

# INFORMATION REPORT

June 7, 2004

SECY-04-0094

For: The Commissioners  
From: William M. Dean, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO  
Subject: SECY-04-0094 WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK  
ENDING MAY 28, 2004

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## Enclosure

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\*No input this week.

*/RA/*

William M. Dean  
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:  
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 28, 2004

South Texas Project - Non-Operating Ownership Change

On May 28, 2004, Cameco Corporation, which had reached a sales agreement with American Electric Power (AEP) Texas Central Company to purchase AEP's 25.2 percent ownership in South Texas Project (STP) Units 1 and 2, announced that its bid had been blocked by two of STP's current owners. Texas Generating Co. (Texas Genco), which owns 30.8 percent of the two-reactor station, and City Public Service of San Antonio (CPS), which owns 28 percent, intend to exercise their rights of first refusal to purchase AEP's share. Each company plans to buy AEP shares in proportion to their current ownership stake, which would boost Texas Genco's ownership to 44 percent and CPS's to 40 percent. Both companies stated that they would match Cameco's \$333-million offer for AEP's ownership share in the STP facility.

NRC Bulletin 2004-01: Inspection of Alloy 82/182/600 Materials Used In the Fabrication of Pressurizer Penetrations and Steam Space Piping Connections at Pressurized-water Reactors Dated May 28, 2004

NRC issued the subject Bulletin to (1) advise Pressurized Water Reactor (PWR) licensees that current methods of inspecting Alloy 82/182/600 materials used in the fabrication of pressurizer penetrations and steam space piping connections may need to be supplemented with additional measures to detect and adequately characterize flaws due to primary water stress corrosion cracking, (2) request PWR licensees to provide the NRC with information related to the materials from which the pressurizer penetrations and steam space piping connections at their facilities were fabricated, (3) request PWR licensees to provide the NRC with information related to the inspections that have been performed and those that are planned to ensure that degradation of Alloy 82/182/600 materials used in the fabrication of pressurizer penetrations and steam space piping connections will be identified, adequately characterized, and repaired, and (4) require PWR licensees to provide a written response to the NRC in accordance with the provisions of Section 50.54(f) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR 50.54(f)).

NRR staff has taken steps to disseminate the Bulletin in a timely manner, including making it available through the NRC public website in advance of a planned public meeting with industry representatives to discuss the contents of the Bulletin on June 3, 2004.

NRC Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) 2004-08: Results of the License Termination Rule Analysis Dated May 28, 2004

NRC issued the subject RIS to inform addressees of the NRC's analysis of issues associated with implementing NRC's License Termination Rule (LTR), a schedule for future actions to address these issues, and opportunities for stakeholder comment. These issues include: the restricted release/alternate criteria and institutional controls; the relationship between LTR release limits and the unimportant quantities under 10 CFR 40.13(a); the appropriateness of developing a separate Uranium/Thorium unrestricted release standard; the relationship between the LTR and on-site disposal under 10 CFR 20.2002; the relationship between the LTR and the current case-by-case approach for controlling the disposition of solid materials; the

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need for more realistic exposure scenarios; measures to prevent future legacy sites by changes in financial assurance; measures to prevent future legacy sites by changes to licensee operations; and, the appropriateness of allowing intentional mixing of contaminated soil for meeting for meeting release criteria.

#### Monthly Meeting on Reactor Oversight Process

On May 27, 2004, NRR staff hosted the monthly Reactor Oversight Process public meeting at the NRC headquarters. Major topics discussed during the meeting included significance determination process (SDP) timeliness, safety system functional failure (SSFF) performance indicator (PI) improvements, reactor coolant system (RCS) leakage PI improvements, frequently asked questions (FAQ) process improvements, scrams with the loss of normal heat removal PI, and open and new PI FAQs.

The staff provided an overview of its recently issued SDP Appendices, including Containment Integrity (Appendix H), Steam Generator Tube Integrity (Appendix J), Fire Protection (Appendix F), Maintenance Rule A(4) (Appendix K), and a new proposed Appendix for Independent Spent Fuel Storage (Appendix L). Industry representatives provided a status update on the industry's review of historical licensee event reports (LERs) for SSFFs. The staff agreed to create a purpose statement for the scrams with loss of normal heat removal PI, and to work with industry to determine how best to move forward with resolving the problems associated with the indicator.

