

February 10, 2000

SECY-00-0033

For: The Commissioners
From: James L. Blaha, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
/RA/
Subject: SECY-00-0033 WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK
ENDING FEBRUARY 4, 2000

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*No input this week.

/S/ Debra J. Corley for

James L. Blaha
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
T. Bergman, OEDO

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James L. Blaha
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

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T. Bergman, OEDO

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WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 4, 2000

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

Contact: T. Bergman, OEDO by E-mail: tab@nrc.gov.

Use **GO TO** (Ctrl+Home) to advance to the page number for a specific Office.

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*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 4, 2000

Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1, License Renewal Application

In a letter dated January 31, 2000, Entergy Operation, Inc. (Entergy), the licensee for Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1 (ANO-1), submitted its application requesting the extension of the ANO-1 reactor operating license for an additional 20 years beyond its current 40-year term pursuant to 10 CFR Parts 54 and 51.

The contents of Entergy's application include a technical report describing how the effects of aging will be managed during the renewal term for the systems, structures, and components within the scope of the rule. Additionally, the application includes an environmental report.

ANO-1 is a Babcock & Wilcox nuclear steam supply system originally licensed for commercial operation in 1974. As such, the review of the ANO-1 renewal application is expected to be very similar to the Oconee renewal review, including references to B&W topical reports. The ANO-1 current operating license expires in May 20, 2014.

Transfer of Operating License from Department of the Air Force (McClellan Air Force Base to University of California-Davis

On January 31, 2000, the NRC staff approved the transfer of license R-130 from the Department of the Air Force (McClellan Air Force Base) to the University of California-Davis. The reactor is a 2 megawatt TRIGA, used for neutron radiography of aircraft parts and irradiation of silicon ingots. In addition to these activities, the University of California is anticipating the utilization of the reactor for a Boron Neutron Capture Therapy (BNCT) research program.

At the request of the Air Force, the reactor was originally licensed by NRC in August 1998 in anticipation of the closure of McClellan Air Force Base, which will occur in 2002. The facility will remain on site at McClellan, with security continuing to be provided by the Air Force.

Reactor Oversight Process Improvements

As part of its ongoing effort to communicate with external stakeholders regarding the revised reactor oversight process, the Inspection Program Branch (IIPB) and Regional staff conducted a roundtable public meeting in the vicinity of the Sequoyah nuclear power plant on January 25, 2000. At the meeting, the NRC staff discussed the new risk informed oversight process with members of the local public and state and local officials and obtained their feedback on the process and the recently concluded pilot program. The meeting was lightly attended due to weather. The last roundtable public meeting for pilot plants will be held in the vicinity of Salem and Hope Creek power plants on February 2, 2000.

On January 24-28, 2000, the Technical Training Center staff conducted Revised Reactor Oversight Process Training at Chattanooga, TN for Region II Division of Reactor Projects staff.

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ENCLOSURE A

Two training sessions per region are planned. The training will be completed for all regions by April 2000.

On January 20, 2000, the Inspection Program Branch (IIPB) staff briefed the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) Sub Committee on the use of performance indicators and the significance determination process in the revised reactor oversight process.

On January 25, 2000, the Chief of IIPB met with Licensing Managers and PRA specialists in Region IV to discuss the revised reactor oversight process and in particular the significance determination process. The meeting provided valuable feedback and insights.

In support of the initial implementation of the revised reactor oversight process, each licensee voluntarily submitted their historical performance indicator data on January 21, 2000. This information was made available internally the week of January 31, 2000, and will be made available externally the week of February 14, 2000.

Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant - Status of Hearing Activities on Spent Fuel Pool Expansion Amendment

On January 21, 2000, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) heard oral arguments on the two contentions in the hearing related to Carolina Power & Light Company's (CP&L's) request to increase the spent fuel storage capacity at its Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant. The oral arguments were based on the written summaries which had been filed by all parties on January 4, 2000. The two contentions relate to (1) whether General Design Criterion (GDC) 62 allows the use of administrative controls to prevent criticality; and (2) whether the piping for the SFP 'C' and 'D' cooling system was required to satisfy the Appendix B quality assurance requirements during the time it was not in service. The ASLB has not issued a ruling yet.

