

INFORMATION REPORT

July 24, 2003

SECY-03-0125

For: The Commissioners

From: William M. Dean, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO/RA/

Subject: SECY-03-0125 WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK
ENDING JULY 18, 2003

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*No input this week.

/RA/

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Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
R. Torres, OEDO

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07/24/03	07/25/03

WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING JULY 18, 2003

The Weekly Information Report is compiled by the Office of the EDO and includes highlights of Headquarters and Regional Office activities.

Contact: R. Torres, OEDO by E-mail: rjt@nrc.gov.

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*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 18, 2003

Staff Issues V.C. Summer License Renewal Draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement for Public Comment

On July 9, 2003, the staff issued draft Supplement 15 to NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, Supplement 15, Regarding Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station" for public comment. The draft supplement includes the staff's preliminary analysis that considers and weighs the environmental effects of the proposed action, the environmental impacts of alternatives to the proposed action, and mitigative measures available for reducing or avoiding adverse impacts. It also includes the staff's preliminary recommendation regarding the proposed action: staff recommends that the Commission determine that the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for V.C. Summer are not so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy planning decisionmakers would be unreasonable.

Copies of the supplement were filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which will publish a Notice of Filing regarding the draft supplement in the *Federal Register* on July 18, 2003. The notice will provide for a 75-day public comment period which will end on October 3, 2003. The staff has scheduled public meetings on August 26, 2003, in Jenkinsville, South Carolina, to present its analyses and to accept public comments on the draft supplement.

U.S. Department of Energy Site Visit

A representative from the Division of Engineering (DE) participated in a site visit to the Department of Energy (DOE) High Flux Isotope Reactor (HFIR) at Oak Ridge on July 14-15, 2003, as a member of a team consisting of Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) and Region II staff members. In response to a request from Congress for external regulatory oversight by the NRC, DOE has requested that the NRC identify any areas they should address in preparation for licensing of the HFIR. The HFIR was built in late 1960 and was later upgraded to a 0.15 gravity seismic level using DOE criteria.

Recent seismic hazard studies by the NRC identified the Eastern Tennessee Seismic Zone as having a higher seismic hazard. Also, the evaluation of the HFIR for tornado used a wind velocity of 150 miles per hour. For these reasons, protection against natural phenomena was identified as an area that warranted DOE attention.

DOE recently issued an order for a 10-year update of the HFIR facility, and the United States Geological Survey is developing the seismic hazard for the site using its current method of analysis. The tornado wind velocity used for DOE's review will be based on the analysis of most current tornado wind velocity data. The site visit was very effective in determining the usefulness of the data being developed by the DOE's contractor for future NRC review.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 18, 2003

Tour of Uranium Enrichment Gas Centrifuge Manufacturing and Test Facilities in Oak Ridge, Tennessee

On July 9, 2003, five NRC officials, including the Deputy Executive Director for Materials, Research, and State Programs, and the Director of the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, visited the U.S. Enrichment Corporation's (USEC's) and Department of Energy's (DOE's) uranium enrichment gas centrifuge manufacturing and test facilities in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. USEC presented the status of its centrifuge deployment and its future plans in this regard. Following this presentation, the NRC officials toured USEC's rotor manufacturing facility and centrifuge test facility. The NRC officials also toured DOE's gas centrifuge enrichment cascade that was shut down in 1985.

Meeting with Rio Algom Mining Company

On July 10, 2003, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards staff met with Rio Algom Mining Company at NRC Headquarters. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the potential impacts of NRC's 11.e(2) decisions on discharges at the Ambrosia Lake Facility.

U.S. Enrichment Corporation Test Facility

On July 10, 2003, staff from the Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards and the Office of the General Counsel met with staff from the Department of Energy (DOE) in a closed meeting to discuss the draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) on regulatory oversight issues related to the U.S. Enrichment Corporation's (USEC's) gas centrifuge uranium enrichment test and demonstration facility (Lead Cascade). This facility is to be housed in an existing DOE Gas Centrifuge Enrichment Plant (GCEP) building at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant site in Piketon, Ohio. The MOU should be finalized by late 2003. NRC is currently reviewing USEC's Lead Cascade license application dated February 12, 2003. NRC anticipates completing its review by February 2004. On July 17, 2003, the NRC staff issued its request to USEC for additional information letter with a requested 45-day response on the Lead Cascade application.

