

# INFORMATION REPORT

June 20, 2007

SECY-07-0103

For: The Commissioners  
From: Vonna L. Ordaz, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO  
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING  
JUNE 15, 2007

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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 15, 2007

Vendor Inspection of Veridiam Incorporated

During June 4-7, 2007, staff conducted an inspection at the Veridiam Incorporated (Veridiam) facility in El Cajon, California. Veridiam supplies safety-related nuclear fuel channel tubing to AREVA ANP. The inspection team reviewed the implementation of the 10 CFR Part 21 program, selected portions of the Part 50 Appendix B Quality Assurance program, and assessed Veridiam's in-process manufacturing controls. No findings or non-conformances were identified.

Reactor Oversight Process Public Meeting

On June 13, 2007, the staff held the monthly Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Public Meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to allow discussion on staff initiatives and provide a forum for industry feedback. Meeting attendees discussed mitigating systems performance index implementation, safety culture integration into the reactor oversight process, performance indicator issues, and open and new frequently asked questions for the ROP.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending June 15, 2007

Quality Assurance Audit of Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses

From June 5-8, 2007, NRC staff observed an internal quality assurance audit of the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses (CNWRA), in San Antonio, Texas. The purpose of the audit was to verify that the CNWRA Quality Assurance Program is being effectively implemented. All quality assurance programs were audited. Staff concluded that the CNWRA is effectively implementing its Quality Assurance Program.

Louisiana Energy Services Management Meeting

On June 11, 2007, staff from the NMSS, the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response, the Office of the General Counsel, and Region II held a semiannual management meeting with Louisiana Energy Services (LES) staff, to discuss management issues related to the LES uranium enrichment project in Lea County, New Mexico. Discussions included: the status of current licensing and legal actions, security issues, construction plans, design changes, and schedules.

Joint Canada - U.S. Guide for Radioactive Material Transportation Package Design

In a letter dated June 7, 2007, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) issued the draft "Joint Canada - United States Guide for Approval of Type B(U) and Fissile Material Transportation Packages." The guide was developed by a DOT, NRC, and Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission combined staff Working Group. The guide has been developed to facilitate U.S./Canadian validation of each other's Competent Authority approvals.

Meeting with Energy Solutions on New Package Design

On June 13, 2007, NRC staff met with staff from Energy Solutions, to discuss the design and analyses of the impact limiters, for its proposed new transportation package for irradiated reactor hardware. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the use of Energy Solution's in-house computer code, instead of physical drop tests, to demonstrate the performance of the impact limiters. NRC staff identified the limitations of the computer code, and stated that a more detailed model of the impact limiters, as part of the cask system, with the appropriate benchmarks, will be needed to replace the physical tests.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending June 15, 2007

Briefing on the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Report, "Assessment of the Performance of Engineered Waste Containment Barriers"

On June 4, 2007, the staff attended a technical briefing regarding a NAS report that describes the development of guidelines for the direct monitoring of engineered system performance and for implementing performance-based designs. The report identifies specific methods for monitoring engineered barrier performance and models for estimating infiltration through covers. The results of this study are particularly relevant for NRC-licensed facilities such as disposal and decommissioned sites that incorporate engineered barriers to preclude the release of radioactive materials, and could influence designs used to implement the provisions of 10 CFR 20.1406, "Minimization of Contamination."

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ENCLOSURE E

Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending June 15, 2007

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-III-07-007, POINT BEACH UNIT 1, UNIT 1 MANUAL REACTOR TRIP.
2. PNO-III-07-007A, POINT BEACH UNIT 1, UPDATE TO UNIT MANUAL REACTOR TRIP.

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ENCLOSURE F

Office of Administration (ADM)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending June 15, 2007

Proposed Rule on Requests by Potential Parties for Access to Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information and Safeguards Information Published (AI08 - Part 2)

On June 11, 2007, the NRC published a proposed rule in the *Federal Register* (72 FR 32018) that would amend the regulations to provide for expedited Commission review of orders on requests by potential parties for access to certain sensitive unclassified non-safeguards information and Safeguards Information. The comment period for this action closes July 11, 2007.

Draft Statement of Policy on Conduct of New Reactor Licensing Proceedings

On June 11, 2007, the NRC published a document in the *Federal Register* (72 FR 32139) requesting public comment on a statement of policy under consideration by the Commission. The draft statement of policy concerns the conduct of new reactor licensing adjudicatory proceedings. The Commission is considering this action in view of the anticipated receipt of a number of applications for combined licenses for nuclear power reactors expected to be filed within the next two years. The comment period on this action closes August 10, 2007.

