

INFORMATION REPORT

August 16, 2006

SECY-06-0182

For: The Commissioners

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

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
AUGUST 4, 2006

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*No input this week.

/RA/

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Assistant for Operations, OEDO

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U. Shoop, OEDO

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UShoop:paa	WMDean
08/16/06	08/16/06

WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING AUGUST 4, 2006

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

Contact: U. Shoop, OEDO by E-mail: uss@nrc.gov.

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*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 4, 2006

Receipt of James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal Application

On August 1, 2006, the staff received an application from Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc., to renew the operating license for the James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant (JAFNPP) to extend the license for an additional 20 years beyond the current expiration date. The current JAFNPP operating license will expire on October 17, 2014.

AP1000 Design-Centered Working Group (DCWG) Meeting

On July 27, 2006, the staff held a public meeting with the industry's AP1000 DCWG, composed of Duke Energy, Progress Energy, South Carolina Electric and Gas, Southern Company, Tennessee Valley Authority, and Westinghouse. The meeting focused on the combined license pre-application (COLA) activities. Presentations by the DCWG representatives addressed the group's commitment to high quality applications and maximizing standardization. The DCWG also discussed their plans and schedules for a COLA, the response to Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) 2006-06, "New Reactor Standardization Needed to Support the Design-Centered Licensing Review Approach," and key COLA challenges.

Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor (ESBWR) Design Certification Meeting

On July 26-27, 2006, the staff held a public meeting with representatives from General Electric (GE) regarding the ESBWR design instrumentation and control (I&C) systems. The meeting focused on several GE I&C Licensing Topical Reports (LTRs) previously submitted to the staff and the schedule for future I&C-related LTRs. GE provides information on one of four possible platforms for the ESBWR I&C system and requested clarification on some of the requests for additional information.

Hope Creek - Ultimate Heat Sink (UHS) Amendment

On August 1, 2006, the staff issued a license amendment for Hope Creek that permits continued plant operation with the temperature of the UHS (the Delaware River) greater than 89 °F. The amendment permits continued operation at the elevated UHS temperatures provided the UHS temperature averaged over the prior 24-hour period is verified at least once per hour to be less than or equal to 89 °F, and the UHS temperature does not exceed a maximum value of 91.4 °F. Previously, the Hope Creek Technical Specifications permitted continued plant operation with a UHS temperature up to 89 °F. The UHS temperature reached approximately 88 °F on August 1, 2006, and is expected to remain at elevated levels due to continued hot weather conditions.

Indian Point Unit 2 - Emergency Amendment

On July 26, 2006, Entergy applied for an emergency amendment to the Technical Specification (TS) for Indian Point 2. The TS change decreased the number of containment sump water level channels that are required to be operable from 3 to 2 channels. Containment sump water

level is used for post-accident monitoring, as defined in Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.97. The staff concluded that removal of one channel would still meet the criteria of RG 1.97 since the remaining channels provide acceptable redundancy. The staff issued the license amendment on July 28, 2006.

National Fire Protection Association Standard 805 (NFPA 805) Public Workshop

During July 24-25, 2006, NRC in conjunction with staff from DC Cook, conducted the subject workshop in Buchanan, MI, for plants transitioning to NFPA 805. Industry participants included the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), Duke Engineering, Progress Energy, Nuclear Management Company (NMC), Callaway, and various support contractors. DC Cook's team presented the transition status of their fire PRA, fundamental elements, multiple spurious operations, recovery actions, and non-power operations.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 4, 2006

High-Level Waste Staff Observe Waste Package Outer Barrier Prototype

From July 25-27, 2006, NRC and the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses staff observed the solution-annealing and quenching operation of the 21-PWR Uncanistered Fuel Prototype Waste Package outer barrier. The purpose of this full-scale demonstration was to ensure that the solution-annealing and quenching operation reduces the residual stresses from welding and fabrication; thus, reducing the probability of stress corrosion cracking of the waste package. This critical step in the fabrication process will be performed at the Delphi facilities in Sewell, NJ, under a subcontract with Joseph Oat Corporation.

Meeting with J. L. Shepherd and Associates

On August 2, 2006, representatives from J. L. Shepherd and Associates met with Spent Fuel Project Office staff to provide an overview of their plans to develop and submit applications for two new transport package designs. J. L. Shepherd and Associates plan to submit these applications in early 2008.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 4, 2006

Renewal of Technical Exchange and Cooperation Arrangement in the Field of Nuclear Safety Research and Development

On August 1, 2006, the Executive Director for Operations (EDO) signed the renewal of the subject Arrangement, which defines the terms and conditions by which the NRC and United Kingdom Health and Safety Executive (HSE) will continue its cooperation. Under this Arrangement, the NRC and HSE will exchange technical information and cooperate in reactor safety research in areas that include: reactor vessel and piping integrity; aging of reactor components; equipment qualification; thermal hydraulic code application and maintenance; plant and human performance; core melt and reactor system failure; containment safety; structural integrity; seismic safety; probabilistic risk assessment; severe accident analysis; radiation protection and health effects; radionuclide transport and waste management; nuclear fuels analysis; dry cask storage and transport; decommissioning; and, fire protection. This renewed Arrangement will remain in effect for an additional five years.