On January 31, 2000, the Board of Commissioners of Orange County North Carolina (BCOC, the intervener) filed four environmental contentions which challenge the adequacy of the staff's December 15, 1999, environmental assessment related to CP&L's amendment request. The licensee can file an answer to the filing within 10 days, and the staff can file an answer within 15 days.

The staff has scheduled a public meeting to discuss the license amendment review process, the scope and status of its review of CP&L's request, and to allow members of the public to ask questions or present relevant information. The meeting will be held on Monday, February 28, 2000, from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m., at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Haddam Neck

NRC staff presented information on the license termination process to the Citizen's Decommissioning Advisory Committee (CDAC) at a meeting in Middletown, Connecticut on the evening of January 18, 2000. The CDAC is a committee of local political leaders and interested members of the public. The CDAC invited NRC to make the presentation in view of the scheduled April 2000 submittal of the LTP by the Haddam Neck licensee. The meeting was

recorded on video tape by the CDAC. The presentation was followed by a question and answer period.

The staff conducted a licensee meeting on the evening of January 19, 2000, to discuss the licensee's plans for performing the final status survey. The meeting was open to public observation. NRC staff and management from Region I, NRR, and NMSS were present and provided feedback on the licensee's plans. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency observed the meeting. Both the licensee and an interested member of the public made video tapes of the proceedings. A question and answer period followed the conclusion of the meeting.

The meetings were held in the vicinity of the site and during the evening to allow members of the public ready access to NRC staff. The schedule was made in response to requests received by the staff. After the January 19 meeting, a member of the public expressed the opinion that the public participation efforts of the NRC and the Haddam Neck licensee were exemplary, and should be used as a model for the nation.

ANO-1 - Implementation Results From Risk-Informed Inservice Inspection

Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy) implemented a risk-informed alternative to certain Class 1 requirements of ASME Code Section XI for the inservice inspection of piping welds during the Fall 1999 refueling outage at Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1. The risk-informed alternative allowed Entergy to concentrate its resources on those areas where experience and risk insights have indicated a need, resulting in an overall reduction in the number of Class 1 examinations performed. Entergy realized a substantial savings in labor hours, radiation dose, and cost through the reduction as a result of this alternative. Entergy estimated a single outage savings of 6 person rem and \$76,500.00. The projected savings over the next 10 years is approximately 18 person-rem and \$345,000.00.

Entergy had previously implemented a risk-informed alternative to certain Class 1, 2, and 3 requirements of ASME Code Section XI for the inservice inspection of piping welds during the Spring 1999 refueling outage at Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2. Entergy projected a 10 year savings of approximately 34 person-rem and \$645,000.00 as a result of this alternative. Entergy was recognized by the Nuclear Entergy Institute (NEI) as the recipient of the Grand Prize, as well as the Equipment Reliability Process Award at the 1999 Top Industry Practice Awards. These awards were shared with T.U. Electric Company for their risk-informed inservice testing program at Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 4, 2000

Meeting with Ukraine's State Nuclear Regulatory Agency

On January 25-28, 2000, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) and Office of International Programs (OIP) staff participated in the annual meeting between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and Ukraine's State Nuclear Regulatory Agency (SNRA). NMSS staff follow-on activities will be limited to review and comment on documents prepared by the State Technical and Scientific Center (STSC). An economist and expert in regulatory analyses in the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research may also need to be involved. OIP will have an NRC contractor provide financial/contractual oversight of STSC work performed for SNRA with funds that NRC obtains for this purpose from the Agency for International Development. Regarding Material Protection Control & Accounting activities, NRC was informed that SNRA provided a list of requested projects to the Department of Energy (DOE) in November 1999, which included the regulatory projects requested from NRC at the January 25, 1999, meeting. NRC agreed to consult with DOE on the projects and request DOE funding for the projects.