Office of Information Services (OIS)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending June 15, 2007

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of June 8 through June 14, 2007:

Contract GS-22F-9614D and/or RFP & associated purchase orders awarded to Dun and Bradstreet	FOIA/PA-2007-0226
Allegation NRR-1998-A-0088, all documents including all correspondence between named individual and NRC	FOIA/PA-2007-0227
Copy of original FOIA request FOIA/PA-2007-0212	FOIA/PA-2007-0228
Bankcard holders, names, e-mail addresses (Visa SmartPay)	FOIA/PA-2007-0229
Transfer of special nuclear materials 1963 US AEC forms, attachment to AEC-388, SNM-21-DIA, No. 50 and No. 42	FOIA/PA-2007-0230

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ENCLOSURE H

Office of Human Resources (HR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending June 15, 2007

<b>Arrivals</b>		
JESSUP, JR, WILLIAM	GENERAL ENGINEER (NSPDP)	NRR
O'MEARA, KYLE	SUMMER CLERK	OIS
RAMIERZ, MARIAN	SUMMER ENGINEER	RES
SEIFRIED, JEFFREY	STUDENT ENGINEER	RES
TORO, JETSENIA	STUDENT ENGINEER	RES
<b>Departure</b>		
OLIMENE, BRUNO	STUDENT ENGINEER (CO-OP)	RIII

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ENCLOSURE J



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

Uranium Recovery - a rising interest – answering inquiries about different milling methods and what NRC regulates.

Indian Point license renewal process and recent fine paid for missing new sirens operable deadline.

Tritium issues at nuclear plants following recent Brunswick report.

Other Public Affairs Items:

OPA supported the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards Fuel Cycle Information Exchange where trade publication reporters participated.

OPA met with journalists in Las Vegas to discuss press needs for future hearing on Yucca Mountain.

<b>Press Releases</b>	
<b>Headquarters:</b>	
07-073	NRC Seeks Comments on Proposed Rule to Expedite Review of Access Determinations for Certain Information for Hearings (6/11)
07-074	NRC Meeting June 27 to Discuss Review Process for Expected New Reactor Application near Bay City, Texas (6/11)
07-075	NRC to Meet with First Energy in Rockville, Md June 27 to Discuss Demand for Information (6/14)
07-076	NRC Considering Request by Pennsylvania to Become an “Agreement State” (6/15)
<b>Regions:</b>	
I-07-034	NRC to Discuss Process for Review of License Renewal Application for Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant (6/13)
I-07-035	NRC, Entergy to Discuss License Renewal Inspection Conducted at James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant (6/15)
IV-07-019	NRC Names New Resident Inspectors at Cooper Nuclear Station (6/12)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending June 15, 2007

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
<b>Information Papers</b>		
1. SECY-07-0086	5/28/07	Annual Report on Activities Associated with Evaluating Scientific Information About Radiation Health Effects and Radiation Protection Recommendations
2. SECY-07-0092	6/13/07	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending May 25, 2007
<b>Memoranda</b>		
- SRM-M070531	6/14/07	Staff Requirements - Briefing on the Agency Action Review Meeting (AARM) - Reactors

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, dated June 8, 2007, responding to letter requesting that civil penalty funds related to Entergy's non-compliance with a Commission order be distributed to counties surrounding Indian Point Plant, for use in local emergency planning activities.
2. Letter to Congressman Peter J. Visclosky, dated June 8, 2007, provides an invitation to tour Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Plant.
3. Letter to Richard Blumenthal, Attorney General, Connecticut, dated June 8, 2007, responds to letter expressing concerns about the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program at the Windsor, CT site.
4. Letter to Peter Souza, Town Manager, Windsor, CT, dated June 8, 2007, responds to letter commenting on NRC's role in ensuring the public's safety through the overall remediation of the ABB Windsor site in Windsor, CT.
5. Letter to Dr. Ralph J. Cicerone, National Research Council, dated June 8, 2007, requesting that the Council share the draft report prepared by the Radiation Source Use and Replacement Study Committee with the NRC staff before finalizing.
6. Letter to Paul Schmidt, Organization of Agreement States, dated June 7, 2007, responds to letter expressing concerns regarding the proposed implementation of Section 652 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 relating to fingerprinting and criminal history checks.

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ENCLOSURE O

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)  
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**CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 19**

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	WITNESSES
Sahm	06/12/07 2154 Rayburn	10:00	House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (Representatives Waxman / Davis)	Markup - Several bills: H.R. 2635, A Bill to Reduce the Federal Governments' Contribution to Global Warming through Measures that Promote Efficiency in the Federal Government's Management and Operations <b>and</b> H.R. 404, A Bill to Require the Establishment of Customer Service Standards for Federal Agencies	N/A
Sahm	06/12/07 562 Dirksen	2:30	Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia (Senators Akaka / Voinovich)	"Assessing Telework Policies and Initiatives in the Federal Government"	TBD