#### Meeting with NEI on Mitigating Systems Performance Index (MSPI) Program

On May 26, 2004, NRR staff held a public meeting with representatives from Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) concerning the MSPI program. The staff discussed its concerns with MSPI based on the recently completed pilot program. These concerns were documented in SECY 04-0053, "Reactor Oversight Process Self-Assessment for Calendar Year 2003," and the staff's meeting notice for the May 2004 MSPI meeting. During the meeting, NEI and licensee representatives presented a new position and agreed that the Significance Determination Process and Reactor Oversight Process policies governing assessment of licensee performance would at this time, remain unchanged from its current form with MSPI implementation. Many of the staff's concerns were ameliorated in view of this new industry position. The staff plans to hold additional meetings to identify possible changes to MSPI based on the pilot program.

#### Presentation to Canadian Regulatory Safety Commission

On May 26, 2004, the Division of Inspection Program Management staff made a presentation on the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) to a delegation from the Canadian Regulatory Safety Commission. The delegation was particularly interested in how the ROP is suited for engineering/design verification inspections.

### License Renewal Application Review for the Millstone Power Station, Units 2 and 3

On Tuesday, May 18, 2004, NRR staff conducted two public scoping meetings at the Waterford Town Hall in Waterford, CT. The purpose of the meetings was to solicit comments from the public on the scope of the supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) being prepared as part of the review of the license renewal application for the Millstone Power Station, Units 2 and 3. The application was submitted by Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc. (DNC), on January 22, 2004. The SEIS will be a plant-specific supplement to the "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Power Plants" (NUREG-1437).

Approximately 75 people attended the meetings. Attendees included members of the public, State and local government officials, representatives from DNC, news media, and the staff and its contractors from Los Alamos National Laboratory and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. Approximately 20 individuals spoke at the meetings. The entire afternoon session was videotaped by a local news station. Public comments and questions were mainly focused on terrorism, spent fuel storage, public radiation exposure and health impacts, severe accidents, and the winter flounder fishery. The scoping period ends on June 4, 2004. The staff conducted open houses for one hour prior to each meeting session to provide members of the public with an opportunity to talk informally with NRC staff and view informational displays and brochures.

The staff and its contractors subsequently visited the site to gather additional information on the environmental aspects of the license renewal application. The staff and its contractors also met with several public officials and representatives of civic organizations. The team considered the full spectrum of environmental issues, including aquatic and terrestrial ecology, land use, human health, socioeconomics, etc. The team also reviewed the licensee's process for identifying new and significant information related to the Category 1 issues identified in NUREG-1437. A major issue under review is the impact of Millstone operation on the winter flounder fishery.

The draft SEIS is scheduled to be published in December 2004 and the final SEIS is scheduled to be published in July 2005. In accordance with the established license renewal process, the staff will conduct two additional public meetings after the draft SEIS is published.

### ASLB Established for Millstone License Renewal

As published in the *Federal Register* (69 FR 29759) dated May 25, 2004, an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) has been established to conduct a proceeding on the March 22, 2004, hearing petition from the Connecticut Coalition Against Millstone, regarding the January 22, 2004, Dominion Nuclear Connecticut applications for renewal of the Millstone Power Station, Units 2 and 3, operating licenses.

### License Renewal Application for Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2

On May 27, 2004, the Constellation Energy Group, the licensee for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, submitted an application requesting the extension of the current operating licenses for an additional 20 years beyond their current 40-year terms, pursuant to 10 CFR Parts 51 and 54. Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2 are boiling-water reactors designed by General Electric with current operating licenses that expire on August 22, 2009,

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and October 31, 2026, respectively. The staff plans to hold a public information meeting near the plant in July to describe the license renewal process.

