

INFORMATION REPORT

June 22, 2000

SECY-00-0132

For: The Commissioners
From: John W. Craig, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: SECY-00-0132 WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK
ENDING JUNE 16, 2000

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*No input this week.

/RA/

John W. Craig
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
C. Marschall, OEDO

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Contact:
C. Marschall, OEDO

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06/22/00	06/22/00

WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING JUNE 16, 2000

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

Contact: C. Marschall, OEDO by E-mail: csm@nrc.gov.

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*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 16, 2000

Public Workshop on 10 CFR 50.54(a) Quality Assurance Rulemaking

On June 7, 2000, the Quality Assurance, Vendor Inspection, Maintenance and Allegation Branch (IQMB) conducted a public workshop at NRC Headquarters in Rockville, Maryland, on the 10 CFR 50.54(a) Direct Final Rule concerning changes to Quality Assurance Programs. The three objectives of this workshop were -- (1) solicit feedback on the implementation of the Direct Final Rule revision to 10 CFR 50.54(a) that became effective April 26, 1999, (2) gather information to determine whether additional rulemaking, based on the June 8, 1995, Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) petition, is needed, and (3) discuss feasibility of voluntary alternative rulemaking.

The feedback concerning the implementation of the revision to 10 CFR 50.54(a) was positive. Stakeholders were satisfied with the current flexibility for making changes to licensee quality assurance program descriptions. Based on this feedback, it is unlikely that any additional near term rulemaking activity is needed. At the close of the workshop, NEI stated that they will inform the Commission of their intent to no longer pursue the 1995 petition and also agreed that no additional rulemaking is needed at this time.

Hope Creek Generating Station

Upon the completion of the 9th refueling outage on May 24, 2000, approximately 13 minutes after closing the main turbine and generator output breakers so that the turbine would synchronize to the grid, the "C" phase of the main transformer experienced a fault which resulted in a fire and explosion. The plant was in Mode 1 at 19 percent power at the time of the event. The event caused severe damage to the transformer and has delayed plant startup while a spare transformer is installed. The licensee is investigating the cause of the event.

Indian Point Unit 2

In a letter dated June 2, 2000, Consolidated Edison Company of New York (the licensee) submitted its steam generator inspection condition monitoring and operational assessment reports for the CY 2000 refueling outage. The licensee included with this submittal (1) a specific report concerning primary stress corrosion cracking in the U-bend, which was the cause of the February 15, 2000, tube failure, (2) a report discussing the remaining degradation mechanisms, and (3) a report comparing the corrosion performance of the Indian Point Unit 2 steam generators to industry experience with Model 44 and Model 51 steam generators. Although the operational assessment is for a period of operation of 0.85 effective full power years (310 days), the licensee stated that the replacement will begin by the end of the year. In addition, the licensee is currently working on answers to several staff requests for additional information regarding the steam generator inspections and the root cause analysis for the tube failure. The licensee plans to submit this information by the end of this week.

Division of Licensing Project Management (DLPM) Handbook Contract Signed

The contract with Advanced Technologies and Laboratories International, Incorporated (ATL) to prepare a handbook for DLPM was signed on June 12, 2000, and a kickoff meeting with the contractor was held on June 13, 2000. The focus of this effort is to develop a procedures manual for all of the major tasks accomplished in DLPM by project managers, licensing assistants and secretaries. The handbook will be web-based, and will be updated on a regular schedule to ensure that it accurately reflects division, office and agency policy.

Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant

On May 22, 2000, the Board of Commissioners of Orange County, North Carolina (BCOC) filed a petition for the Commission to review the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board's (ASLB's) May 5, 2000, decision (LBP-00-12) in the Harris Nuclear Plant spent fuel storage case. BCOC stated in its petition that "The Commission should take review of clearly erroneous rulings in LBP-00-12 regarding criticality prevention and quality assurance issues."

In its May 5, 2000, decision, the ASLB ruled that an evidentiary hearing was not necessary and that the technical contentions related to criticality and quality assurance issues were resolved in favor of the licensee, Carolina Power and Light Company (CP&L).

On June 6, 2000, the NRC staff filed its response to BCOC's petition for the Commission to review the ASLB decision. In its response, the staff stated that "... the Licensing Board addressed all relevant issues..." and that "... the Licensing Board did more than required by the regulation in issuing its detailed, well-reasoned memorandum and order that fully describes the positions of the parties and the evidence presented in the written presentations and oral argument."

From a procedural standpoint, the staff concluded that Commission review is unwarranted because the ASLB's May 5, 2000, decision did not dismiss the proceeding. Since the ASLB has not yet ruled on the admissibility of the late-filed environmental contentions, the case has not been dismissed. The staff pointed out that BCOC's petition did not address or meet the standards for a Commission review of a decision prior to the case being dismissed by the ASLB.

CP&L also responded to BCOC's petition on June 6, 2000. CP&L's response concluded that the petition should be denied.

