

Nielsen, Adam

From: Conatser, Richard *NR*
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2010 5:00 PM
To: Nielsen, Adam *22*
Cc: Bonser, Brian
Subject: RE: FYI ... Comments on The List of Tritium Leaks and Spills at Reactor Sites

Adam,

The information I originally reviewed when developing this list was more complete than what appeared in the 50.75(g) file. I'll have to pull up those documents again, but my recollection is that the licensee traced the leakage source to be the contents of the RWST. I'll see if I can locate those documents again. With the current information, I would be reluctant to revise the Vogtle data.

Although it was later remediated, that is not grounds (no pun intended) to remove Vogtle from the list of historical spills.

Thanks,
Richard

From: Nielsen, Adam
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2010 3:55 PM
To: Conatser, Richard
Cc: Bonser, Brian
Subject: RE: FYI ... Comments on The List of Tritium Leaks and Spills at Reactor Sites

We might not be able to say that item 2 was >20,000pCi/L. Note that it was a leak from the RWST moat. Given the vague description on the 50.75g form, I don't know if we can assume it was from the RWST itself. It might be just like item 5, rainwater washout, filling the moat, then leaking through at a weak point in the concrete (or overflowing the moat). Or, if it was from the RWST itself, it may have been diluted by rainwater to <20,000 pCi/L. We just don't have enough info.

Something else to bear in mind - item number 2 was remediated. Don't know if that affects it being on the list or not, but if it's kept on there then we should acknowledge that it was remediated.

Thanks
Adam

From: Conatser, Richard
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2010 3:35 PM
To: Nielsen, Adam
Cc: Bonser, Brian
Subject: RE: FYI ... Comments on The List of Tritium Leaks and Spills at Reactor Sites

Adam,

Thanks for the references.

The Vogtle item that is on "The List" (>20,000 pCi/l in mid 1990s) is based on item 2 of their 50.75(g) file (see your attachment, "Leak from the RWST"). Although the licensee lists the tritium concentration in the RWST as "unknown," I have yet to see an RWST that is less than 20,000 pCi/l H-3. As a result, the Vogtle info appears to be correct and no changes to "The List" are required. **Please check me to make sure I've got this right.**

For Hatch, I plan to change the date of the 4E6 pCi/l spill to 2003.

Thanks,
Richard

From: Nielsen, Adam
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2010 3:17 PM
To: Conatser, Richard
Cc: Bonser, Brian
Subject: RE: FYI ... Comments on The List of Tritium Leaks and Spills at Reactor Sites

I heard you talked to (b)(6) about the Hatch and Vogtle numbers. I assume she passed along the correct information. If you still need the data, Hatch had the 4E6 pCi/L event in 2003 and Vogtle had a spill of 33,000 pCi/L in 2007 (<100 gallons though). For the Vogtle event, it was determined to be rain "washout" of gaseous effluents.

Relevant documents are attached.

Adam at Hatch
(912) 367-9881

From: Conatser, Richard
Sent: Friday, May 14, 2010 3:17 PM
To: Thorp, John; Brown, Frederick
Cc: Garry, Steven; Cheok, Michael; Shoop, Undine; Bonser, Brian; Hayden, Elizabeth; Burnell, Scott; Screnci, Diane; Sheehan, Neil; Mithyng, Viktoria; Chandrathil, Prema; Dricks, Victor; Uselding, Lara; Harrington, Holly; Brenner, Eliot; McIntyre, David; Boska, John; Lyon, Fred; Martin, Robert; Wilkins, Lynnea; Werner, Greg; White, John; Nielsen, Adam
Subject: FYI ... Comments on The List of Tritium Leaks and Spills at Reactor Sites

John, Fred,

Thanks for the info. I heard about the comments from Southern Company today. I have now received input from 5 plants concerning "the list." We'll make any changes that are necessary to ensure the list is accurate. This list was based on 30+ years of data from more than 100 reactors. That is more than 3000 reactor years of data. With that much information involved, I expected some comments. Any changes that are necessary will be incorporated into the next update of the list. Here are the comments received thus far and the current progress toward resolution:

I will work with the project managers and the Regions on closure of each of these items. Because I'm out of the office today, I'll pursue this on Monday.