#### Meeting with NEI on an Alternate, Risk-informed Approach for Resolving GSI-191

On May 25, 2004, NRR staff held a public meeting with representatives from NEI to discuss an alternate, risk-informed approach for resolution of Generic Safety Issue (GSI)-191, "Assessment of Debris Accumulation on Pressurized Water Reactor Sump Performance." The staff presented an approach involving a risk-informed exemption request in accordance with current regulations. Licensees could request, on a plant specific basis, an exemption from the requirement to consider the design basis large break loss-of-coolant accident (LOCA) for demonstrating long-term core cooling capability (10 CFR 50.46 (b)(5)). For such an approach, licensees would need to perform an analysis demonstrating long-term cooling capability and satisfy the design basis assumptions and criteria for all breaks up to a new break size that would be less than a double-ended guillotine break (DEGB) of the largest pipe in the reactor coolant system. Long-term cooling must be assured for breaks between the new break size and the DEGB, but the analysis may involve more realistic assumptions than a design basis analysis, consistent with the small likelihood of the break occurring. The assurance of long-term cooling coupled with the likelihood of the break would be addressed in a risk-informed exemption request that meets the criteria of Regulatory Guide 1.174, "An Approach for Using Probabilistic Risk Assessment in Risk-Informed Decisions On Plant-Specific Changes to the Licensing Basis," and NUREG-0800, "Standard Review Plan for the Review of Safety Analysis Reports for Nuclear Power Plants," Sections 19 and 19.1.

NEI suggested an alternative approach that was different in several aspects from the staff's approach. NEI committed to providing the staff with additional information, and the staff agreed to consider the NEI proposal and schedule a follow-up public meeting to continue discussions on a risk-informed approach.

#### 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Nuclear Decommissioning Trust Fund Study Group Conference

On May 18, 2004, NRR staff addressed the 15th Annual Nuclear Decommissioning Trust Fund Study Group Conference, sponsored by investment advisors who manage Nuclear Decommissioning Trusts (NDTs). The Conference is attended by investment firms, tax advisors, attorneys, and licensees. The staff's presentation covered the new provisions of the NRC's decommissioning funding assurance regulation (10 CFR 50.75) regarding investment restrictions, withdrawals, trust agreement amendments, and limitations on licensees' roles in investment management. The staff also discussed significant changes to Regulatory Guide 1.159, "Assuring the Availability of Funds for Decommissioning Nuclear Reactors," with respect to the applicability of earnings credits, as well as the NRC's policy on proper accounting of NRC decommissioning funds and licensees' inability to use such funds for disposal of contaminated components during operations.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 28, 2004

Staff Participates in Uranium Recovery Workshop

On May 18-19, 2004, staff of the Offices of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) accompanied by a representative of the Office of General Counsel participated in the National Mining Association/NRC Uranium Recovery (UR) Workshop in Denver, Colorado. Staff from the Office of the Inspector General observed the meeting. Over 100 individuals attended, representing: the Department of Energy (DOE); the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); State agencies; the UR industry; and members of the public. While at the workshop, the staff held a closed meeting with the States on May 18, 2004, to discuss the status of the memoranda of understanding that are being developed with the States of Nebraska and Wyoming, to defer active regulation of ground water at *in situ* leach uranium extraction facilities.

Meetings with the Russian Federation Federal Service of Ecological, Technological, and Nuclear Oversight (formerly Gosatomnadzor or GAN)

On May 11-21, 2004, staff from the Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards (FCSS) participated in a series of meetings and a workshop in Moscow to support the DOE and Russian Federation (RF) Federal Service in discussion on topics related to the U.S. and Russian Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility (MFFF) regulatory requirements and reviews. DOE is supporting regulatory development activities associated with the RF Plutonium Disposition Program. On May 11-21, 2004, FCSS staff participated in a Bilateral Meeting with DOE and the RF Federal Service (for nuclear oversight), to review DOE-supported tasks for regulatory development in the RF. The status of the U.S. licensing reviews and the NRC planning for the MFFF construction inspection program were discussed. NRC support for the development of an RF standard review plan for the Russian MFFF was also discussed.

On May 17-20, FCSS staff conducted a seminar for the RF Federal Service (for nuclear oversight), in Moscow, on the U.S. MFFF regulations and guidance documents, safety reviews, and conclusions for accident analyses and radiation protection. Forty Russian nuclear regulatory technical staff and inspectors from Moscow Headquarters and several districts attended the workshop. This was part of a series of training workshops, that the staff is conducting for the RF regulatory personnel, on MFFF-related subjects. DOE requested that NRC conduct these workshops to convey information about the staff's review of the domestic MFFF, since the RF has adopted the design of the U.S. MFFF for the Russian MFFF.