Planning Meeting for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission/Federal Bureau of Investigation
Tabletop Exercise

On February 1, 2000, the Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, Incident Response Office, and Region II staff met with representatives of BWX Technology, state of Virginia, and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Headquarters and Field Office personnel from Richmond, Roanoke and Lynchburg, Virginia, to discuss plans for a tabletop exercise to be held in Lynchburg on May 24, 2000. The main objective of the exercise was to evaluate the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Concept of Operations that has been developed for working with the FBI and other concerned Federal agencies during a terrorism event involving an NRC-licensed facility or materials. Simultaneous handling of safety and safeguards concerns is also being considered as part of the scenario development and planning for the exercise. Similar preparations are also underway for a larger exercise at another fuel fabrication facility later this year.

Layoff at Portsmouth and Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plants

On February 3, 2000, the U.S. Enrichment Corporation (USEC) announced that it will lay off approximately 850 (about 20%) employees at its Portsmouth and Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plants (GDPs), to be divided approximately equally between the two GDPs. This action has been precipitated by the falling global uranium market. In other action, USEC also announced a reduction in shareholder dividends and a share buyback program, and has projected significantly lower profits for FY 2001. Senator Voinovich of Ohio has announced he will send a letter requesting the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to evaluate the safety implications of the reduced workforce. Also, on February 3, 2000, shortly after USEC's announcement, Moody's Investors Service announced that it would re-evaluate the USEC credit rating. The Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards and Region III staff are developing a plan for NRC actions in response to USEC's announcement.

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Nuclear Regulatory Commission Meetings with Industry on Spent Fuel Storage

The number of meetings and workshops between the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) and the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and industry representatives have been increasing. During December, the Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) held a meeting on December 14, 1999, to discuss its prioritization scheme for technical issues, and conducted an all day workshop on December 17, 1999, to discuss with NEI and industry generic issues affecting spent fuel storage designs. On January 14, 2000, SFPO met with NEI and industry representatives to discuss high burnup, burnup credit, and seismic design issues. On January 21, 2000, staff met with NEI and industry representatives to discuss the recent submittal of standard technical specifications for storage casks. Three additional meetings are scheduled with NEI and the industry in the next six weeks to discuss spent fuel storage, decommissioning, and additional NMSS activities. All of these meetings were publicly noticed and open to public observation.

Quality Assurance Observation Audit of the Unsaturated Zone Flow and Transport Process Model Report

On January 24-28, 2000, staff from the Division of Waste Management participated as observers in the Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Quality Assurance audit of the Unsaturated Zone Flow and Transport (UZ) Process Model Report (PMR). The audit was performed at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Four associated Analysis Model Reports (AMRs) which support the UZ PMR were assessed. The four AMRs are Numerical Grids for UZ Flow & Transport Model, In-Situ Field Testing of Process Model, Infiltration Model, and Seepage Calibration Model and Seepage Testing Data. As a result of the audit, problems were identified in the areas of procedure requirements applicable for preparing AMRs, scientific notebook requirements, and software traceability and qualifications. In addition, this is the fourth PMR audit that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has observed and, to date, "suspect" data labeled as "to be verified" has not been verified or requalified. DOE has committed to having fully qualified 40 percent of the data supporting the AMRs/PMRs by May 2000 and these issues will need to be addressed. Preliminary feedback from DOE management to the NRC On-Site Representative indicates that an immediate corrective action plan is being developed for resolution of software issues identified from performance based audits. In addition, DOE line management is considering establishing a "tiger team" approach for resolution of issues at each of the national laboratories and the U.S. Geological Survey.

Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board Winter Meeting and Yucca Mountain Site Visit

On January 25, 2000, staff from the Division of Waste Management participated in a winter board meeting of the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board in Las Vegas, Nevada. The meeting included presentations by Department of Energy (DOE) personnel, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff, and technical experts addressing the treatment of uncertainty in decision making regarding the licensing of Yucca Mountain. The presenters, Nye County, and local citizens also participated in a panel discussion on the treatment of uncertainties in the repository program. The Director of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM), and the Project Manager of the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office also presented their perspectives about the repository program. The OCRWM Director stated that the DOE supported the NRC's approach of a single standard for long-term performance of the

repository. However, DOE stated it would not support any legislation which would remove the Environmental Protection Agency as the organization responsible for setting the standard.

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Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 4, 2000

Public Meeting on Database Studies on I&C Systems

In a public meeting on January 24, 2000, ERAB/DET staff presented results from two in-house database studies to the EPRI Instrumentation and Control Steering Committee. As part of developing its broader digital I&C research plan, the staff has been conducting studies on I&C failures found in the Accident Sequence Precursor (ASP) and Licensee Event Report (LER) databases, with the object of discovering potential vulnerabilities connected with using digital technology in the nuclear industry. Even though these database studies are still in progress, they did provide some interesting observations. For example, failure of instrument power supplies and control circuitry in circuit breakers and inverters were involved with many high-risk events found in the ASP database. In the LER database study, approximately 8% of the LERs involved some type of failure associated with digital systems, and approximately 9% of reactor trips involved a digital-related problem.

The EPRI Committee suggested that failures unique to digital technology be separated from failures that could occur with both analog and digital technology. The Committee also stated their issues of concern, which include electromagnetic qualification of digital equipment and licensing digital systems under the new 10 CFR 50.59. The Committee indicated a strong interest in participating in cooperative I&C safety research with the NRC. The staff plans to hold public meetings with EPRI and DOE to discuss collaboration on nuclear I&C research.

Incident Response Operations
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 4, 2000

National Response Team/regional Response Team Co-chairs Meeting

Charles L. Miller, Deputy Director, IRO represented the NRC at the annual National Response Team/Regional Response Team Co-Chairs meeting held in San Antonio, Texas from February 1 to February 3, 2000. Key topics discussed included the reconciliation of the National Contingency Plan and the Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan, Federal Response to Acts of Terrorism, and the Federal Response Plan.

Planning Session for Tabletop Exercise

On Tuesday, February 1, NRC staff from IRO, NMSS, and Region II met with FBI staff, BWX Fuel Technologies (licensee) staff and a Virginia State representative in Lynchburg, Virginia to plan a tabletop exercise. The purpose of the tabletop exercise (scheduled for May 24, 2000) is an examination of the interagency (Federal, State, local and licensee) FRERP response to a simulated safeguards/security threat at the licensee's facility. An overall exercise plan was developed and follow-up action items were identified and assigned.

Preliminary Notifications:

1. PNO-I-00-005, Pennsylvania State University, THEFT OF A SELF-LUMINESCENT EXIT SIGN CONTAINING TRITIUM
2. PNO-II-00-004, Georgia Power Co. (Hatch 1), AUGMENTED INSPECTION TEAM DISPATCHED TO REVIEW HATCH UNIT 1 REACTOR TRIP AND SUBSEQUENT TRANSIENT
3. PNO-II-00-005, U.S. Department of The Navy, LOST DROGUE LIGHTS CONTAINING TRITIUM AND KRYPTON-85
4. PNO-II-00-005A, U.S. Department of The Navy, RECOVERY OF DROGUE LIGHTS CONTAINING TRITIUM AND KRYPTON-85
5. PNO-III-00-001, TEE Group, UNAUTHORIZED REMOVAL OF GENERALLY-LICENSED GAUGE
6. PNO-III-00-02, U.S. Enrichment Corporation, USEC PLANS 20 PERCENT CUT IN WORKFORCE AT PADUCAH 7 PORTSMOUTH
7. PNO-IV-00-007, Energy Northwest (Washington Nuclear 2), MEDIA INTEREST IN HIGH TRITIUM CONCENTRATIONS IN GROUNDWATER FROM A DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY BURIAL SITE

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Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 4, 2000

Staff Meetings Open to the Public: Proposed Policy Statement

A document that proposes an amendment to the NRC's current policy statement concerning staff meetings open to the public was published in the Federal Register on January 25, 2000 (65 FR 3982). Under the amended policy statement, the NRC would announce meetings between the NRC staff and one or more outside persons that are open to public observation via the Internet from the NRC Web site and discontinue the current practices used to announce these meetings. The comment period on this action closes March 27, 2000.

