

INFORMATION REPORT

September 26, 2006

SECY-06-0202

For: The Commissioners

From: Michael R. Johnson, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2006

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Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste	S*

*No input this week.

/RA/

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Assistant for Operations, OEDO

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U. Shoop, OEDO

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Contact:
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OEDO	AO/OEDO
UShoop:paa	MRJohnson
9/25/06	9/28/06

WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 15, 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, OEEO 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 September 15, 2006

Quality Assurance Meeting

On September 6, 2006, the Division of New Reactor Licensing staff conducted a public meeting with industry members of the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) quality assurance team. The staff and NEI representatives discussed the draft quality assurance (QA) program template that NEI plans to submit as a Topical Report for NRC review and approval. The goal of the QA program template is to improve review efficiency for new reactor combined license and early site permit applications.

Monthly Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Meeting

On September 14, 2006, staff hosted the monthly ROP public meeting in Fort Worth, TX. The meeting included discussions on Mitigating Systems Performance Index implementation, safety culture integration into the ROP, performance indicator issues, and open and new frequently asked questions.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 15, 2006

Meeting with Omaha Public Power District to Discuss Fort Calhoun Dry Cask Storage

On September 7, 2006, NMSS staff met with Omaha Public Power District (OPPD), to discuss options for Fort Calhoun's next dry cask storage campaign. During the meeting, OPPD expressed interest in pursuing continued use of the lightweight spent fuel transfer cask approved by the staff, through an exemption for limited use at Fort Calhoun. Transnuclear (TN), the storage cask vendor, also attended the meeting, to outline the scope of a Certificate of Compliance (CoC) amendment for the lightweight transfer cask used at Fort Calhoun that TN expects to submit in Spring 2007. The staff noted that OPPD's and TN's proposed schedule did not support issuing an amendment to the CoC by OPPD's stated need date of January 2008. OPPD indicated that it would evaluate its options which includes having TN request an amendment as soon as possible; delaying dry cask loading until after 2008; or seeking another exemption.

Oconee Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation License Renewal Meeting

On September 12, 2006, NMSS staff met with representatives from the Duke Power Company (DPC) to discuss the licensee's plans to submit a renewal application for the Oconee site-specific independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) license. The Oconee ISFSI uses the Standardized NUHOMS dry cask storage system. Forty modules of the ISFSI are operated under a site-specific license which was issued in January 1990 and will expire in January 2010. DPC also operates part of Oconee ISFSI under the general license (GL) provisions of 10 CFR Part 72. The renewal application will only focus on the site-specific license.

DPC stated that it closely followed the NRC review of the Surry and H. B. Robinson ISFSI license renewals, which were approved in early 2005. DPC intends to apply the same preliminary renewal guidance provided by NRC staff to those licensees and request an exemption to extend the renewal period to 40 years, similar to the exemptions granted to Surry and Robinson. Staff is currently incorporating the previous guidance into a formal Standard Review Plan. DPC plans to submit the Oconee ISFSI renewal application and associated exemption request in the 4th quarter of calendar year 2007.

High-Level Waste 4th Quarter NRC/Department of Energy (DOE) Management Meeting

On September 12, 2006, a Quarterly NRC/DOE Management Meeting on the high-level waste program was held at NRC Headquarters. This meeting was open to the public, and available by video conference and teleconference. The meeting included NRC and DOE program updates, as well as DOE presentations on the status of its corrective action, licensing, science, design and engineering, and quality assurance programs.

