime in the future. At the meeting, the staff and the DOE contractor discussed the contents of the topical report, with a focus on the structural and the criticality safety control of the canister. The canister is designed to keep the contents subcritical, with water intrusion in an as-loaded condition, and remain leaktight under accident conditions. DOE is planning to submit the topical report sometime at the beginning of calendar year 2008.

Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending July 27, 2007

Public Meeting on Incidental Waste Activities

On July 20, 2007, staff, along with DOE staff, held a public meeting to discuss the two Agencies' interactions under the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 05. The primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss the progress the Agencies have made since the last public meeting on November 16, 2006. NRC staff and DOE staff discussed: (1) the Enhanced Consultation Process for NDAA (incidental waste) reviews; (2) progress in resolving performance assessment issues specific to the DOE-Savannah River Site (SRS) waste determinations; (3) progress in resolving incidental waste issues potentially applicable to waste determinations at SRS and other DOE sites; and (4) the status of NRC staff monitoring activities at SRS and the Idaho National Laboratory Site. The meeting was then opened for public comments. Attendees included representatives from the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability, individuals, and the trade press.

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ENCLOSURE D

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending July 27, 2007

Publication of Draft Regulatory Guide 5021 (DG-5021) "Managing the Safety/Security Interface"

On July 24, 2007, the subject draft regulatory guide was issued, describing a method that the NRC considers acceptable for complying with its regulations for managing the safety/security interface at nuclear power plants. DG-5021 is available in Agency-wide Documents Access Management System (ADAMS Package ML071900210) and on the NRC website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/reg-guides/protection/draft-index.html>.

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ENCLOSURE E



Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending July 27, 2007

Preliminary Notifications

- PNO-I-07-006A, AMERGEN ENERGY COMPANY, LLC, UPDATE - REACTOR SCRAM ON LOW REACTOR VESSEL WATER LEVEL DUE TO A TRIP OF THE 'C' REACTOR FEED PUMP.

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ENCLOSURE F

Office of Administration (ADM)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending July 27, 2007

Correction: 10 CFR Part 171

On July 20, 2007, NRC published a correction notice in the *Federal Register* (72 FR 39733) that reinstates § 171.16(e) to Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 171, "Annual Fees for Reactor Licenses and Fuel Cycle Licenses and Materials Licenses, Including Holders of Certificates of Compliance, Registrations, and Quality Assurance Program Approvals and Government Agencies Licensed by the NRC." The Government Printing Office (GPO) inadvertently dropped this section during printing of the 2007 bound version of the CFR.

Correction: Revision of Fee Schedules; Fee Recovery for FY 2007 (AI00 - 10 CFR Part 171)

On July 26, 2007, NRC published in the *Federal Register* (72 FR 41009) a correction to a final rule that corrects the amendatory instruction relating to changes to this section made by the 2007 Fee Rule (June 6, 2007; 72 FR 31401). This correction is related to GPO's inadvertent omission of § 171.16(e) to part 171.

Office of Information Services (OIS)  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending July 27, 2007

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of July 20 through July 26, 2007:

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| Contract awarded from solicitation HR06390, Digital Instrumentation & Control Training Program, copy of Section A or cover page   | FOIA/PA-2007-0252 |
| Oak Ridge National Lab, all records re: theft of nuclear weapon secrets   | FOIA/PA-2007-0253 |
| Contract awarded from solicitation RSRES060674, Austenitic Stainless Steel Susceptibility to Stress Corrosion Cracking in Marine Environment programs, copy of Section A or cover page  | FOIA/PA-2007-0254 |
| Caldon Inc., 1070 Banksville Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15216, all documents, records, correspondence, reports, analyses, notes-written or electronic including any documents re: meeting or communications, January 1, 2003- present | FOIA/PA-2007-0255 |
| Proposals, technical papers and reports of communications submitted by Po Kee Wong to NRC, January 1975 to present, all records, or from System Research Company, Somerville, MA and/or Silver Spring, MD                         | FOIA/PA-2007-0256 |
| Contract NRC-0303037, awarded to Beckman & Associates, all of Sections A - J, statement of work   | FOIA/PA-2007-0257 |
| Records from FOIA/PA-2003-0074  | FOIA/PA-2007-0258 |
| Commissioner's Assistant Handbook, NUREG/BR-0201  | FOIA/PA-2007-0259 |
| Northwest Family Hospital, 540 Tyler Street, Gary, IN, license 13-03459-02, all records   | FOIA/PA-2007-0260 |
| FOIA/PA-1997-0278, all enclosures and responses   | FOIA/PA-2007-0261 |
| Atomics International, Rockwell International, Boeing North American activities at Santa Susana Field Lab, De Soto, Canoga Park and Vanowen facility locations in Canoga Park, CA, all licensing documentation                    | FOIA/PA-2007-0262 |
| Ammtiac, names and contact person in charge of purchasing boric acid, quantity purchased, total set aside for 8A firms  | FOIA/PA-2007-0263 |
| Radiation safety officers for specific codes, include company name, mailing address, license number, docket number.   | FOIA/PA-2007-0264 |

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ENCLOSURE H

Office of Human Resources (HR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending July 27, 2007

| <b>Retirements</b>    |                                    |      |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|------|
| NELSON, SUZANNE       | SECRETARY (OA)                     | RI   |
| RAUGHLEY, WILLIAM     | SENIOR REACTOR SYSTEMS<br>ENGINEER | RES  |
| TAYLOR, JOSEPH        | RESIDENT INSPECTOR                 | RIV  |
| <b>Departures</b>     |                                    |      |
| LUCIANO RIVERA, MAYRA | STUDENT ENGINEER                   | RES  |
| MOTTLER, CHRISTOPHER  | SECURITY SPECIALIST                | NSIR |
| OWEN, ELIZABETH       | REACTOR INSPECTOR                  | RIV  |
| TORRES PEREZ, ANDRYA  | STUDENT ENGINEER                   | RES  |

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ENCLOSURE J

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending July 27, 2007

OPA received significant media inquiries on the following:

Indian Point license renewal application.

NFS inquiry and discussion of the history of the Official Use Only policy and pending staff proposal to commission to change policy.

Regulatory requirements for distribution of irradiated gemstones, and NRC's proposed rule on the expanded definition of byproduct material.

New reactors, early site permit and licensing process.

Other Public Affairs Items:

OPA set up Chairman Klein's interview with National Journal reporter on a variety of topics including new reactors, workforce development, safety and security, earthquake resistance design and potential opposition to new plants.

OPA supported Braidwood nuclear plant community open house and responded to local media there about recent inspection report on a tritiated water spill.

| <b>Press Releases</b> |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Headquarters:</b>  |  |
| 07-087                | NRC to Hold Public Meetings in Casper, WYO., and Albuquerque, N.M., on Generic Environmental Study of Uranium Recovery Operations (7/23) |
| 07-088                | Nuclear Regulatory Commission Votes to Reconsider Limited Provision in Final Rule on Fitness for Duty (7/24)                             |
| 07-089                | Calvert Cliffs Environmental Report Available, Public Meeting August 14 in Solomons, Maryland (7/25)                                     |
| 07-090                | License Renewal Application for Vogtle Nuclear Plant Available for Public Inspection (7/25)  |
| 07-091                | NRC Announces Opportunity to Request Hearing on Application to Renew Operating License for Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant              |
| <b>Regions:</b>       |  |
| I-07-041              | NRC Seeks Additional Information on Shieldalloy Decommissioning Proposal (7/23)  |