On May 21, 2004, FCSS staff participated, at DOE's request, in a debriefing on the May 11-21, 2004, meetings and workshop with the DOE representatives at the U.S. Moscow Embassy. It was noted in the meeting that Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a decree, on May 20, 2004, converting the Federal Service for Technological Oversight and the Federal Service for Nuclear Oversight (formerly Gosatomnadzor or GAN) into the Federal Service for Ecological, Technological, and Nuclear Oversight, to be supervised directly by the Government of the Russian Federation. Previously, the two bodies reported to the Federal Ministry of Industry and Energy.

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### U.S. Transport Council Meeting

On May 20, 2004, NMSS staff participated in a meeting of the U.S. Transport Council on transportation issues related to Yucca Mountain. The U.S. Transport Council is a transportation industry trade group comprised primarily of transportation cask manufacturers, carriers, freight forwarders, and shippers (utilities). NMSS staff participated in a panel on public acceptance and gave a keynote address on the roles and responsibilities of NRC in transportation of spent fuel to Yucca Mountain.

### West Valley Meeting

On May 18-20, 2004, Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection staff participated in 3 days of meetings, at the West Valley site, to discuss comments on four draft Environmental Impact Statement appendices related to performance assessment (PA). The appendices addressed an overview of the PA approach, long-term PA models, hydrogeology, and erosion. Other participants included the DOE; the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority; EPA; the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; and the New York State Department of Health.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 28, 2004

ACR-700 Meeting with TAG on Research Plan

RES staff met with the Advanced Reactor Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to discuss the draft Research Plan for the ACR-700. The presentation provided information on the framework that will be used for the Research Plan and the identification of key research areas. While the ACR-700 Research Plan will ultimately address all areas of RES activities necessary to support ACR-700 design certification review, this TAG meeting focused on accident analyses (thermal/hydraulic analysis, severe accidents analysis, and nuclear analysis). The staff presented detailed information on the code development efforts, the relationships among the various codes, the timing of specific validation activities, and the correspondence between the current project schedule and the accomplishment of specific tasks. The staff concluded that, subject to meeting certain criteria for success, the overall project schedule for design certification could be supported for issuance of the relevant licensing documents.

Nuclear Risk Management Coordinating Committee Conference Call

On May 20, 2004, the Nuclear Risk Management Coordinating Committee held a conference call to discuss the Committee's strategic plan (charter, policies and procedures) and other issues. The Committee consists of personnel affiliated with the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, American Nuclear Society, NRC, DOE and NEI. A majority of the Committee members agreed to taking the following two action items: (1) a letter would be sent to NRC discussing its concern with the definition of Probabilistic Risk Analysis (PRA) Quality as described in the Commission's staff requirements memorandum on "Stabilizing the PRA Quality Expectations and Requirements," and (2) a task force would be appointed to identify options and recommendations to the Committee for improving the implementation of the various PRA standards. The Committee also agreed to ensure they were developing the necessary PRA and related standards that are responsive to NRC's needs. The next meeting for the Committee is scheduled for September 9, 2004, in Washington, D.C.



Office of Administration  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 28, 2004

Regulatory Analysis Guidelines: Final Criteria for the Treatment of Individual Requirements in a Regulatory Analysis

On May 21, 2004, the NRC published a document in the *Federal Register* (69 FR 29187) that specified final criteria for the treatment of individual requirements in a regulatory analysis. The criteria addressed the concern that aggregating or "bundling" different requirements in a single analysis could potentially mask the inclusion of an inappropriate individual requirement.

Contract Award

On May 24, 2004, a competitive delivery order No. NRC-33-03-354-002 entitled, "Requirements Analysis for the Budget Formulation Application Process," was awarded to ACCESS Systems. The order requires the contractor to perform a requirements analysis of the NRC's overall budget formulation process. The requirements analysis document will be the basis of the business case for the automated budget formulation application. The period of performance is May 24, 2004 through March 31, 2005. The total estimated cost of this order is \$141,870.