ANO-2 Steam Generator Meeting on June 8, 2000

On June 8, 2000, the NRC met with the licensee to discuss the licensee's February 11, 2000, deterministic operational assessment and the licensee's March 9, 2000, proposed risk-informed license change regarding steam generator (SG) tubing for the remainder of Cycle 14.

Regarding the deterministic operational assessment, the licensee presented the results of testing and analysis conducted on tubing with manufactured defects that mimic the most limiting flaw (Tube R72C72) detected during the last mid-cycle outage (2P99). The licensee concluded that their previous position of a 500 psi difference between the tube ligament tearing

pressure and burst pressure is still valid, that tube R72C72 met 3ΔP with margin, and that plant operation until the September 2000 outage remains justified.

Regarding the proposed risk-informed license change, the licensee proposed additional insights from their risk evaluation. The licensee proposed an administrative SG leakage limit of 25 gallons-per-day (gpd) in any one steam generator. The licensee also discussed the compensatory actions already taken to further reduce risk by maintaining secondary pressure through Emergency Operating Procedure (EOP) and Severe Accident Management Guideline (SAMG) changes, and the compensatory actions that will be taken to depressurize the primary side through hardware and additional SAMG changes. The licensee's risk assessment concluded that the plant is safe to operate during design basis events and severe accidents.

The licensee's overall operational assessment is that they have low level and diverse leakage detection capability, the operators are trained on mitigating actions in the event of SG tube leakage, they established an administrative SG leakage limit of 25 gpd, they have insights from their risk evaluation that further reduce risk, all six tube indications that were pressure tested during 2P99 met 1.43 times main steam line break pressure, and the one tube that did not meet 3ΔP by testing met 3ΔP by analysis. Therefore, the licensee concluded that ANO-2 is safe to operate until the September 2000 outage and that their analysis demonstrates that ANO-2 will be in full compliance with their operating license and their commitment to NEI 97-06. The licensee indicated that another mid-cycle SG inspection is not desirable due to the additional risk during mid-loop operations and the additional exposure to plant workers.

The NRC provided feedback on the deterministic assessment and indicated that it had concerns with the test program that would need to be resolved. However, even if these concerns were resolved, the NRC staff stated that they do not believe that the licensee's test results and analysis demonstrate that Tube R72C72 met 3ΔP. One concern that was discussed was that the burst pressure testing under high ramp rates presents new concerns that have not been addressed. On the risk-informed application, the NRC indicated that the proposal to depressurize the primary side during severe accidents appeared to be a reasonable approach towards mitigation, but that the NRC would have to review the details of that approach. For example, the licensee's thermal-hydraulic analyses using the Modular Accident Analysis Program would need to be reviewed.

In closing, the NRC indicated that it would review the information presented at the meeting, and provide the licensee with a list of additional information that the NRC needs to complete its reviews of the SG tubing.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 16, 2000

Presentation at the American Nuclear Society Annual Meeting

On June 8, 2000, staff from the Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards made a presentation at the American Nuclear Society (ANS) annual meeting. The presentation provided ANS members with the status of Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) efforts on the "Use of Fixed Neutron Absorbers at NRC-Regulated Facilities." The presentation included a review of the absorbers for criticality safety control for 10 CFR Parts 70 and 72 licensees and certificate holders in the areas of both licensing and inspection.

Presentations at Uranium Recovery Workshop

On June 6-7, 2000, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff members provided 14 presentations on current topics of interest to the uranium recovery industry. The workshop, co-sponsored by the National Mining Association (NMA) and the NRC, was held in Denver, Colorado. The presentation on "license fees" received the most feedback from the industry. Concern focused on the change to add various administrative charges associated with Project Managers on the quarterly fee invoices. These fees were previously covered by the annual fee charged to licensees.

A member of the Division of Industrial and Nuclear Medical Safety presented the new, proposed 10 CFR Part 40 rulemaking. The proposed amendments to Part 40 would require Commission approval of licensee transfers of less than 0.05% source material to exempt persons under Part 40.13(a). Also included were two other planned staff actions in response to the Staff Requirements Memorandum on SECY-99-259: initiating discussions with state and federal agencies and organizations on regulation of low-level source material and materials containing less than 0.05% uranium or thorium; and the development of a rulemaking plan to improve the control of distribution of source material to exempt persons and general licensees.

Other NRC presentations included an update on the recent reorganization that moved the Uranium Recovery Program to the Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, the status of the 2.206 petition for disposal of mill tailings materials at Resource Conservation Recovery Act sites, the status of the four Uranium Recovery-related Commission Papers, groundwater restoration and spill reporting at In-Situ Leach (ISL) facilities, efforts to standardize ISL license condition language, erosion protection design, implementation of the Commission decision on Alternate Feed, and the status of the inspection program.

The industry provided presentations on the Western Nuclear final groundwater corrective action proposal, NMA's "White Paper Addendum," and the trusteeship at the Atlas site. The Department of Energy presented the status of its long-term surveillance program for commercial licensees, and the Environmental Protection Agency provided a status report on its revisions of the Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials report, which will include information on the wastes from ISL wellfield restoration.