NRC/DOE Quarterly Quality Assurance and Management Public Meetings

On July 15-16, 2003, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards staff met with Department of Energy (DOE) staff to discuss quality assurance and management issues concerning the DOE Yucca Mountain High-Level Waste program. Both meetings were multi-connection video conferences hosted at NRC Headquarters, with connections to the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office in Las Vegas, Nevada, the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses in San Antonio, Texas, and, for the quality assurance meeting, with NRC Region IV in Arlington, Texas. Various stakeholders, including representatives from the State of Nevada, Nye County, and industry attended at NRC and DOE meeting locations. General Accounting Office personnel and various stakeholders also participated via telecom.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the status of the program at the potential repository site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. Discussion topics included: (1) DOE's quality assurance program; (2) status of significant corrective actions; (3) program improvements, metrics, and effectiveness regarding the license application, procedural compliance, corrective action program, safety-conscious work environment, and staff accountability; and (4) key technical issue and agreement resolution. During each meeting, DOE and NRC reviewed the status of previous action items, closing most of them, and identified some new actions items. The next quarterly NRC/DOE meetings are tentatively scheduled for November 2003 in Las Vegas.

Meeting with Department of Energy Regarding Transport of Tritium-Producing Burnable Absorber Rods

On July 16, 2003, Spent Fuel Project Office staff met with the Department of Energy (DOE) to discuss the transport of tritium-producing burnable absorber rods (TPBARs). There are plans to irradiate TPBARs in Tennessee Valley Authority reactors, to produce tritium. DOE plans to use the Model No. NAC-LWT cask (NRC Certificate of Compliance No. 9225) for these proposed shipments. The discussion centered around the possible NRC review of a request to amend the certificate to authorize shipment of the TPBARs.

Meeting with BFS Regarding Transport of VSC-24 Canisters in the Model No. TS125 Cask

On July 17, 2003, Spent Fuel Project Office staff met with BNFL Fuel Solutions (BFS) to discuss the transport of VSC-24 spent fuel canisters in the Model No. TS125 Cask (NRC Certificate of Compliance No. 9276), relying on moderator exclusion for criticality control. The VSC-24 canister is part of a storage system that is currently approved under 10 CFR Part 72 (Certificate of Compliance No. 72-1007). BFS is planning for the eventual disposition of the 58 VSC-24 canisters that are currently loaded at three reactor sites. The meeting centered on the various options that BFS is exploring, regarding seeking approval to ship the 58 currently loaded canisters. Discussion topics included burnup credit and a possible exception, under the provisions of 10 CFR 71.55(c), that would include design changes to the transportation configuration of the TS125 cask.

International Atomic Energy Agency Transportation Conference

From July 7-11, 2003, staff from the Spent Fuel Project Office attended the "International Conference on the Safety of Radioactive Materials Transport," hosted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), in Vienna, Austria. The conference's goal was to exchange information on radioactive material transport issues, and formulate recommendations for international cooperation. There were 534 nominated participants from 82 states; nine intergovernmental organizations, and five non-government organizations, and there were 132 contributed papers. A draft of the conference findings was provided to all participants, on July 11, 2003, and IAEA plans to issue the final findings shortly. It is expected that the conference findings will be presented to the next IAEA General Conference, to consider further action. Key issues discussed at the conference were liability for accidents at sea, the importance of communications between governments and with the public, and the adequacy of the IAEA transport regulations.

Nuclear Security and Incident Response
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 18, 2003

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-I-03-022, Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company - APPOINTMENT OF NEW PRESIDENT FOR CONNECTICUT YANKEE.
2. PNO-III-03-026A, Exelon Generation Company - CRACKS DISCOVERED IN THE UNIT 2 STEAM DRYER - UPDATE.
3. PNO-IV-03-035, STP Nuclear Operating Company - EFFECTS OF HURRICANE CLAUDETTE AT SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT.
4. PNO-III-03-030, University of Wisconsin-Madison - REPORTED MEDICAL EVENT INVOLVING YTTRIUM-90 MICROSPHERES (UNDERDOSE).
5. PNO-III-03-031, Washington University in St. Louis - REPORTED MEDICAL EVENT INVOLVING SAMARIUM-153 (UNDERDOSE).