NUREG-1851, "Safety Evaluation Report for American Centrifuge Plant" in Piketon, Ohio
Issued

On September 11, 2006, NRC issued the subject NUREG. The American Centrifuge Plant is a gas centrifuge uranium enrichment facility that was proposed by USEC Inc. (USEC). The SER documents NRC's safety review of USEC's application in the areas of institutional information; management and organization; the Integrated Safety Analysis; radiation protection; nuclear criticality safety; chemical safety; fire safety; emergency response; environmental; decommissioning; management measures; nuclear material control and accounting; physical security; and transportation security. The SER concludes that USEC has demonstrated it has adequate safety programs to construct and operate the proposed facility.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards Proposed Rule Signed by Executive Director
for Operations (EDO)

On September 13, 2006, the EDO approved a proposed rule that amends 10 CFR Part 70, "Facility Change Process Involving Items Relied On For Safety." This amendment will clarify a requirement pertaining to items relied on for safety (IROFS). This rulemaking corrects an inconsistency in the regulations pertaining to IROFS.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 15, 2006

4th International Meeting for Benchmarking of Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) Codes for Application to Nuclear Reactor Safety

From September 2-6, 2006, staff attended the subject meeting in Garching, Munich, Germany. Approximately, one hundred participants from nearly all Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) / Committee on the Safety of Nuclear Installations (CSNI) member countries attended. The staff gave a keynote address on the tests and results of international standard problem (ISP) no. 43 on boron dilution, served as technical reviewer, and participated in the writing groups that establish the best practice guidelines for CFD.

State-Of-The-Art Reactor Consequence Analyses Public Meeting

On September 8, 2006, staff held the subject meeting with representatives from the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), Electric Power Research Institute, Polestar, public stakeholders, and media to provide an overview of the project and discuss the need for plant specific information to support the project. The key steps of the project include: evaluate and update, as appropriate, analytical methods and models for realistic evaluation of severe accident progression and offsite consequences; develop state-of-the-art reactor consequence assessments; and develop an integrated, predictive, computer-based tool to assist decision-making in the event of a severe reactor accident. Additional topics discussed included the objectives, approach, potential uses of the results, schedule, progress, and next steps.

Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 15, 2006

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-III-06-020, Exelon Generation Co.,-NRC'S REVIEW OF EXELON'S PLANS FOR RESUMING RADIOACTIVE DISCHARGES THROUGH THE BRAIDWOOD BLOWDOWN LINE.
2. PNO-IV-06-011, FMC Idaho LLC., -NUCLEAR GAUGE FOUND IN SHIPMENT OF SCRAP METAL.

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ENCLOSURE D

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 15, 2006

Award for Metro Transit Fare Media

On August 31, 2006, a fixed price requirements type contract was awarded to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, of Washington, DC. The contractor shall provide NRC with public transit fare media, metrochecks and SMARTrip cards, for distribution to qualified NRC employees. The total value of the contract, including all options, is \$2,770,698.00.

Award for Just-In-Time Delivery of Office Supplies

On September 7, 2006, a Blanket Purchase Agreement was awarded to OfficeMax Inc., of Elkridge, MD. The contractor shall provide NRC with office supplies under their GSA schedule. The total estimated cost is \$556,004.81. The period of performance is from September 21, 2006, through September 22, 2007.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 15, 2006

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act Requests Received During the Period of September 8 through September 14, 2006:

Policies or guidelines on the length of time records covered by Sec. 552(a)(2) of the FOIA are maintained & made available by electronic means	FOIA/PA-2006-0296
Licensing Support Network (LSN) program, releasable portions of sections A-J of awarded contract	FOIA/PA-2006-0297
OIG investigation - Referral by the U.S. Department of Energy	FOIA/PA-2006-0298
Indian Point Radiological Emergency Preparedness Plan (REPP), 2003-present approvals, written communications between NRC & FEMA	FOIA/PA-2006-0299
Contracts GS00T00NSD0006, GS00T00NSD0013, GS00T00BND0860, purchase/delivery orders awarded by NRC under GSA Satellite Communications Contract	FOIA/PA-2006-0300
Uranium Mill Tailings sites, listing locations & status	FOIA/PA-2006-0301
MLTS database, active & retired, radioactive materials	FOIA/PA-2006-0302
Baxter Diagnostics, 600 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, MA, license no. 20-13881-02E & 20-13881-03G, any documents pertaining to the operations	FOIA/PA-2006-0303