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ENCLOSURE F

Chief Information Officer
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 4, 2000

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the 5-Day Period of
January 28, 2000 through February 3, 2000:

Self, project "Cannikin" underground nuclear test, Amchitka, AK. (FOIA/PA 2000-0117)

OI Report No. 3-98-040 related to allegation no. RIII-98-A-0173. (FOIA/PA 2000-0118)

Self, OI Report Nos. 1-1998-042, 1-1998-022, and 1-1998-051. (FOIA/PA 2000-0119)

Boeing North American, Inc., four facilities located near the San Fernando and Simi Valleys, CA, environmental contamination. (FOIA/PA 2000-0120)

Senator Bill Bradley, all correspondence between NRC and the former senator's offices. (FOIA/PA 2000-0121)

Contract, Wackenhut Services, Inc., and/or Wackenhut NCR related to guard services at NRC. (FOIA/PA 2000-0122)

Personnel, listing of employees in specific GS occupation series [GS-201, -212, -221, -230, -233, -235, -260, -905, -1810, and -1811]. (FOIA/PA 2000-0123)

MLTS database. (FOIA/PA 2000-0124)

MLTS database. (FOIA/PA 2000-0125)

200 East Stanley St., Compton, CA, all licenses and related documents for this location. (FOIA/PA 2000-0126)

East 140th Street and Coit Rd., and 1020 London Rd., Cleveland, OH, all licensee related records to these sites. (FOIA/PA 2000-0127)

Office of Human Resources
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 4, 2000

Arrivals		
BAXTER, Bradley	SECURITY SPECIALIST	NRR
BUJOL-WALTERS, Debbie	RECORDS MGMT TECH	RIV
ORECHWA, Yuri	REACTOR ENGINEER	NRR
OWENS, Lorelee	SECRETARY (OA)	SPAC/OCIO
Departures		
SCHWARTZ, Joel*	PAYROLL TECHNICIAN	OCFO
NELSON, Toumonava	SECRETARY	RII

* Effective date 1/31/00

Office of Public Affairs
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending February 4, 2000

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
00-17	Note to Editors: NRC Budget Briefing
00-18	NRC Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste to Meet in Irvine, California, February 23-25
Regions:	
I-00-11	NRC, PSE&G to Discuss Emergency Planning Concern Regarding Salem Nuclear Power Plant
I-00-12	NRC, NYPA to Discuss Inspection Finding at Fitzpatrick Nuclear Plant
II-00-7	NRC Issues Performance Review Report for NFS Nuclear Fuel Plant in Erwin, Tennessee
II-00-8	NRC Staff to Discuss Harris Spent Fuel Pool License Amendment Review at Public Meeting in Raleigh February 28
II-00-9	NRC Inspection Team at Hatch Plant to Brief Southern Nuclear Officials Friday
III-00-7	NRC Names New Resident Inspector at Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant
III-00-8	NRC Names New Resident Inspector at LaSalle Nuclear Power Plant
III-00-9	NRC Names New Resident Inspector at Dresden Nuclear Plant
III-00-10	NRC Staff Closes Confirmatory Action Letter on Actions Taken by D.C. Cook Plant on 1997 Inspection Findings

Office of International Programs
Items of Interest
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Ukrainian Visit

A delegation of the Ukrainian State Nuclear Regulatory Administration (SNRA), Ministry of Environmental Protection and Nuclear Safety, visited NRC during the week of January 24-28, 2000, headed by Oleksandr Smyshliaiev, SNRA Chairman. During their visit, the representatives met with Chairman Meserve and available Commissioners, the Executive Director for Operations and appropriate members of the NRC staff.