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ENCLOSURE D

Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 18, 2003

Contract Award

A fixed price contract no. NRC-30-03-281 was awarded to Millennium Data Systems, Inc. on July 11, 2004, for administrative support services at Region III. The period of performance is two years with three one-year option periods. The total estimated cost of the contract, inclusive of option years, is \$369,139.00. This procurement was awarded as an 8(a) set-aside, in accordance with the Small Business Administration's Partnership Agreement with the NRC.

Amersham Corporation (Now Known as AEA Technology QSA, Inc.); Denial of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-34-5)

A document that denies a petition for rulemaking submitted by Amersham Corporation (now known as AEA Technology QSA, Inc.) was published in the Federal Register on July 15, 2003 (68 FR 41757). The petitioner requested that the NRC amend the regulations that specify performance requirements for industrial radiography equipment by removing the reference to associated equipment, clarify certain provisions of the current regulations, and require routine inspection and maintenance of equipment associated with industrial radiography. The petition was denied because the NRC completed several analyses of the regulations applicable to radiography and determined that rulemaking was not necessary to achieve the intent of the petitioner's requests.

Robert H Leyse; Denial of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-50-73 and PRM-50-73A)

A document that denies two petitions for rulemaking submitted by Robert H. Leyse (PRM-50-73 and PRM-50-73A) was published in the Federal Register on July 16, 2003 (68 FR 41963). The petitioner requested that the NRC amend the regulations to address the effect of crud (a colloquial term for corrosion and wear products such as rust particles that become radioactive when exposed to neutron radiation) on the cooling of the reactor core under the turbulent flow conditions of a loss-of-coolant accident and during normal conditions. The petition was denied because the NRC determined that current regulations require an applicant/licensee to address the impacts of the core geometry change on cooling in the Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS) analysis; the petitioner's hypothetical discussion of fuel clad performance with severe levels of crud buildup was not supported by modeling, data analysis, or operational data; and technical specifications for monitoring reactor coolant activity have resulted in licensee operational practices for the early detection of coolant activity increase due to crud deposits before these deposits would build to the levels postulated by the petitioner.

Chief Information Officer
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 18, 2003

Information Technology (IT) Focus Group Meeting

On July 16-17, 2003, Office of the Chief Information Officer's (OCIO's) Enterprise Architecture/Technical Assessment Team (EATAT) held its periodic IT Focus Group meeting in Rockville. Three vendors presented information about enterprise mobile security solutions, biometric security systems, and recent advances in wireless technologies. Regional staff discussed their use of Personal Data Assistants (PDAs) for inspections, Global Positioning System/Personal Data Assistant (GPS/PDA) systems, and Adobe Capture software for graphics handling. The Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) staff discussed two different pilot projects being conducted in partnership with EATAT: Use of Tablet Personal Computers for Mobile Work Planning, and the Inspector Electronic Support System (IESS). EATAT team members briefed the group on the results of four pilot studies: Fax on demand, wireless email, voice recognition and digital cameras for inspectors.

NRC Chairs Interagency Transitions Lessons Learned Working Group

At a recent General Services Administration sponsored working group meeting, a staff member from the Office of the Chief Information Officer, Information Technology Infrastructure Division was elected to chair the Interagency Transitions Lessons Learned Working Group which meets on a biweekly basis. The group's charter is to define the requirements and processes required for government-wide transition of telecommunications services from the current Federal Technology Services Telecommunications contracts to the proposed Network follow-on contracts. The group met on Monday July 14 to provide a progress briefing to the Interagency Management Council on Telecommunications issues related to transition.

Final Meeting of the External Web Redesign Steering Committee

The NRC External Web Redesign Steering Committee held its final meeting on July 15, 2003. The Director of the Web Publishing and Distribution Services Division provided a brief synopsis of major milestones and accomplishments of the Committee during its approximate three year existence. The Director also mentioned that the NRC's External Web site was cited in a recently published college textbook, "Technical Communication," by John M. Lannon. Mr. Lannon pointed out that a good web site should accommodate users at various levels of technicality and cites the NRC web site as a good source of both general and specialized information. We expect to maintain the site and make future improvements by means of the on-going activities of the Web staff, office Web Liaisons, Web Working Group, and the 3-person Web Advisory Group consisting of representatives from the Office of the Executive Director for Operations, Office of Public Affairs, and Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the period of
July 11 through July 17, 2003:

NRC media workshop, June 24-25, 2003, copy of documents distributed	FOIA/PA-2003-0352
Knowledge Transfer Sessions, July 1-2, 2003, copy of handouts	FOIA/PA-2003-0353
Westinghouse Power Corp, 1993 upgrade to Temelin Nuclear Power Plant - Referral by Department of State	FOIA/PA-2003-0354
Medical sites using radioactive materials including positron emitting isotopes	FOIA/PA-2003-0355