Acquisition Training for Project Managers

On May 20, 2004, the Division of Contracts conducted the Source Evaluation Panel Procedures course for nine participants. This is one of the twelve workshops offered under the Acquisition Certification and Training Program. On May 25, 2004, the Division of Contracts conducted the Overview Refresher course for 33 participants. This half-day workshop satisfies the requirement that Project Managers receive refresher training every three years to maintain their Project Manager certification. Presenters included staff from the Office of Administration, Office of the General Counsel, Office of Small Business and Civil Rights, and Office of the Inspector General.

Chief Information Officer  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 28, 2004

Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Requests received during the period of  
May 21 through May 27, 2004:

Arizona Nuclear Power Project Participation Agreement, dated 08/23/73 and amendments	FOIA/PA-2004-0254
Callaway plant, alleged discrimination, ref: NRC doc "EA-03-040, Union Electric Co" ML031671233	FOIA/PA-2004-0255
Diagnostic Cardiovascular Consulting, 765 North Hamilton Rd., Franklin County, Gahanna, OH 43230, violations review	FOIA/PA-2004-0256
OI Case No. 1-2003-034 (Allegation R1-2003-A-0068) interview transcripts between November 3 - 7, 2003	FOIA/PA-2004-0257
Rep. Robert Schaffer; Colorado Alliance for Reform in Education; Symbios Logic, Inc.; and NFR Marketing & Distribution - all records	FOIA/PA-2004-0258
Colorado Dept. of Natural Resources; Colorado Office of the Attorney General; Colorado Office of the Governor; Kenneth Salazar (Denver, CO), and Hope Hernandez Salazar (Denver, CO) - all records	FOIA/PA-2004-0259
Coors Brewing Co; Peter Coors; Marilyn Coors; Joseph Coors; Holly Coors; Adolph Coors, Jr.; Coors Energy Partners; Castle Rock Foundation; and Adolph Coors Foundation; Coors Trucking; Coors Energy; and Coors Porcelain - all records	FOIA/PA-2004-0260

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Office of Human Resources  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 28, 2004

Twenty-Seventh Annual Awards Ceremony Held

On May 27, 2004, NRC held its Twenty-Seventh Annual Awards Ceremony on the Green. Chairman Nils Diaz; Commissioner Edward McGaffigan, Jr.; Commissioner Jeffrey S. Merrifield; and Luis A. Reyes, Executive Director for Operations; hosted the ceremony. At the ceremony, 2 NRC executives were honored for having received the Presidential Distinguished Executive Rank Award, 15 executives were honored for having received the Presidential Meritorious Executive Rank Award, 7 employees received the NRC Distinguished Service Award, and 40 employees received the NRC Meritorious Service Award. A reception was held for all NRC employees in the Two White Flint North Cafeteria following the ceremony. Employees from the Office of Human Resources and the Office of Administration, as well as other offices, provided volunteer ushers, who helped make the event a huge success.

<b>Arrivals to NRC</b>		
Joseph Adams	Student Law Clerk (Summer)	OGC
Thomas Bellermine	Summer Faculty	NRR
Janet Brobst	Secretary (OA)	HR/SPAC
Shane Cameron	Student Clerk (Summer)	RIII
Patrick Finney	Reactor Inspector	R-I
Candice D. Griffith	Student Engineer (Summer)	RES
Sarah M. Haley	Student Law Clerk (Summer)	ASLBP
Mary Hileman	Student Engineer (Summer)	RES
Edward Huntsinger	Criminal Investigator	R-II
Michael A. King	Communications Specialist	R-III
James Krafty	Reactor Inspector	R-I
Laura Limita	Student Engineer (Summer)	R-I
Meredith Madwatkins	Student Administrative (Summer)	R-I
Timothy McCune	Sr. Security Specialist	NSIR
Mohammed Munir	Reactor Engineer	R-III
Sai Wah Ng	Student Engineer (Summer)	NRR
Veronica Portillo	Secretary (OA)	OCFO