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 15, 2006

Arrivals		
BARCLAY, KEVIN J.	REACTOR ENGINEER/RESIDENT INSPECTOR	RIII
BASHORE, JOSEPH H.	REACTOR ENGINEER	RIV
BLANEY, STEPHANIE A.	SECRETARY (OA)	NRR
CORRELL, BRIAN K.	REACTOR INSPECTOR	RIV
CHANDLER, CHRISTOPHER	LEGAL INTERN	OGC
CLEAVENGER, SABRINA D.	REACTOR SYSTEMS ENGINEER	NRR
DEBREE, ALISON	GENERAL ENGINEER	RES
DO, HA T.	COMPUTER ASSISTANT	RES
GARNER, DOUGLAS L.	SECURITY SPECIALIST	NSIR
GRAHAM, JACQUE M.	HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST	HR
HUDSON, NATHANAEL H.	GENERAL ENGINEER (NSPDP)	RES
JOHNSON, MATTHEW L.	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT MANAGER	NRR
KONTZ, CRAIG R.	OPERATIONS ENGINEER/EXAMINER	RII
LOGAN, DENNIS	AQUATIC BIOLOGIST	NRR
MCMILLAN, JOSEPH	ASST. INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR INVESTIGATIONS	OIG
MORGAN, KIMYATA R.	GENERAL ENGINEER (NSPDP)	RES
NERRETT, AMANDA M.	SECURITY SPEC/INTELL ANALYST (NSPDP)	NSIR
OLIVETO, ELIZABETH A.	CONFERENCE PLANNER	NRR
RAMIREZ, ANNIE	STUDENT ENGR TRAINEE (CO-OP)	RES
SALUS, AMY R.	SECRETARY	NSIR
SMITH, JOHN M.	PROJECT MANAGER	NRR
SOTO LUGO, SOLY	STUDENT ENGR TRAINEE (CO-OP)	RES
TARANTINO, DAVID M.	MATERIALS ENGINEER	NRR

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ENCLOSURE I

WANG, WEIJUN	STRUCTURAL ENGINEER	NRR
Departure		
GAUDETTE, ABBY J.	STUDENT ENGINEER	RI
HUI, WILLIAM A.	PROJECT MANAGER	NRR
LAUR, MICHELE N.	SR. RELIABILITY AND RISK ENGINEER	RES

September 15, 2006

ENCLOSURE I

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 15, 2006

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

A study by the Union of Concerned Scientists about extended outages at nuclear plants.

Nuclear plant security five years after the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Other Public Affairs Items:

OPA staff at headquarters and Region II assisted in an emergency exercise at the Farley plant.

OPA did substantial media outreach in advance of a speech by Chairman Klein in Austin, Texas.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
06-108	NRC Issues Safety Evaluation Report for Proposed Gas Centrifuge Enrichment Plant in Ohio (9/12)
06-109	NRC Bars Research Reactor Operator from NRC-Regulated Work Due to Unauthorized Alteration to Reactor Controls (9/13)
06-110	NRC Issues New Edition of Information Digest (9/14)
06-111	NRC Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste to Meet in Rockville, Maryland, Sept. 18-21 (9/14)
06-112	NRC Terminates Construction Permits for Unfinished Bellefonte Nuclear Plants (9/15)
Regions:	
I-06-052	NRC Proposes \$3,250 Civil Penalty for West Virginia Firm Over Temporary Loss of Nuclear Gauge (9/12)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 15, 2006

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SECY-06-0186	08/24/06	Increasing Licensing Terms for Certain Fuel Cycle Facilities
2. SECY-06-0187	08/25/06	Semiannual Update of the Status of New Reactor Licensing Activities and Future Planning for New Reactors
3. COMSECY-06-0040	08/24/06	Draft Agenda for Public Meeting on Security
SRM on 06-0040	09/13/06	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 06-0040	09/13/06	(same)
4. COMEXM-06-0007/ COMPBL-06-0002	08/9/06	Expediting Commission Adjudicatory Review
SRM on EXM-06-007/ PBL-06-0002	09/14/06	(same)
Commission Voting Record on EXM-06-0007/PBL-06-0002	09/14/06	(same)
5. SRM on SECY-06-0192	09/15/06	Multinational Design Approval Program Stage 2
Information Papers		
1. SECY-06-0194	09/11/06	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending August 25, 2006
2. SECY-06-0189	08/29/06	Semiannual Report on the Status of Staff Information Technology/Information Management and Business Process Activities in Preparation for the High-Level Waste Repository Proceedings

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Olena Mykolaichuk, Ukraine, dated September 8, 2006, expresses gratitude for congratulatory letter.