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Office of Human Resources
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 18, 2003

Arrivals		
ARAGUAS, Christian	NUCLEAR SAFETY INTERN	NRR
DIPERT, Richard	FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEER	NRR
FRUEH, Linda	CHIEF, PLANNING TEAM	OCFO
BARATTA, Anthony	CONSULTANT	ASLBP
QUINLIVAN, Kathleen	MANAGEMENT ANALYST (summer)	ADM
SCHAEFFER, Dennis	CONSULTANT	RIV
TRENT, Donita	STUDENT CLERK (summer)	ADM
YU, DeAnna	STUDENT CLERK (summer)	ADM
WASHINGTON, Brittney	STUDENT CLERK (summer)	ADM
Departures		
CASE, Diane	HEALTH PHYSICIST	NMSS
KEYSER III, William	LAW CLERK	ASLBP
SNOWBERGER, Dwight	STUDENT ENGINEER	NRR

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Office of Public Affairs
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 18, 2003

Media Interest

Upcoming force-on-force exercise at Indian Point and preparations for it. This includes Entergy's press conference, with former New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani.

Hurricane Claudette and its approach to South Texas, including its possible impact on the South Texas Project nuclear plant.

Congressional budget battles over Yucca Mountain. In addition, the Energy Department's latest plans to answer at least 190 key technical questions before submitting a license application to the NRC for the high-level waste repository.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
03-092	NOTE TO EDITORS: NRC Fact Sheet on Force-on-Force Security Exercises At Nuclear Power Plants (7/15)
03-093	NRC To Hold Public Meeting July 25 On Quad Cities Nuclear Plant Steam Dryer Cracks And Future Upgrades (7/16)
03-094	NRC Approves Wisconsin Agreement To Regulate Use Of Certain Radioactive Materials (7/17)
03-095	NRC Advisory Committee On Nuclear Waste to Meet July 29 - 31 In Rockville, Maryland (7/17)
03-096	NRC Proposes Increased Security Requirements For Portable Gauges (7/17)
03-097	NRC Issues Draft Report On Fire Hazard Calculations For Nuclear Power Plants (7/18)
Regions:	
I-03-042	NRC Public Meeting On July 17 On Updating Generic Environmental Impact Statement For License Renewal (7/14)
II-03-036	Musser Named NRC Senior Resident Inspector At Harris Nuclear Plant (7/18)
II-03-037	McCoy Named NRC Senior Resident Inspector At Surry Nuclear Power Plant (7/18)
III-03-048	NRC Staff Proposes \$5,500 Fine Against An Ohio Inspection Company (7/11)

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III-03-049	New NRC Resident Inspectors At Kewaunee Nuclear Power Station (7/16)
III-03-050	NRC Announces New Resident Inspector at Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station (7/16)

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Office of the Secretary
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 18, 2003

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SRM-COMSECY-03-0014	6/26/03	Public Release of the Yucca Mountain Review Plan, NUREG-1804, Final Revision 2
Voting Record on COMSECY-03-0014	6/26/03	(same)
2. SECY-03-0092	6/5/03	Proposed Rule - Enhanced Security Requirements for Portable Gauges Containing Byproduct Material
SRM on SECY-03-0092	7/14/03	(same)
Voting Record on SECY-03-0092	7/14/03	(same)
3. SECY-03-0096	6/6/03	Section 274b Agreement with the State of Wisconsin
SRM on SECY-03-0096	6/30/03	(same)
Commission Voting Record on SECY-03-0096	6/30/03	(same)
4. SECY-03-0085	5/23/03	Denial of Petitions for Rulemaking on Revising 10 CFR Part 50.46 and Appendix K to 10 CFR Part 50 to Require Licensees to Address the Impact on Coolant Flow of Release and Resuspension of Crud Buildup on Fuel Cladding During Loss-of-Coolant Accident Scenarios and During Normal Operations (PRM 50-73 and PRM 50-73A)
SRM on SECY-03-0085	6/23/03	(same)
Voting Record on SECY-03-0085	6/23/03	(same)