A panel discussion on the Agreement States Program included representatives from Colorado, Texas, Washington, NRC's Office of State and Tribal Programs and the NMA. Colorado and Texas conveyed favorable viewpoints of their interactions with NRC. Washington expressed concerns with its interactions with NRC, primarily due to the recent staff technical review of the State's request to terminate the Western Nuclear-Sherwood mill tailings license. The NMA provided its perspective on the compatibility of Agreement States to the NRC regulatory program and the NRC's role in fulfilling its obligations under the Atomic Energy Act. The NRC, represented by the Office of State and Tribal Programs, discussed the guidance document for license termination reviews and some of the lessons learned thus far from the Washington Western Nuclear-Sherwood review. NRC staff emphasized that this was the first license termination request for a mill tailings site in an Agreement State.

Public Meeting with Virginia Electric and Power Company

On June 9, 2000, staff members from the Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) and Region II conducted a public meeting with representatives from Virginia Electric and Power Company (Virginia Power) to discuss: (1) a recently developed staff guidance document on site specific Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) license renewal; (2) Virginia Power's plans for developing and submitting a request for license renewal for its Surry ISFSI; and (3) Surry cask pressure monitoring system issues. During the meeting SFPO staff presented an overview of its guidance document which was made publicly available prior to the meeting. The SFPO staff also indicated that the document would be expended and developed to be used as the standard review plan to support the review of the Surry renewal application. Virginia Power management stated that the utility would review the document in detail and would discuss any suggestions at a future public meeting.

Virginia Power staff presented a discussion of its organization established to support license renewal, key milestones, its ISFSI evaluation process, and fuel evaluation activities. The Virginia Power staff stressed that it would work closely with SFPO staff, and would support a number of required public meetings with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), since Surry is the proposed lead plant for license renewal of a site-specific dry storage ISFSI. The licensee also stated that it plans to submit its renewal application to the NRC during the fourth quarter of 2001, well before the due date of 2004 (as required by 10 CFR Part 72).

As the last topic on the agenda, Virginia Power provided a discussion of the recent cask pressure sensor alarms experienced at Surry. Specifically, over the last 18 months, Virginia Power has experienced alarms from six casks (four different designs). The licensee staff provided additional information on the equipment issues, utility activities to support its evaluation efforts, and the status of its root cause effort, which is still in progress. The licensee also emphasized that there has been no loss of confinement for any of the casks, and that additional testing of non-alarming casks is being conducted to verify that there are no common cause equipment problems present.

Notice of Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking

On June 9, 2000, a notice of receipt of petition for rulemaking was issued in the Federal Register. The Federal Register Notice (FRN) stated that the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) has requested that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) amend its regulations governing the

storage of spent nuclear fuel to establish a more efficient process for issuing and amending certificates of compliance for dry storage casks. The FRN further states that NEI suggested that NRC eliminate the rulemaking process that adds newly-approved casks to a list in 10 CFR Part 72, and instead publish in the Federal Register (with a 60-day public comment period) applications for new cask designs, as well as requests for amendments to currently-approved designs. In addition, the FRN noted that NEI proposed that amendments with no potential for impact on public health and safety be immediately effective upon publication of the approved amendment in the Federal Register. The FRN requested public comments on the petition with a closing date of August 23, 2000. The Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards staff will evaluate the public comments on the petition and recommend appropriate regulatory action.

Technical Basis for Dose Modeling Evaluation Public Workshop

On June 7-8, 2000, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducted a public workshop to discuss the "Technical Basis for Dose Modeling Evaluation (TBD)" which was available on the web for public comments on May 15, 2000. The workshop was attended by 50-60 participants from the Electric Power Research Institute, the Nuclear Energy Institute, the Fuel Cycle Facilities Forum, the licensees, the states, the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Defense, special interest groups, government laboratories (e.g., Argonne National Laboratory and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory), and NRC staff and management. The workshop included presentations and discussions pertaining to dose modeling aspects such as: screening, source-term abstraction, modification of scenarios and pathways, conceptual models, code/model selection, input parameters, and uncertainty treatment. Also included was a demonstration of the newly developed probabilistic codes RESRAD 6.0; RESRAD-BUILD 3.0; and DandD. The workshop ended with a round-table discussion of dose modeling issues. Based on numerous comments from participants, the workshop appeared to be quite successful. Staff will receive any additional comments on the TBD by June 18, 2000, will address public comments, and complete the TBD by July 7, 2000.