Workshop on Basic Research Needs for Advanced Nuclear Energy Systems

On July 31 through August 2, 2006, RES staff attended the subject workshop in Rockville, MD, hosted by the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Basic Energy Sciences. The workshop's purpose was to identify basic science research directions and priorities in support of the long-term development of deep-burn fast-neutron reactors and associated advanced fuel cycles for DOE's Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP). During the workshop, six working panels discussed research in the following areas: materials, chemistry, separations science, advanced actinide fuels, advanced waste forms, and predictive modeling and simulation. DOE plans to issue a report on the workshop results in October 2006. RES staff is noting the direction of DOE's research in these areas, the relation of DOE's programs to NRC's activities, and opportunities for NRC research collaboration with DOE.

Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 4, 2006

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-III-06-017, D.C. Cook-American Electric Power,-D.C. COOK UNIT 1 SHUTS DOWN DUE TO HIGH CONTAINMENT AIR TEMPERATURE.
2. PNO-III-06-018, Detroit Edison Company,-FERMI 2 REACTOR SHUTDOWN AND UNUSUAL EVENT.

August 4, 2006

ENCLOSURE D

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 4, 2006

Requirements for Expanded Definition of Byproduct Material

On July 28, 2006, the NRC published a proposed rule in the Federal Register (71 FR 42952) that would amend its regulations to include jurisdiction over certain radium sources, accelerator-produced radioactive materials and certain naturally occurring radioactive material. The proposed rule is required by the Energy Policy Act, which expanded the Atomic Energy Act definition of byproduct material to include any discrete source of radium-226, any material made radioactive by use of a particle accelerator, and certain discrete sources of naturally occurring radioactive material. The comment period for this action closes September 11, 2006.

Requirements for Expanded Definition of Byproduct Material; Meeting

On August 3, 2006, the NRC published a document in the Federal Register (71 FR 43996) that announces a public meeting to solicit public comment on a proposed rule that would amend its regulations to include jurisdiction over certain radium sources, accelerator-produced radioactive materials and certain naturally occurring radioactive material. The meeting will be held on August 22, 2006.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 4, 2006

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act Requests Received During the Period of July 28 through August 3, 2006:

License No. 29-30262-01, 10 year renewal application, Bracco Research USA, Inc., Princeton, NJ	FOIA/PA-2006-0256
License No. 22-16300-01, copy of license & compliance information (all supporting documentation referenced in the license) & all inspection reports from 1991 to present	FOIA/PA-2006-0257
Fall 2005 self-assessment of NRC's "accelerated review process" for license requests to convert to standard technical specifications, & any & all information related to that review process	FOIA/PA-2006-0258
Names of all NRC personnel Grade 13 & higher who have been accorded waivers allowing them to receive both full salary & federal retirement benefits & legal basis; also number of personnel who have been denied waivers & reason	FOIA/PA-2006-0259
Gamma Knife, Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania Hospital, report/license stating that Gamma Knife was decommissioned, 2004	FOIA/PA-2006-0260
"Official Use Only" documents sent by NRR to the Commission, June-July, 2006	FOIA/PA-2006-0261
Active NRC Region I Medical licensees, MLTS	FOIA/PA-2006-0262
Records re: deportation of named individual	FOIA/PA-2006-0263

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ENCLOSURE G

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 4, 2006

Arrival		
AHN, HOSUNG	HYDROLOGIST	NRR
BELEN-OJEDA, AIXA	GENERAL ENGINEER (NSPDP)	RES
BETANCOURT-ROLDAN, DIANA	REACTOR ENGINEER (NSPDP)	R-III
BRANDON, LOU	EMERGENCY RESPONSE COORDINATOR	NSIR
CAMPBELL, LILLIE	SECRETARY (OA)	NMSS
DE JESUS SEGARRA, JONATHAN	GENERAL ENGINEER (NSPDP)	RES
EARGLE, JASON A.	GENERAL ENGINEER (NSPDP)	NRR
GIBBS, CATINA M.	SECRETARY (OA)	HR
GILLUM, SHIRLEY C.	SECRETARY (OA)	R-IV
NIEBAUM, PHILLIP K.	PROJECT ENGINEER (RI DEVEL. PROGRAM)	R-II
OXENDINE, JAMES H.	GENERAL ENGINEER (NSPDP)	NRR
ROLDAN, LIZETTE	HEALTH PHYSICIST (NSPDP)	R-I
SAGER, WILLIAM W.	ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE	ASLBP
SREENIVAS, LEELA	ENFORCEMENT SPECIALIST	OE
TAVLARIDES, LAWRENCE L.	ACNW CONSULTANT	ACRS
WOOD, JEFFREY	GENERAL ENGINEER (NSPDP)	RES
Retirements		
CODELL, RICHARD B.	SENIOR HYDRAULIC ENGINEER	NMSS
COWARD, BEVERLY K.	FISCAL ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT	CFO
DRAGOUN, THOMAS F.	REACTOR INSPECTOR	NRR
MCKEIGNEY, ALEX F.	FINANCIAL ANALYST	NRR
VENSON, LYNDA S.	ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR	CFO