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5. SECY-03-0088	5/29/03	Denial of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-34-5) Amersham Corporation, Now Known as AEA Technology QSA, Inc.
SRM on SECY-03-0088	6/30/03	(same)
Voting Record on SECY-03-0088	6/30/03	(same)
Negative Consent Documents		
1. SECY-03-0114	7/8/03	Final Rule, 10 CFR Part 140, "Financial Protection Requirements and Indemnity Agreements"
SRM on SECY-03-0114	7/17/03	(same)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-03-0117	7/9/03	Approaches for Adopting More Widely Accepted International Quality Standards
2. SECY-03-0121	7/17/03	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending July 11, 2003

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Brian Sandoval, Attorney General, Nevada, dated July 8, 2003, provides the Commission response to the State's Petition to "Establish Procedures for Fair and Credible Yucca Mountain Licensing Hearing."
2. Letter to Robert R. Loux, State of Nevada, dated July 8, 2003, concerns the Total-System Performance Assessment (TPA) code.
3. Letter to Gary Wright, State of Illinois, dated July 8, 2003, responds to request for exemption from 10 CFR 26.6 (Fitness-for-Duty).
4. Letter to Congressman Dennis J. Kucinich, July 7, 2003, responds to request for unredacted documents.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. ACNW Meeting on Planning & Procedures.
2. CFC Logistics, Inc., ASLBP - Designation of Presiding Officer.
3. ACNW Notice of 144th Meeting.

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ENCLOSURE O

Region I
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 18, 2003

Public Meeting to Discuss Application for New Irradiator

Region I DNMS representatives attended a public meeting in Quakertown, Pennsylvania (PA), to discuss the agency's ongoing review of an application for a new irradiator to be operated in Milford Township, PA. Approximately 400 members of the public attended the meeting convened by the Milford Township Board of Supervisors. Gray-Star, Inc., the designer of the underwater irradiator, discussed the irradiator operation, and Region I representatives reviewed the NRC licensing and inspection process for irradiators, as well as the status of the current application. Concerns from the citizens included public knowledge of the pending license application, security, property values, groundwater impacts and potential accident scenarios. A hearing request on this license application is currently under review by a Presiding Officer of an Atomic Safety Licensing Board Panel. In materials cases, the hearing process is on a separate path from the staff's licensing review and does not preclude a licensing decision by the NRC staff. The staff's review of the application is substantially complete and, as indicated at the meeting, a licensing decision is expected in the near future.

Indian Point - Licensee Press Briefing on Upcoming Force-on-Force Exercise

The owner of the Indian Point facility, Entergy, conducted a press briefing on July 16 to discuss preparations for the Force-on-Force exercise. Rudolph Giuliani, former Mayor of New York City and now a consultant to Entergy, was a primary presenter at the briefing. The simulated weapons and equipment to be used by security personnel during the exercise were displayed and demonstrated. Mr. Giuliani answered questions about the realism expected in the exercise, and discussed the value of exercises based on his experience. Media coverage was extensive.

Maine Yankee Community Advisory Panel Meeting

On the evening of July 17, 2003, a representative from the Region I Division of Nuclear Materials Safety (DNMS), briefed the Community Advisory Panel (CAP) for decommissioning the Maine Yankee plant. The presentation is a periodic summary of Region I inspection activities at the plant, and also provides a status of Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensing and confirmatory survey activities. Items discussed included the spent fuel transfer program, shipment of the reactor vessel to the Barnwell, South Carolina, burial site, and the final status survey program. Approximately 20 CAP members, Maine Yankee staff, media representatives, and members of the public were in attendance.

Ginna

Paul Wilkens, President, Rochester Gas and Electric (RG&E), retired on July 10, 2003. James Laurito, President and CEO of RGS Energy Group, a subsidiary of Energy East, will assume the title of President of RG&E. RGS Energy Group is in the process of soliciting bids for its generating assets, which includes the Ginna station. A buyer is expected to be selected by October 2003.

Region I Senior Management Site Visit to Salem and Hope Creek

The Region I Regional Administrator and members of the staff visited Salem and Hope Creek on July 16, 2003, and met with the Public Service Electric & Gas Chief Nuclear Officer to discuss licensee plans to address recent performance issues.

Region I Senior Management Site Visit to Pilgrim

On July 16, 2003, the Director of Reactor Projects toured Pilgrim and met with the Resident Inspection staff and selected licensee (Entergy) managers, as part of the Region's routine program of site visits.