The purpose of this ninth such visit was to review results of the program of assistance to the SNRA since the last meeting in January 1999, to reaffirm or revise previous program commitments, and to consider proposals for future activities. At the end of the week, the EDO and the Chairman of SNRA signed a Memorandum of Meeting describing plans for the next several years. Implementation of these plans depends on the availability of funding from the Agency for International Development.

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Office of the Secretary
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Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. COMSECY-00-0005	1/13/00	Arms Control, Nonproliferation, and Security Assistance Act of 1999
Revised SRM on 00-0005	2/1/00	(same)
Chmn. Meserve comments on -0005	1/27/00	(same)
Comm. Dicus comments on -0005	1/21/00	(same)
Comm. Diaz comments on -0005	1/27/00	(same)
Comm. McGaffigan comments on -0005	1/27/00	(same)
Comm. Merrifield comments on -0005	1/24/00	(same)
2. SRM on SECY-99-256	1/31/00	Rulemaking Plan for Risk-Informing Special Treatment Requirements
Comm. Voting Record on 99-256	1/31/00	(same)
3. SECY-00-0011	1/14/00	Evaluation of the Requirement for Licensees to Update Their Inservice Inspection and Inservice Testing Programs Every 120 Months
4. SRM on SECY-99-264	2/3/00	Proposed Staff Plan for Risk-Informing Technical Requirements in 10 CFR Part 50
Comm. Voting Record on 99-264	2/3/00	(same)
5. COMSECY-00-0003	1/7/00	Meetings on NRC Response to Stakeholders' Concerns
SRM on 00-0003	2/3/00	(same)

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Chmn. Meserve's comments on -0003	1/13/00	(same)
Comm. Dicus' comments on -0003	1/14/00	(same)
Comm. Diaz' comments on -0003	1/18/00	(same)
Comm. McGaffigan's comments on -0003	1/27/00	(same)
Comm. Merrifield's comments on -0003	1/21/00	(same)
6. SECY-99-278	12/2/99	NRC/Agreement State Jurisdiction for Formerly Licensed Sites
SRM on 99-278	2/4/00	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 99-278	2/4/00	(same)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-00-0014	1/19/00	Status of Final Preparations for International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Operational Safety Review Team (OSART) Mission
Memoranda		
1. M991215B	2/1/00	Meeting with Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW)
1. M000121	2/4/00	Briefing on Native American, State of Nevada, and Affected Units of Local Government Representatives Responses to DOE's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for a Proposed HLW Geologic Repository

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley, dated January 27, 2000, provides the Fiscal Year 1999 Annual Federal Performance Report on Executive Agency Actions to Assist Historically Black Colleges and Universities (incoming letter dated November 15, 1999, also released).
2. Letter to Paul L. Leventhal and Alan J. Kuperman, Nuclear Control Institute, dated January 27, 2000, concerns the export of highly enriched uranium targets for use in the new

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MAPLE reactors and processing facility at Chalk River, Ontario, for the production of medical isotopes (incoming letter dated December 17, 1999, also released).

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste; Notice of Meeting on February 23-25, 2000.
2. 10 CFR Part 50; Docket No. PRM-50-69; Westinghouse Electric Company LLC; Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking.
3. Michel A. Philippon (Denial of Senior Reactor Operator License Application); Docket No. 55-32443-SP; Notice of Appointment of Adjudicatory Employee.
4. Hydro Resources, Inc.; Docket No. 40-8968-ML; Notice of Reconstitution.