Open House Sponsored by the State of Maine

On June 12, 2000, an Open House was sponsored by the state of Maine at the Chervonki Foundation which is in the vicinity of the Maine Yankee nuclear power plant. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection coordinated the effort for the purpose of providing the public with information about the decommissioning of Maine Yankee. Participants were: the Maine Departments of Public Safety; Environmental Protection; Human Services; Maine Yankee (licensee); the Environmental Protection Agency; the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC); the city of Wiscasset; and Friends of the Coast. NRC displayed several posters on the Agency's mission and regulatory responsibilities, as well as several pictures of the Fort St. Vain and Shoreham reactors which have been successfully decommissioned and released for unrestricted use. In addition, NRC displayed several information and guidance documents and made them available for the public. The Open House was well received and an estimated 45-50 people attended. No substantive issues were raised to NRC staff.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission/Department of Energy Technical Exchange on Total System Performance Assessment — Site Recommendation

On June 6-7, 2000, staff from the Division of Waste Management participated in a technical exchange with the Department of Energy (DOE) on DOE's Total System Performance Assessment (TSPA) — Site Recommendation (SR). This technical exchange is one in a series of meetings between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and DOE staff in support of NRC's sufficiency review, NRC's Key Technical Issue (KTI) resolution strategy, and DOE's site recommendation decision for a potential geologic repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. Discussions were held to resolve the TSPA and Integration KTI subissues and related subissues before DOE submits a license application and to obtain information for NRC's sufficiency review. Although no issues were closed as a result of this meeting, DOE demonstrated that it is making progress in its efforts to address the NRC issues. The feedback provided by the NRC staff during this technical exchange can be incorporated in the upcoming TSPA-SR analyses and related documentation. The meeting was observed by representatives of the: Advisory Council on Nuclear Waste; Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board; Nuclear Energy Institute; Electric Power Research Institute; Nevada counties of Clark, Mineral, and Nye; and one non-governmental organization.

Interagency Steering Committee on Radiation Standards

On June 13, 2000, the Interagency Steering Committee on Radiation Standards (ISCORS) met in an open meeting. ISCORS representatives were present from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Food and Drug Administration, and other federal agencies. The key presentations were the Future of Radiation by the Institute for Alternate Futures and the Long-Term Stewardship Program at the Department of Energy. Other topics discussed included an update on NRC's control of solid materials program, NRC's decommissioning program, international meetings, and the status of subcommittee activities. The next quarterly meeting of ISCORS is proposed for September 14, 2000.

Proposed Rule Signed by EDO

On June 19, 2000, the Executive Director for Operations approved a proposed rule that amends 10 CFR Part 72.214, "List of approved spent fuel storage casks" adding the FuelSolutions™ cask system to the list of approved spent fuel storage casks. This amendment would allow the holders of power reactor operating licenses to store spent fuel in the approved casks under a general license.

This notice informs the Commission that, in accordance with the rulemaking authority delegated to the EDO, the EDO has signed this proposed rule for publication in the Federal Register.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 16, 2000

Swedish Waste Disposal Concept

On May 31, 2000, Margaret Federline, Deputy Director, Office of Research, presented the results of an international peer review of the Swedish waste disposal concept to senior Swedish government representatives and representatives of the host communities, interest groups, and the media. The peer review, which was chaired by Ms. Federline, was organized by the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency and was conducted by a team from Canada, France, Spain, United Kingdom, and Japan. With the completion of feasibility studies for underground disposal in six municipalities, Sweden is approaching an important decision point on moving to the selection of at least two municipalities for detailed site investigations. Before taking this step, the government required review of an updated safety assessment and the municipalities requested a renewed endorsement of the disposal concept. The international peer review is intended to provide a broad perspective for consideration by the Swedish authorities during their own review. In its report, the team concluded that the Swedish disposal concept is sound. Given the advanced state of their engineering and scientific research programs and the favorable results of the safety assessment, the report concludes that the Swedish Nuclear Fuel Waste Management Company's (SKB's) desire to move to a site-selection phase is well founded. No issues were identified that need to be resolved before moving to the investigation of potential sites. In addition, the report includes several recommendations for consideration in the future development of the Swedish disposal program in the areas of overall strategy for demonstrating safety, scientific basis and methodology for demonstrating safety, and feasibility of technical implementation of the concept.

SPAR Model Development

On June 8, the Level 1, Revision 3i Standardized Plant Analysis Risk (SPAR) Models for the Dresden 2 & 3, San Onofre 2 & 3, and Davis-Besse plants were made available on the NRC's network for use by the staff. With the addition of these three models, 22 of the 70 Revision 3i models have been completed. These models are accessible through the SAPHIRE Users Group website.

Uses for the SPAR models include:

- Assessing the risk significance of inspection findings
- Evaluating the risk significance of operating events
- Supporting risk-informed reviews of licensing amendments
- Analyzing issues for GSI screening and resolution.

These models reflect input from NRR and the Regions, which are involved in the QA and validation of the models.

June 16, 2000

ENCLOSURE C

Incident Response Operations
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 16, 2000

Palisades Exercise

On June 7, 2000, IRO staff and representatives from NRC Region III, including Deputy Regional Administrator James L. Caldwell, participated with the State of Michigan, FEMA, USDA, EPA, DOE, HHS, FDA, and the utility in the Palisades post plume phase exercise held at the State Emergency Operations Center in Lansing, Michigan. All Federal participation in this exercise was part of the State Outreach effort, in which the NRC trains State representatives in the use of available Federal resources in case of a nuclear power plant and/or radiological emergency in their state. In this FEMA-evaluated exercise, the focus of the scenario and interactions with participants concentrated on the period following a simulated release from the Palisades facility, causing major offsite consequences. All participants were pleased with the Federal/State interactions, and the State of Michigan in particular appreciated the participation and contribution of the Federal representatives.