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<b>Arrivals to NRC</b>		
Amy Prible	Management Analyst (Summer)	OEDO
Katherine Smith	Student Engineer (Summer)	R-I
Monica N. Tevaz	Student Engineer (Summer)	RES
Chester Trybus	Senior Program Analyst	OCFO
Chidinma O. Ukoha	General Engineer (Summer)	RES
Theresa Valentine	General Engineer (NSPDP)	NRR
Eugene J. White	Senior Level Advisor on Security	NSIR
Benjamin Wong	Student Engineer (Summer)	NRR
On Hou Yee	Student Engineer (Summer)	NRR

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ENCLOSURE I

Office of Public Affairs  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 28, 2004

Media Interest

The Office of Public Affairs (OPA) responded to significant media inquiries on the following:

NRC's special inspection at the Perry nuclear plant in Ohio.

Entergy's search for missing fuel rod pieces at the Vermont Yankee plant.

A switchyard fire at the Surry plant in Virginia.

U.S. and international efforts to control radioactive sources in the context of the "dirty bomb" threat.

Other Public Affairs Items:

OPA assisted the Chairman with a media breakfast for reporters hosted by Energy Daily. News items ran in Energy Daily, Platts Publications, the Las Vegas Review-Journal and the Las Vegas Sun.

<b>Press Releases</b>	
<b>Headquarters:</b>	
04-063	NRC Honors Employees on May 27 in Rockville, Md. (5/24)
04-064	NRC to Conduct Pilot Inspection Program Focused on Nuclear Plant Engineering and Design Issues (5/27)
04-065	NRC Announces Availability of License Renewal Application for Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2 (5/28)
<b>Regions:</b>	
I-04-031	New NRC Resident Inspector Assigned to Indian Point 3 Nuclear Plant (5/27)
III-04-034	NRC Begins Special Inspection of Pump Failure at Perry Nuclear Plant (5/24)
III-04-035	NRC to Meet with Nuclear Management Company to Discuss Performance of Kewaunee Nuclear Plant (5/25)
III-04-036	NRC Honors Four Employees from Lisle Office (5/28)
IV-04-023	NRC to Discuss Performance of South Texas Project Nuclear Plant June 3 (5/26)

Office of International Programs  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 28, 2004

Visit of SUJB Chairman Drabova

On May 21, 2004, Dr. Dana Drabova, Chairperson of the Czech State Office for Nuclear Safety (SUJB) visited the NRC. Dr. Drabova met with Chairman Diaz and Commissioner McGaffigan, and toured the emergency response center. She also had discussions with representatives of the NRC's Incident Response Organization regarding post-9/11 emergency preparedness and response, and representatives of NRR regarding power uprates and license renewal. On the following day, accompanied by OIP staff, she visited the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant.

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Office of the Secretary  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 28, 2004

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
<b>Information Papers</b>		
1. SECY-04-0078	5/10/04	Proposed Bulletin: "Inspection of Alloy 82/182/600 Materials Used in the Fabrication of Pressurizer Penetrations and Steam Space Piping Connections at Pressurized-Water Reactors"
2. SECY-04-0085	5/25/04	SECY-04-0085 Weekly Information Report - Week Ending May 14, 2004
<b>Memoranda</b>		
1. M040520B Revised	5/24/04	Affirmation Session: 1) SECY-04-0075 - Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. (Erwin, TN); Appeal of LBP-04-05, the Presiding Officer's Ruling on Hearing Requests; 2) SECY-04-0079 - Hydro Resources, Inc. (Rio Rancho, NM) Petitions for Review of LBP-04-03 (Financial Assurance); 3) SECY-04-0082 - Louisiana Energy Services, L.P. (National Enrichment Center); 4) SECY-04-0069 - Final Rule to Amend 10 CFR Part 2, Subpart J, in Regard to the Licensing Support Network
2. M040511B	5/26/04	Staff Requirements - Briefing on OIP Programs, Performance, and Plans
3. M040526AB	5/27/04	Staff Requirements - All Employees Meeting, 10:30 A.M. / 1:30 P.M.
4. M040504B	5/27/04	Staff Requirements - Briefing on Results of the Agency Action Review Meeting

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Senator Barbara Boxer, dated May 20, 2004, provides a follow-up on the request that NRC undertake an emergency inspection at the Diablo Canyon Power Plant.
2. Letter to David Lochbaum, UCS, dated May 19, 2004, responds to letter regarding the safety culture related issues at the Salem/Hope Creek Generating Stations and at Davis-Besse.