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Region I
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Meeting And Site Tour of Westinghouse Waltz Mill, Madison, PA

A meeting and site tour of the Westinghouse Waltz Mill facility was held on January 24, 2000, for the Chief, Decommissioning and Laboratory Branch, Region I, and the Director, Pennsylvania Bureau of Radiation Protection and members of his staff. Westinghouse Waltz Mill is listed on the NRC's Site Decommissioning Management Plan due to contaminated soil and groundwater onsite from cleanup operations after the 1960's incident involving the TR-2 test reactor. Progress in removing contaminated soil and the dismantlement of the TR-2 reactor were discussed. The site tour indicated significant progress in reactor dismantlement, with the reactor vessel scheduled for removal and shipment in the Spring of 2000. Remediation plans for the contaminated soil were approved by the NRC by license amendment in January 2000, and work is scheduled to begin shortly as permitted by weather conditions.

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Region II
Items of Interest
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NRC/FBI Exercise Planning Meeting

On February 1, 2000, selected NRC staff members attended a meeting with the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), NRC Headquarters (NMSS, NRR, IRO) and BWXT in Lynchburg, Virginia. The purpose of the meeting was to plan the NRC/FBI table top exercise that is scheduled for May 24, 2000 in the Lynchburg, VA area. BWXT has agreed to prepare a scenario that involves a credible threat to a fictitious facility and that would test the interaction between the NRC and the FBI.

New Plant Managers' Seminar

On February 4, 2000, the Regional Administrator conducted a presentation at the New Plant Managers' Seminar held at the Institute of Nuclear Operations in Atlanta, Georgia. Topics discussed included the proposed revisions to the reactor oversight program, reactor license renewal, feedback on issues with the operator license examination process, and the NRC enforcement policy.

Southern Nuclear Company, Hatch

The nuclear plant, Unit 1 reactor tripped from 100 per cent power on January 26, 2000. As a result of potential generic issues related to the response to the trip by equipment and operators, the NRC dispatched an Augmented Inspection Team (AIT) to the site on January 28, 2000. The AIT was composed of a manager and staff from Region II and the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. The AIT completed the inspection and held a public exit at the Hatch site on February 4, 2000. The licensee started the Unit 1 reactor on February 4, 2000.

Region III
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 4, 2000

Meeting with FirstEnergy Corporation

The Regional Administrator and members of the regional staff met February 1, 2000, in the regional office with representatives of FirstEnergy Corporation to discuss issues related to the corrective action program at the Perry Nuclear Power Station.

Planned Cutback in Staff at Gaseous Diffusion Plants

U. S. Enrichment Corporation announced on February 3, 2000, that it would cut about 850 jobs or 20 percent of the workforce at its gaseous diffusion plants at Piketon, Ohio, and Paducah, Kentucky. The workforce reduction is planned for July 2000. The company attributed the cutback to declining market conditions for its uranium enrichment services.

Region IV
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 4, 2000

San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station Public Management Meeting

On February 3, 2000, a meeting was held in the Region IV office between Region IV and Southern California Edison Co. management. The purpose of the meeting, which was open to public observation, was to discuss the current status of the employee concerns program and the safety conscious work environment at SONGS.

February 4, 2000

ENCLOSURE P

Office of Congressional Affairs
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending February 4, 2000

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 2

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Portner	02/09/00 SD-608	10:00	Jack Lew, OMB	Fiscal 2001 Budget Overview	Senators Domenici/Lautenberg Budget
Combs	02/23/00 SD-406	10:30	EPA Administrator Browner	EPA's FY01 Budget	Senators Smith/Baucus Environment & Public Works
Portner	03/08/00 2362 RHOB	10:00	Secretary Richardson	DOE's FY01 Budget	Reps. Packard/Visclosky Energy & Water Development Appropriations
Portner	03/16/00 2362 RHOB	10:00	Office of Nuclear Energy	FY01 Budget	Reps. Packard/Visclosky Energy and Water Development Appropriations
Combs	03/21/00 2362 RHOB	10:00	OCRWM	FY01 Budget	Reps. Packard/Visclosky Energy and Water Development Appropriations

February 4, 2000

ENCLOSURE R