Seabrook Exercise

On June 8, 2000, IRO staff, including Deputy Director Charles L. Miller, and representatives from NRC Region I participated with FEMA, USDA, DOE, HHS, EPA, FDA, the States of New Hampshire, Maine, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the utility in the Seabrook post plume phase exercise. The exercise was held at the State Emergency Operations Center in Concord, New Hampshire and Framingham Massachusetts, and the Emergency Operations Center/Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center (FRMAC) in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. All Federal participation in this exercise was part of the State Outreach effort, in which the NRC trains State representatives in the use of available Federal resources in case of a nuclear power plant and/or radiological emergency in their state. In this exercise, which was evaluated by FEMA representatives from New Hampshire and Maine, the scenario concentrated on the period following a simulated release from the Seabrook facility, causing major offsite consequences. The coordination of protective action decisions among responders was a primary objective, and all participants worked well together with the Federal and State contacts. A number of lessons learned were identified, which will be followed up for future exercises. The State of New Hampshire in particular appreciated the participation and contribution of the Federal representatives

Turkey Point Exercise

A representative from IRO participated in the Turkey Point Post plume phase exercise conducted at the Dade County Emergency Operations Center in Miami, Florida on June 13, 2000. Representatives from the State of Florida, USDA, FDA, and FEMA also participated. This was a non-evaluated post plume phase exercise organized by Dade County emergency management officials, who requested Federal participation. The exercise was very successful in identifying available Federal resources in case of a nuclear power plant and/or radiological emergency at Turkey Point, which could result in major offsite consequences. The superior players in this exercise were county officials charged with the responsibility for making and implementing decisions on protective actions in the early and post plume phases of the

accident. Federal and State participants aided county officials in indicating where they needed specific training to gain a better understanding of Federal capabilities under the NRC State Outreach program.

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-II-00-025, Professional Service Industries, STOLEN MOISTURE-DENSITY GAUGE.
2. PNO-III-00-022, Combustion Engineering, Inc., FUEL PELLETS DELIBERATELY MIXED AT CE NUCLEAR POWER LLC'S HEMATITE, MISSOURI PLANT
3. PNO-IV-00-015, Sioux Valley Hospital Association, MEDICAL MISADMINISTRATION.

Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 16, 2000

Nuclear Energy Institute: Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-72-5)

A document that requests public comment on a petition for rulemaking submitted by the Nuclear Energy Institute was published in the Federal Register on June 9, 2000 (65 FR 36647). The petitioner requests that the NRC amend its regulations governing storage of spent nuclear fuel to establish a more efficient process for issuing and amending certificates of compliance for dry cask storage of spent nuclear fuel under a general license. The comment period for this action closes August 23, 2000.

Re-evaluation of Power Reactor Physical Protection Regulations and Position on a Definition of Radiological Sabotage (Part 73)

A document announcing the Commission's re-evaluation of its power reactor physical protection regulations and the proposed definition of radiological sabotage, using performance criteria as the basis, and requesting public comment on these issues was published in the Federal Register on June 9, 2000 (65 FR 36649). This re-evaluation is intended to state precisely what kinds of sabotage-induced events a licensee is expected to protect against. The comment period for this action closes August 23, 2000.

Revision of Fee Schedules; 100% Fee Recovery, FY 2000 (Parts 170 and 171)

A final rule that revises Parts 170 and 171 to ensure NRC compliance with the Omnibus Budget and Reconciliation Act of 1990 was published in the Federal Register on June 12, 2000 (65 FR 36946). The Act mandates that the NRC recover approximately 100 percent of its budget authority in Fiscal Year 1999, less amounts appropriated from the Nuclear Waste Fund and the General Fund. The amount to be recovered for FY 2000 is approximately \$447 million. The final rule becomes effective June 12, 2000.

Chief Information Officer
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 16, 2000

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the 5-Day Period of
June 9, 2000 through June 15, 2000:

Atlas Minerals, Inc., Moab, UT, aka: Atlas Corp.; Atlas Uranium Mills Tailing; and/or Uranium Reduction Co., all records related to license #SUA-917. (FOIA/PA 2000-00262)

Schlumberger Well Services, Indiana, PA, incident occurring between 4/87 and 12/88.
(FOIA/PA 2000-0263)

Referral from Department of Labor. (FOIA/PA 2000-00264)

NRC Management Directives, electronic version. (FOIA/PA 2000-0265)

Office of Human Resources
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 16, 2000

National Academy for Public Administration Forum Attended

On June 8, 2000, Jim McDermott, Deputy Director, Office of Human Resources, and Eileen Mason, Team Leader, Human Resources Development, attended a National Academy for Public Administration Forum, "Using Competencies in Strategic Workforce Planning." Federal Aviation Administration staff presented a case study, Determining Organizational Training Needs Using Competencies; Immigration and Naturalization Service staff described their experience using competencies for hiring and promoting staff; and Office of Personnel Management staff related the status of their work using competencies to classify jobs. About 50 human resources specialists and managers from various Federal agencies attended.

Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease Workshop Held

On June 6, 2000, the NRC Health Center presented a lecture on chronic heartburn, known as Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD). Approximately 60 employees attended the program presented by Dr. Terrence Fullam of Providence Hospital. Dr. Fullam discussed the various causes of GERD and the treatment options available to sufferers of this disease. He focused on a minimally-invasive surgical procedure which can literally change the lives of heartburn sufferers.

Arrivals		
ALDERMAN, Christopher	SUMMER MANAGEMENT INTERN	OCFO
CAUDILL, STEVEN	PHYSICAL SCIENTIST	NMSS
CASE, Diane	HEALTH PHYSICIST	NMSS/IMNS
DEHMEL, Jean-Claude	HEALTH PHYSICIST	NMSS
DINKFELD, Daren	SUMMER INTERN	RI
JONES, Jamil	SUMMER TECHNICAL INTERN	ADM
HERBERT, Nicole	SUMMER TECHNICAL INTERN	NMSS
HORACE, Eddie	SUMMER TECHNICAL INTERN	NMSS
MORRIS, Robert	REACTOR ENGINEER	RIII
O'KELLY, Kevin	SUMMER CLERICAL	RIII
POLLACK, Deborah	SUMMER TECHNICAL INTERN	NMSS
Retirements		
CANT, Geoffrey	ENFORCEMENT SPECIALIST	OE

Departures		
HEAVEY, Thomas	SENIOR PROGRAM ANALYST	OCFO
LARSON, Gaye	SECRETARY	RIII
STEWART, James	SENIOR RESIDENT INSPECTOR	RI
SONNEVILLE, Gail	SITE SECRETARY	RI
WATTENBERG, Marcia	SECRETARY(OA)	NMSS/FCSS
WILLNER, Mary (Dee)	HR SPECIALIST	HR

June 16, 2000

ENCLOSURE I

Office of Enforcement
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 16, 2000

Discrimination Task Group

On June 19, 2000, the Office of Enforcement held the first meeting of the Discrimination Task Group. This group has been formed to review the current NRC processes for the handling of discrimination (10 CFR 50.7) violations and to evaluate and recommend possible improvements. The Group members are:

Bill Borchardt, Director, Office of Enforcement, Group Leader
Barry Letts, Office of Investigations Field Office Director, Region I
Dennis Dambly, Assistant General Counsel for Materials Litigation and Enforcement
Office of General Counsel
Ed Baker, Agency Allegation Adviser
Cynthia D. Pederson, Director, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, Region III
Brad Fewell, Regional Counsel, Region I

The group is presently working to finalize its charter and a time line for completing its activities. As part of its efforts to evaluate the current process for handling discrimination cases, the Task Group plans to conduct over the next few months, a number of internal and external stakeholder meetings to solicit views and possible improvements to the current processes.

Office of State and Tribal Programs
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 16, 2000

Meeting with National Congress of American Indians Waste Policy Committee

Rosetta Virgilio, Office of State and Tribal Programs (STP) participated in the June 6-8, 2000 meeting of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) National Indian Nuclear Waste Policy Committee (NINWPC) in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The meeting provided an opportunity to meet a number of Tribal representatives and to present information on NRC's ongoing program for communications and interactions with Tribes and to provide an update of NRC rulemakings and activities of Tribal interest. Specific areas presented included: (1) a history and update on NRC transportation studies (March 2000 Final Report on Reexamination of Spent Fuel Shipment Risk Estimates, and Package Performance Study); (2) status of the Proposed Rulemaking on 10 CFR Part 71, Packaging and Transportation of Radioactive Material; (3) discussion of the 10 CFR Parts 71 and 73 Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) on Notification to Tribes of Transportation of High Level Waste Shipments; (4) status of the Private Fuel Storage (PFS) application for licensing an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) on the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indian Reservation; and (5) status of the 10 CFR Part 63 proposed regulations for disposal of high-level waste in a geologic repository at Yucca Mountain, NV. Information on relative comment due dates and plans for future public meetings associated with the above rulemakings was also relayed.

June 16, 2000

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Office of Public Affairs
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending June 16, 2000

Media Interest

Donald Cool, NMSS, was interviewed by NBC Nightly News regarding the recycling of contaminated materials. Segments of the interview may air June 24.

Frank Congel was interviewed by NHK—the Japan Broadcasting Corporation—about our emergency response activities for possible broadcast in Japan on the evening of June 15.