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ENCLOSURE O

2. Letter to Andre-Claude Lacoste, dated September 6, 2006, expresses gratitude for invitation and arrangements for members of NRC senior staff to visit France in July.

Federal Register Notices Issued

- Proposed Rule, 10 CFR Parts 19, 20, and 50, RIN 3150 - AH40, Occupational Dose Records, Labeling Containers, and the Total Effective Dose Equivalent.

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Region I (RI)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 15, 2006

Philadelphia Area Pandemic Flu Tabletop Exercise

On September 14, 2006, Region I participated in a Pandemic Flu Tabletop Exercise sponsored by the Philadelphia Federal Executive Board. The goal of the exercise was to increase readiness among Philadelphia area Federal, State, tribal and local organizations for a pandemic event, to mitigate vulnerabilities during a pandemic influenza outbreak, and to identify gaps or weaknesses in pandemic planning in organization Continuity of Operations Plans policies and procedures. The exercise provided an opportunity to exchange information and ideas, and to discuss potential resolutions of issues among the participants.

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ENCLOSURE P

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 15, 2006

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 33					
OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	WITNESSES
Shane	09/13/06 SD-406	9:30	Senate Environment & Public Works (Senators Inhofe, Jeffords)	S. 2348, Nuclear Release Notice Act of 2006	▸ N/A (Markup)
Xie	09/13/06 2359 RHOB	10:00	House Appropriations: Energy & Water Development (Reps. Hobson, Visclosky)	Future of Nuclear Power and Possible Impediments	▸ Dennis Spurgeon, DOE ▸ Nils J. Diaz, former NRC Chairman ▸ Ernest Moniz, MIT ▸ Skip Bowman, NEI ▸ Patrick Moore, formerly of Greenpeace ▸ State PUC representative TBD
Combs	09/13/06 2322 RHOB	2:00	House Energy & Commerce: Energy & air Quality (Reps. Hall, Boucher)	Section 313 of H.R. 5427 - Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 2007: nuclear waste storage and disposal	▸ Edward Sproat, DOE ▸ NRC's EDO ▸ Stan Wise, Nat'l Assoc. of Regulatory Utility Commissioners ▸ Anthony Earley, NEI ▸ Michelle Boyd, Public Citizen ▸ Rep. Otter, R-ID ▸ Rep. Mollohan, D-WV ▸ J. Mark Robinson, FERC
Combs	09/14/06 SD-406	9:30	Senate Environment & Public Works: Clean Air, Climate Change, & Nuclear Safety (Senators Voinovich, Carper)	NRC Oversight focusing on NRC's capability to regulate long- and short-term spent fuel storage programs	▸ DOE ▸ NRC's EDO ▸ NEI ▸ EDF-France ▸ Victor Gilinsky, former NRC Commissioner

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ENCLOSURE R

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 33

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	WITNESSES
Shane	09/14/06 SD-138	9:30	Senate Appropriations: Energy & Water (Senators Domenici, Reid)	DOE's Global Nuclear energy Partnership (GNEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ Dennis Spurgeon, DOE ▸ Kelly Fletcher, GE ▸ Alan Hanson, AREVA ▸ Matt Bunn, Harvard
Sahm	09/14/06 SD-342	2:30	Senate Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs: Fed. Financial Management, Gov't Information, & International Security (Senators Coburn, Carper)	Conference Spending within Federal Agencies (Part II)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ TBD

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ENCLOSURE R