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ENCLOSURE I

Departures		
GARAN, NESRIN E.	STUDENT LAW CLERK	OGC
HORN, ERICA D.	INVESTIGATIVE ANALYST	OIG
ST JOHN, JOSEPH S.	STUDENT LAW CLERK	OGC

August 4, 2006

ENCLOSURE I

Office of State and Tribal Programs (STP)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 4, 2006

2006 National State Liaison Officers' (SLO) Meeting

On August 1-2, 2006, STP hosted the subject meeting in the Two White Flint North Auditorium. Major topics discussed included the Energy Policy Act of 2005, Congressional District Outreach, New Reactor Licensing and Construction Efforts, Emergency Preparedness Incidents and Exercises, Tritium Task Force Updates, Preemption Activities, and Avian Flu Pandemic Implications. Thirty-five State Officials and one Federal staff from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration were in attendance. Staff from the Office of the Executive Director for Operations (OEDO), Office of the General Counsel (OGC), Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA), numerous staff offices, and the NRC's Regional State Officers participated in presentations and panel discussions. Preliminary meeting feedback was positive with numerous recommendations from the SLOs that the NRC should hold the triennial meeting on a more frequent basis.

August 4, 2006

ENCLOSURE L

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 4, 2006

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

An announcement by Unistar to resume manufacturing in the United States of components for nuclear reactors.

Amarillo Power's intention to apply to NRC to build two new reactors.

The recent incident at a Swedish nuclear plant, and whether a similar event could happen in the United States.

Heat-related outages at Fermi and D.C. Cook.

Other Public Affairs Items:

Commissioner Jaczko was interviewed by Inside NRC.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
06-099	NRC Names Directors for New Reactors, National Materials Offices (8/3)
06-100	NRC Announces Availability of License Renewal Application for FitzPatrick Nuclear Plant (8/4)
Regions:	
I-06-044	NRC, W.Va. Firm to Discuss Apparent Violations Involving Portable Nuclear Gauge (8/3)
II-06-036	NRC Names New Senior Resident Inspector at Oconee Nuclear Station in South Carolina (8/4)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 4, 2006

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Information Papers		
1. SECY-06-0163	7/25/06	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending July 14, 2006
2. SECY-06-0161	7/20/06	Summary of Activities Related to Generic Safety Issues

Commission Correspondence

- Letter to Linda Keen, President & CEO, Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, expressing appreciation for congratulatory letter.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Denial of petition for rulemaking, 10 CFR Part 50, Docket No. PRM-50-79, Mr. Lawrence T. Christian, et al.
2. Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW), Meetings of the ACNW Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Waste Management and the ACNW Full Committee, notice of meeting (8/15-17/06).
3. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, Subcommittee Meeting on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena, notice of meeting (8/23-24/06).

August 4, 2006

ENCLOSURE O

Region II (RII)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 4, 2006

Chairman Visits BWX Technologies, Inc and AREVA-Lynchburg.

On August 2, 2006, Chairman Klein, the Director, Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response, and the Deputy Regional Administrator visited the BWX Technologies, Inc., fuel facility for a site tour, and a meeting with licensee management.

On August 3, 2006, Chairman Klein, the Director, Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response, and the Deputy Regional Administrator visited AREVA Lynchburg for a site tour of the Mt. Athos Road Fuel Fabrication Facility and a meeting with licensee management.

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ENCLOSURE P

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
Items of Interest
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CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 29					
OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Combs	08/03/06 SD-366	10:00	Senators Reid and Ensign; Ward Sproat, DOD; Bob Loux, NV Agency for Nuclear Projects; NARUC; NRDC; Martin Virgilio, NRC	S. 2589, Administration's Yucca Mountain legislation	Senators Domenici/Bingaman Energy and Natural Resources
Shane	09/14/06 SD406 (Tentative)	9:30	NRC Commissioners	NRC Oversight	Senators Voinovich/Carper Clean Air, Climate Change, and Nuclear Safety Environment and Public Works
Shane	TBD SD-406 (Tentative)	9:30	Markup	S. 2348, Nuclear Release Notice Act of 2006	Senators Inhofe/Jeffords Environment and Public Works

The House of Representatives is in recess until September 5, 2006.
The Senate is scheduled to go into recess from August 6 until September 5, 2006.

August 4, 2006

ENCLOSURE R