Best Regards,

Richard L Conatser

Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Nuclear Reactor Regulation
301-415-4039
Richard.Conatser@NRC.gov

Plant	Comment	NRC Resolution / NRC Comments
Outside of Scope		

EX. 6

Outside of Scope

Outside of Scope			outside of scope
Vogle	Why is Vogle on the list? The date doesn't appear to be correct.	TBD (but expect this will be denied). Records indicate Vogle has recorded spills or leaks greater than 20,000 pCi/l. Based on the current information, no change to the list is necessary. Licensee has been contacted This is still being researched.	
Outside of Scope			outside of scope

From: Thorp, John
Sent: Friday, May 14, 2010 11:33 AM
To: Shoop, Undine
Cc: Brown, Frederick; Garry, Steven; Conatser, Richard; Cheok, Michael
Subject: FW: public document contains incorrect tritium data

FYI, This might be something for you all to address.

John

From: Leeds, Eric
Sent: Friday, May 14, 2010 10:31 AM
To: Brown, Frederick; Cheok, Michael
Cc: Thorp, John
Subject: FYI: public document contains incorrect tritium data

Eric J. Leeds, Director
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 301-415-1270

From: Brenner, Eliot
Sent: Thursday, May 13, 2010 7:44 PM

To: Leeds, Eric
Subject: FW: public document contains incorrect tritium data

Eric: Christine Tucci is out until Monday. I think someone should look into this on Friday.

Thanks.

Eliot

From: Hannah, Roger

Sent: Thursday, May 13, 2010 4:52 PM

To: Brenner, Eliot; Hayden, Elizabeth; Harrington, Holly; Burnell, Scott; Ledford, Joey; McIntyre, David; Screnci, Diane; Sheehan, Neil; Mitlyng, Viktoria; Chandrathil, Prema; Dricks, Victor; Uselding, Lara

Subject: FW: public document contains incorrect tritium data

I'm not sure how the data was reviewed, but it appears that at least some of the information may be inaccurate. We have not heard from any other licensees – yet....

Roger Hannah, APR

Senior Public Affairs Officer

Region II -- Atlanta, Ga.

Office - 404-997-4417

(b)(6)

roger.hannah@nrc.gov



From: Nielsen, Adam

Sent: Thursday, May 13, 2010 4:35 PM

To: Bonser, Brian

Cc: Dykes, Carmen; Gepford, Heather; Hamilton, Ruben; Kuzo, George; Loo, Wade; Hannah, Roger

Subject: public document contains incorrect tritium data

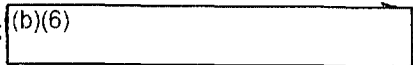
I just got a call from (b)(6) at Southern Company Corporate. She wanted more information about a document titled, "A List of Historical Leaks and Spills at US Commercial Nuclear Power Plants" which has recently been made public in ADAMS. She was concerned because the document contains inaccuracies regarding Southern Company sites. She got the document from Southern Company lawyers who received it from NEI. It looks like some sort of executive summary. I verified that some of the data is inaccurate. Specifically, for Hatch and Vogtle the dates of the spills/leaks are incorrect. (b)(6) said that Southern Company may be preparing a press release as a result of this document.

I don't know who put this report together, but it does not seem like something created for public consumption. It might be part of the FOIA. Should probably pass it up to HQ to let them know some of the numbers are wrong.

Adam

9/30/06 - Discussions with chemistry manager indicated that Southern Company is in the process of hiring a hydrologist to determine the optimum locations for groundwater monitoring wells. There are a handful of old wells onsite, not specifically designed to monitor groundwater. No indication of tritium above background has been identified. Historical spills have been entered into the licensee's 10 CFR Part 50.75(g) file. Some of these spills have resulted in small amounts of tritium released into storm drains.

Southern Company Groundwater Protection Contact: (b)(6)



9.6