Office of the Secretary (SECY)  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending July 27, 2007

| Document Released to Public              | Date    | Subject  |
|--|---------|--|
| <b>Decision Documents</b>                |         |  |
| 1. SECY-07-0112                          | 7/6/07  | Staff Evaluation and Proposed Revision to the Public Radiation Safety Significance Determination Process to Address Radioactive Liquid Spills and Leaks                                  |
| 2. SECY-07-0113                          | 7/6/07  | Final Rule: 10 CFR Parts 30, 31, 32, and 150 – Exemptions from Licensing, General Licenses, and Distribution of Byproduct Material: Licensing and Reporting Requirements (RIN 3150-AH41) |
| 3. COMDEK-07-0004                        | 7/3/07  | Request for Reconsideration of the Wording of 10 CFR Sec. 26.205(D)(4) as Affirmed on April 17, 2007   |
| Commission Voting Record                 | 7/24/07 | (same)   |
| SRM on COMDEK-07-0004                    | 7/24/07 | (same)   |
| 4. SRM on SECY-07-0096                   | 7/25/07 | Possible Reactivation of Construction and Licensing Activities for the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 2  |
| Commission Voting Record on SECY-07-0096 | 7/25/07 | (same)   |
| <b>Information Papers</b>                |         |  |
| 1. SECY-07-0119                          | 7/18/07 | Weekly Information Report - Week Ending July 13, 2007  |
| 2. SECY-07-0115                          | 7/11/07 | Framework for an Expanded Cadre of Nuclear Regulatory Commission Employees with International Experience   |

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congressman Bennie Thompson, dated July 20, 2007, responds to letter regarding the cyber-security posture of the Nation's nuclear power plants.

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ENCLOSURE O

2. Letter to Senator Pete Domenici, dated July 20, 2007, responds to letter expressing support for the Commission's efforts to meet the challenges posed by the expected new reactor applications.

*Federal Register Notices Issued*

1. Request to Amend a License to Import Radioactive Waste (Diversified Scientific Services, Inc.).
2. Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes (ACMUI), notice of meeting (8/16/2007).
3. Request for a License to Export Radioactive Waste (Pacific EcoSolutions, Inc./a.k.a., Perma-Fix Northwest, Inc.).
4. Request for a License to Import Radioactive Waste (Pacific EcoSolutions, Inc./a.k.a., Perma-Fix Northwest, Inc.).
5. Application for a License to Export High-Enriched Uranium (DOE/NNSA - Y12 National Security Complex).
6. ACMUI, notice of meeting (8/15/2007).

Region II (RII)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending July 27, 2007

Watts Bar Public Meeting

On July 23, 2007, representatives from Tennessee Valley Authority attended a public meeting in the Region II Office. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the plant status of the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant.

H. B. Robinson Public Meeting

On July 26, 2007, representatives from Carolina Power and Light Company attended a public meeting in the Region II Office. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the plant status of the Robinson Unit 2 Nuclear Plant.

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ENCLOSURE P



Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending July 27, 2007

**CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 25**

| OCA Contact | DATE & PLACE                | TIME  | COMMITTEE   | SUBJECT   | WITNESSES  |
|-------------|-----------------------------|-------|---|---|--|
| Sahm        | 07/24/07<br>2154<br>Rayburn | 10:00 | House Oversight and Government Reform Committee<br>(Representatives Waxman / Davis) | Inadvertent file sharing over peer-to-peer networks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Mary Koelbel Engle – Associate Director for Advertising Practices, Bureau of Consumer Protection, FTC</li> <li>▶ Thomas Sydnor, II – Attorney-Advisor, Copyright Group, Office of International Relations, PTO</li> <li>▶ Daniel Mintz – CIO, DOT</li> <li>▶ M. Eric Johnson – Professor of Operations Management, Director, Glassmeyer/McNamee Center for Digital Strategies, Tuck School of Business, Dartmouth College</li> <li>▶ General Wesley Clark – Chairman and CEO, Wesley K. Clark &amp; Associates, Board Member - Tiversa, Inc.</li> <li>▶ Robert Boback – CEO, Tiversa, Inc.</li> <li>▶ Mark Gorton – CEO, The Lime Group.</li> </ul> |