The German media inquired about the U.S nuclear regulatory program in light of their government's announced plans to phase out nuclear power.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
00-96	NRC Licensing Board Revises Schedule for Hearing in Utah on Proposed Nuclear Waste Storage Facility
00-97	NRC Amends Regulations Clarifying Antitrust Information Reporting Requirements
00-98	NRC to Review Incident at University of Missouri Research Reactor
Regions:	
I-00-39	NRC to Discuss Performance at Salem, Hope Creek Nuclear Plants
I-00-40	NRC to Hold Public Meeting Regarding Indian Point 2 Nuclear Plant
I-00-41	NRC to Discuss Performance at Millstone Nuclear Power Plants
II-00-34	NRC to Hold Public Meeting Near Catawba Plant on Changes in Reactor Oversight
I-00-42	NRC Staff Pospones Meeting with Public on Indian Point 2
I-00-43	NRC to Hold Public Meeting Near Vermont Yankee Nuclear Plant on Changes in Reactor Oversight
II-00-34	NRC to Hold Public Meeting Near Catawba Plant on Changes in Reactor Oversight
II-00-35	NRC to Hold Public Meetings in Florida June 26 on Changes in Reactor Oversight and Latest Assessment of Crystal River Plant

II-00-36	NRC to Hold Public Meeting Near Vogtle Plant on Changes in Reactor Oversight
II-00-37	NRC to Hold Public Meetings in South Carolina June 26-27 on Changes in Reactor Oversight and Latest Assessment of Summer Plant
II-00-38	NRC to Hold Public Meetings in Alabama June 27 on Changes in Reactor Oversight and Latest Assessment of Browns Ferry Plant
II-00-39	NRC to Hold Public Meetings in Florida June 28 on Changes in Reactor Oversight and Latest Assessment of Turkey Point Plant
II-00-40	NRC Issues Performance Review for BWX Technologies Naval Nuclear Fuel Division in Lynchburg
III-00-27	NRC Staff Concludes D.C. Cook Improvements Sufficient for Startup of Unit 2
III-00-28	NRC to Hold Ohio Public Meetings June 20-21 on Changes in Reactor Oversight and Latest Assessment of Perry Nuclear Power Plant
III-00-29	NRC Inspection Team to Present Findings of Its Review of Possible Radiation Overexposures at Mallinckrodt Facility
IV-00-22	NRC to Solicit Comments on Preparation of Nuclear Power Plant Decommissioning Document

SPEECHES	
S-00-15	Beginning a New Era in Nuclear Regulation By Chairman Meserve; June 5, 2000

Office of the Secretary
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 16, 2000

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SECY-00-0096	4/27/00	Final Rule—Clarification of Regulations to Explicitly Limit Which Types of Applications Must Include Antitrust Information
Commission Voting Record on 00-0096	6/13/00	(same)
2. SECY-00-0110	5/18/00	Evaluation of the Feasibility of NRC Creating and Maintaining a Web Page Serving as a Bulletin Board for Agreement State Rulemaking Activities
SRM on 00-0110	6/13/00	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 00-0110	6/13/00	(same)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-00-0124	6/8/00	SECY-00-0124 Weekly Information Report - Week Ending June 2, 2000
Memoranda		
1. M000613A	6/13/00	Staff Requirements-Affirmation Session: I. SECY-00-0096-Final Rule—Clarification of Regulations to Explicitly Limit Which Types of Applications Must Include Antitrust Information; II. SECY-00-0119-Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (Nine Mile Point, Units 1 & 2); Docket Nos. 50-220 & 50-410; III. SECY-00-0122-Graystar, Inc. Request for Hearing on License Denial
2. M000508	6/15/00	Staff Requirements - Briefing on Lessons Learned from the Nuclear Criticality Accident at Tokai-Mura and the Implications on the NRC's Program (SECY-00-0085)

June 16, 2000

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3. M000613B	6/16/00	Staff Requirements - Meeting with Organization of Agreement States and Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors
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Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Senator Charles E. Schumer dated June 9, 2000, concerns issues raised concerning New York Power Authority's plans to store spent nuclear fuel in dry casks at the James A. Fitzpatrick nuclear plant.
2. Letter to Senator John Warner dated June 9, 2000, responds to statements made in the Senate Report 106-252 accompanying the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (S2549).
3. Letter to Angus S. King, Jr., dated June 9, 2000, concerns proposed rule to add the NAC International Inc. Universal Storage System to the "List of approved spent fuel storage casks."
4. Letter to Paul Leventhal, Nuclear Control Institute, dated June 9, 2000, concerns issues related to the export of high-enriched uranium to MDS Nordion in Canada for the production of medical isotopes.
5. Letter to Senator Tom Harkin dated June 9, 2000, concerns funding of State stockpiles of potassium iodide in communities near nuclear power plants.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. 10 CFR Part 72 and 150; Interim Storage for Greater than Class C Waste; Proposed Rule.
2. 10 CFR Part 50; Elimination of the Requirement for Noncombustible Fire Barrier Penetration Seal Materials and Other Minor Changes; Final Rule.

June 16, 2000

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Region I
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 16, 2000

Maine Yankee Decommissioning Open House June 12, 2000

An open house was held at the Chewonki Foundation, Wiscasset, ME, on the evening of June 12, 2000. Hosted by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, the open house provided the public an opportunity to obtain additional information concerning the decommissioning of the Maine Yankee plant. Participants with booths and staff available to answer questions and provide information included the Maine Department of Public Safety, the NRC, the EPA, local law enforcement agencies, and Maine Yankee, as well as the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

NRC was represented by staff from NMSS, NRR, and the Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, Region I. Members of the public asked questions about the role of the NRC, and the safety of the spent fuel onsite, as well as the plans for long-term storage. Public interest was primarily in the Maine Yankee exhibits explaining the various decommissioning activities planned by the licensee, including shipment of large components, and the independent spent fuel storage installation for dry casks.