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Region II
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 18, 2003

Special Strategic Plan Senior Leadership Group Session

On July 15, 2003, the Regional Administrator participated in a Special Strategic Plan Senior Leadership Group Session in Headquarters. The Group continued to review the Agency's Strategic Plan and discuss potential areas for revision.

Russian Visitors in the Region II Office

On July 17-18, 2003, inspectors from the Russian Nuclear Regulator, Gosatomnadzor (GAN), were in the Regional Office to visit and discuss the Reactor Oversight Process with the Regional Administrator and other managers and staff. A specific focus was to discuss the NRC's, Problem Identification and Resolution (PI&R) inspection process.

Closed Predecisional Enforcement Conference with BWX Technologies

On July 17, 2003, Region II held a closed Predecisional Enforcement Conference with BWX Technologies, Inc.,. The purpose of the conference was to discuss apparent violations associated with the discovery on May 11, 2003, that three pairs of detectors covering three Criticality Monitoring System (CMS) detection zones were inoperable.

Virginia Electric and Power Company - Surry Ingestion Pathway Exercise

On July 15-17, 2003, Region II managers and staff participated in the Surry Ingestion Pathway Exercise in Richmond, VA. Other participants included representatives from the Commonwealth and local emergency response organizations. The Region II, State Liaison Officer participated as a member of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Regional Assistance Committee in evaluating the performance of the Commonwealth of Virginia and applicable local governments.

Region III
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 18, 2003

Predecisional enforcement conference

On July 16, 2003, the Region III staff met with Nuclear Management Co. for an predecisional enforcement conference to discuss apparent violations involving the licensee's Fitness-For-Duty program at the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Station. The conference was closed to public observation because it involves the findings of an NRC Office of Investigations report that has not been publicly disclosed.

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Region IV
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 18, 2003

Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) to Negotiate with Entergy Nuclear to Provide Management Services at Cooper Nuclear Station

On July 11, 2003, the Nebraska Public Power District's Board of Directors gave NPPD management the authority to continue with negotiations, toward a long-term agreement for management services at Cooper Nuclear Station, with Entergy Nuclear, Inc., of Jackson, Mississippi. While NPPD will retain ownership of the plant and NRC operating license, Entergy will provide personnel to fill certain key management positions. Any negotiated agreement must be approved by Entergy management and the NPPD Board.

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Office of Congressional Affairs
Items of Interest
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CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 23

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Gerke	07/22/03 2154 RHOB	2:00	OMB	H.R. 2432, Paperwork and Regulatory Improvements Act	Reps. Davis/Waxman Government Reform
Gerke	07/24/03 SD-342	9:30	TBA	Then and Now: An Update on the Administration's Competitive Sourcing Initiative	Senators Voinovich/Durbin Gov't Mgmnt, the Fedl Workforce Governmental Affairs
Gerke	07/24/03 2154 RHOB	10:00	TBA	Problems with TSP Website	Reps. Davis/Waxman Government Reform
Combs	TBA	TBA	Chairman Diaz, DOE Bechtel, NEI	Yucca Mountain	Reps. Barton/Boucher Energy and Power Energy and Commerce
Keeling	TBA SD-342	TBA	Joe D. Whitley	Confirmation to be General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security	Senators Collins/Lieberman Governmental Affairs

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ENCLOSURE R

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 18, 2003

Westinghouse AP1000 design review

On July 16-18, 2003, the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) Subcommittees held a meeting on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena and Future Plant Designs at the Westinghouse Energy Center in Monroeville, Pennsylvania. The purpose of the technical meeting was to review the Westinghouse AP1000 design. The presentations made by the Westinghouse representatives and the NRC staff were informative and included such topics as thermal-hydraulic performance, instrumentation and control design concept, man-machine interface design acceptance criteria, leak-before-break pipe design, materials issues, human factors issues, and the current open items. The Subcommittees plan to discuss this matter during the 505th ACRS meeting in September 11-13, 2003.

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Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 18, 2003

Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) Elects New Officers

The ACNW has elected Dr. B. John Garrick as Chairman and Dr. Michael T. Ryan as Vice-Chairman for a period July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004.

Dr. Garrick is an expert in the application of risk sciences to many technology based industries including nuclear power, space, chemical, defense, and transportation. Dr. Ryan is an independent consultant in radiological sciences and health physics with over 25 years of experience in radioactive waste management and radiation protection.

The other ACNW members are Dr. George M. Hornberger, Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, and Mr. Milton Levenson, a former Vice President of Bechtel International.

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