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3. Letter to Professor Roger Clarke, International Commission on Radiological Protection, dated May 18, 2004, expresses the Commission's support for the development of an international radiation protection framework.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. U.S. NRC, Request for a License to Import Radioactive Waste.

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Region I  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 28, 2004

Vermont Yankee

Entergy's investigation of the two unaccounted fuel rod segments is continuing with document reviews and interviews with present and former employees and contractors. Entergy is also working with individuals associated with disposal sites. NRC's special inspection team is planning to be on-site again during the week of June 14 to monitor the progress of Entergy's investigation. Resident inspectors will monitor Entergy's investigation efforts in the interim. NRC's special inspection activities will continue after Entergy issues its final report, currently scheduled for in July 2004, to determine the adequacy of Entergy's investigation.

The Region has selected the dates for the new engineering inspection to be performed at Vermont Yankee. The onsite inspection will occur during the weeks of August 9, August 16, and August 30, 2004. A public exit meeting is planned for mid-September with the final inspection report currently scheduled to be issued in October.

Receipt and Docketing of PSEG Work Environment Assessments

The NRC received a letter this week from the Public Service Enterprise Group Incorporated (PSEG), dated May 21, 2004, providing reports of three recent assessments conducted for the licensee at Salem and Hope Creek. Region I is still reviewing the reports, which appear self critical of the safety conscious work environment, including the corrective action and work management programs. The latest submittal forms part of PSEG's response to the NRC letter of January 28, 2004, which provided interim results of an ongoing review by the NRC of the work environment.

The PSEG letter notes that the reports all provide similar results, and document that the work environment at both Salem and Hope Creek is in need of improvement. The PSEG letter further states that PSEG is developing a comprehensive plan to improve not only the work environment, but also the PSEG corrective action and work management programs, which they view as the principal drivers of the needed improvements in the work environment. The PSEG's May 21, 2004 submittal is publicly available, in its entirety, in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System.

The NRC has scheduled a meeting with PSEG to discuss the assessment findings. The meeting, which will be open to the public, will be held at 7:00 pm on June 16, 2004, at the Holiday Inn in Swedesboro, New Jersey. At that meeting, PSEG will also discuss its improvement plan.

Region II  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 28, 2004

Participation in Inspector Counterpart Meetings at Region III and Region IV

During the week of May 24, 2004, the Director, Division of Reactor Safety, attended the Inspector Counterpart Meetings at the Region III Office in Lisle, Illinois and at the Region IV Office in Arlington, Texas and made presentations on the PAKS Reactor Event.

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Region IV  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 28, 2004

TXU - Comanche Peak Nuclear Plant

The Regional Administrator accompanied the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation on a visit to the Comanche Peak nuclear plant on May 25, 2004. The visit included a tour of the facility and obtaining feedback on the reactor oversight program from the NRC resident inspectors and licensee managers.

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Office of Congressional Affairs  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending May 28, 2004

**CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 60**

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Long	06/02 SD-342	10:00	Markup	S.346, amending the Federal Procurement Policy Act, S.2409, providing continued health benefits coverage for certain federal employees	Senators Collins/Lieberman Governmental Affairs
Keeling	06/02 2154 RHOB	1:30	OMB, GAO, DHS, DOD, FAA, and others	Cybersecurity	Reps. Putnam/Clay Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census Government Reform
Long	06/03 2154 RHOB	10:00	Markup	H.R.3826, Program Assessment and Results Act	Reps. Davis/Waxman Government Reform
Keeling	06/09 SD-226	10:00	Secretary Ridge, DHS	Oversight on terrorism and the Dept. of Homeland Security	Senators Hatch/Leahy Judiciary
Keeling	TBA 2141 RHOB	TBA	Markup	H.R. 2934, increase criminal penalties related to terrorist murders, including crimes involving nuclear sabotage	Reps. Sensenbrenner/Conyers Judiciary