Region II
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 16, 2000

U. S. Navy - Vieques Island Activities

The U.S. Navy completed three weeks of activities to recover depleted uranium penetrators on the Vieques, Puerto Rico, naval firing range. Approximately 37 penetrators were recovered during this phase. NRC inspectors observed the Navy's recovery activities. The Navy is reviewing these results to determine future options for additional penetrators that may remain in or near the firing range. NRC staff, supported by personnel from the Puerto Rico Department of Health, also obtained environmental samples from locations on the island. The samples are being analyzed for depleted uranium by Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE).

Engineering Forum

On June 12, the Deputy Regional Administrator from Region II and the Regional Administrator from Region I presented a session at the Engineering Forum in Boston, Massachusetts. The Forum was attended by approximately 40 engineering managers in Regions I and II. Topics discussed included lessons learned from events and inspection findings and challenges for industry and the NRC over the next year.

Carolina Power and Light Company - Brunswick Operator Licenses Certification Presentation

On June 12, the Division Director of Division of Reactor Safety was at the Brunswick Facility for a site visit and attended a Senior Reactor Operator and Reactor Operator Licenses Certification Presentation. Four Reactor Operator and six Senior Reactor Operator certificates were issued.

Duke Energy Corporation - Oconee Full-Scale Exercise

On June 12-15, R. Trojanowski participated as a member of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Regional Assistance Committee, in the full-scale Oconee nuclear exercise. The exercise involved officials of the State of South Carolina and the applicable local governments.

Region III
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 16, 2000

Regional Administrator Issues Letter on D.C. Cook Start-up

Region III Administrator Jim Dyer issued a letter to American Electric Power Co. on Tuesday, June 13, 2000, in which he stated the NRC staff had determined that the performance improvements and plant modifications at the D.C. Cook Nuclear Power Station in Michigan are sufficient for Unit 2 at the plant to resume operations. The plant has been shutdown since September 1997.

Commissioner Merrifield Visits Sites in Illinois and Indiana

Region III Administrator Jim Dyer accompanied Commissioner Merrifield on various site visits in Illinois and Indiana this week. On Wednesday, June 14, 2000, Commissioner Merrifield visited Argonne National Laboratory in Illinois. On Thursday, June 15, 2000, the Commissioner visited Clinton Nuclear Power Plant in Clinton, Illinois, and on Friday, June 16, 2000, he visited two steel mills in Indiana which are NRC licensees.

ACRS Subcommittees on Plant Operations and Fire Protection Meet in Region III

On June 13, 2000, members of the joint ACRS subcommittees on plant operations and fire protection visited the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant in Ohio. On June 14, 2000, the subcommittees' members met in the Region III office to discuss plant operations and fire protection.

Region IV
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 16, 2000

Meeting with the Public to Discuss New Reactor Oversight Program

On June 13, Region IV staff conducted a public participation meeting in Glen Rose, Texas, to discuss the new Reactor Oversight Program for Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station.

Meeting with Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3 Management, to Discuss Plant Performance Review

On June 12, 2000, a public meeting was held with management from the Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3, facility to discuss the results of the most recent plant performance review. The meeting was attended by both local public and representatives from Hungary and Belgium.

Office of Congressional Affairs
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending June 16, 2000

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 21

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Portner	06/20/00 TBA	TBA	Markup	FY01 Energy and Water Development Appropriations	Reps. Young/Obey Appropriations
Gerke	06/20 & 21 SD 366	9:30	Markup	S. 2098, Electric Power Market Competition & Reliability Act	Senators Murkowski/Bingaman Energy and Natural Resources
Portner	06/20/00 TBA	TBA	Markup TENTATIVE	FY01 Energy and Water Development Appropriations	Senators Domenici/Reid Appropriations
Combs	06/22/00 2322 RHOB	10:00	TBA	Cost Overruns in DOE Radioactive Waste Cleanup Contracts: Hanford, Oak Ridge, ID	Reps. Upton/Klink Oversight & Investigations Commerce
Portner	06/22/00 SH-216	TBA	Markup TENTATIVE	FY01 Energy and Water Development Appropriations	Senators Stevens/Byrd Appropriations
Combs	06/23/00 TBA	10:00	NRC, DOE, TVA, NWTRB, NAS, EPA	Nuclear Waste	Reps. Barton/Boucher Energy and Power Commerce
Combs	06/27/00 SD-366	2:30	TBA	Nuclear Waste Cleanup at Paducah	Senators Nickles/Graham Energy R&D, Production & Regulation Energy and Natural Resources

June 16, 2000

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Combs	Late July TBA	TBA	NRC Staff and others	Moab	Reps. Barton/Boucher Energy & Power Commerce
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