

INFORMATION REPORT

June 27, 2000

SECY-00-0143

For: The Commissioners
From: John W. Craig, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: SECY-00-0143 WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK
ENDING JUNE 23, 2000

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*No input this week.

/RA Debra J. Corley Acting For/

John W. Craig
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
M. Case, OEDO

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06/27/00

WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING JUNE 23, 2000

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

Contact: M. Case, OEDO by E-mail: mjc@nrc.gov.

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*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 23, 2000

Reactor Oversight Process

On June 14, 2000, the Inspection Program Branch (IIPB) staff conducted a public meeting with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and other interested stakeholders. At this meeting, NEI provided a proposal on replacing the current scram performance indicators. The proposed indicators are "Conditions requiring rapid reactor shutdowns per 7000 critical hours and conditions requiring rapid reactor shutdowns with a loss of normal heat removal per 12 quarters." The staff is planning to solicit regional feedback and discuss its reaction to the NEI proposal during a public meeting scheduled for July 12, 2000.

EPRI meetings - June 13, 2000

EPRI and several utilities discussed a proposed generic analysis effort that would demonstrate acceptable defense-in-depth and diversity for digital retrofits that follows the guidance of the SRP and BTP-14. EPRI discussed the various approaches that this analysis could take, such as coverage for different NSSS plants, different types of plants within these vendor types, and the different suppliers of the digital equipment. EPRI also discussed an approach that would use existing guidance and essentially no further generic analysis would be needed. Staff members commented on the different approaches and also discussed expected NRC effort in reviewing these analyses. EPRI is taking the staff comments into consideration and will decide in the near future as to whether or not to proceed with the analysis, and if so, what approach the analysis will take.

EPRI discussed a generic qualification project that represented pilot application of the EPRI COTS guideline (TR-106439). During this meeting EPRI and the representative utilities discussed the type and content of the submittal to the NRC that would result from this qualification project, the mechanisms for staff feedback, the cost/schedule of the review and the benefits/usefulness in future implementations. Several instrumentation components were discussed but the focus was primarily on single loop controllers. Three options were discussed with the staff which were (1) no submittal to the NRC, (2) submitting a detailed qualification report for each vendor and model number, and (3) submitting a generic report that is not vendor or model specific. Staff members commented on these three options and also discussed the expected staff review effort for each option. EPRI is taking the staff comments into consideration and will decide in the near future which option will be chosen.

Indian Point Unit 2

The meeting with the public originally scheduled on June 19, 2000, was rescheduled for Sunday, June 25, 2000, at the Cortlandt Town Hall, Cortlandt Manor, New York. The meeting is being held to (1) provide the public with a brief overview of the NRC's overall process for reviewing Indian Point 2 plant performance; (2) discuss the current status of NRC's ongoing review of steam generator tube integrity issues; and (3) provide an informational forum to allow the public to ask questions associated with the above issues.

June 23, 2000

ENCLOSURE A

The staff continues its review of the Consolidated Edison Company of New York (the licensee) steam generator inspection condition monitoring and operational assessment reports submitted on June 2, 2000. Although the licensee has recently answered a large portion of the staff's questions from earlier requests for information, the licensee still is working on issues regarding the burst pressure model used and the probability of detection of indications in the U-bend region of the steam generators.

The staff is also preparing an amendment to the Indian Point 2 Technical Specifications which would result from implementation of an alternate radiological source term for severe accidents as permitted by 10 CFR 50.67 and implements plant modifications to the containment air handling systems and the control room air handling systems based on the use of the alternate source term. The amendment needs to be approved by the NRC prior to the licensee heating the reactor coolant system above 200 °F.

Maine Yankee - Decommissioning Oversight

Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company has initiated a transition plan that will enable the utility to become its own general contractor for the decommissioning of the Maine Yankee site beginning July 1, 2000. Maine Yankee terminated its existing contract with its decommissioning operations contractor, Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation (SWEC), on May 4, 2000, due to financial difficulties and impending legal proceedings SWEC encountered from contracts other than Maine Yankee. Maine Yankee subsequently signed an interim contract with SWEC that extended SWEC's authority to continue decommissioning activities through the end of June.

While Maine Yankee will serve as its own general contractor in the short term, it has indicated that it has several options to consider for the long term, including managing the project itself (possibly using the same subcontractors), renegotiating another contract with SWEC (and/or its buyer in bankruptcy proceedings), or re-bidding the project.

Maine Yankee - Hearing Requests

Two filings for a "hearing and a petition for leave to intervene" were submitted in response to the license amendment associated with the Maine Yankee License Termination Plan (LTP). The State of Maine and the Friends of the Coast Opposing Nuclear Pollution filed separate petitions dated June 16, 2000, in response to a Bi-Weekly Notice published on May 17, 2000. The State based its request for hearing on, among other things, the completeness and accuracy of the LTP and the mismatch the State perceives exists between the LTP and Maine Yankee's current plans. The Friends of the Coast identified 19 aspects upon which it wishes to intervene, including an incomplete LTP, an incomplete and inadequate historical site assessment, incomplete characterization and surveys, non-conservative dose pathways, and artificial separation of the installation of the independent spent fuel storage installation from the LTP process.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 23, 2000

Food and Drug Administration's Circulatory System Devices Panel Meeting

On June 19, 2000, a staff member from the Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety attended the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Circulatory System Devices Panel meeting in Gaithersburg, Maryland, as an invited guest. This Panel meeting was an open public hearing with the entire day devoted to reviewing the clinical trial data presented by Cordis Corporation's application for FDA approval of their Pre-market Application (PMA) for their Cordis Checkmate System for the prevention of coronary restenosis by intravascular brachytherapy.

The Panel devoted considerable time reviewing and discussing both the clinical data presented and the reported adverse events, particularly the reported incidents of late thrombosis. Upon the conclusion of their review the Panel voted unanimously to recommend approval of the firm's PMA request with conditions. One of the more significant conditions recommended by the Panel was requiring this therapy be performed by a team that would consist of a minimum of a radiation oncologist, interventional cardiologist, and a medical physicist.

Interim Staff Guidance

The Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) has issued two new Interim Staff Guidance (ISG) documents. These documents provide guidance to the staff and will be incorporated into the appropriate SFPO standard review plans in the future.

ISG-14, "Supplemental Shielding," was issued on June 13, 2000, to provide guidance regarding supplemental shielding that may be installed at an independent spent fuel storage installation to meet the regulatory criteria related to direct radiation exposure during normal operations (10 CFR Part 72.104(a)). For Part 72 general licensees, if engineered features (e.g., earthen berms or shield walls) are used to ensure that the requirement of Part 72.104(a) is met, such features are to be considered important to safety and must be evaluated by the general licensee pursuant to Part 72.212(b). Similarly, for Part 72 site-specific licensees, this evaluation will be submitted to the staff for approval during the licensing review.

ISG-16, "Emergency Planning," was issued on June 14, 2000, to provide specific guidance for the review of emergency plans for facilities licensed pursuant to Part 72. The guidance will assist the staff in the technical review to ensure the regulatory requirements for emergency plans (Part 72.32) for independent spent fuel storage installations are met and are consistent. This ISG also removed staff reference to a regulatory guide which was determined to be misleading.

Spent Fuel Project Office Completes two Reviews for the Department of Energy's Foreign Research Reactor Return Program

On June 15, 2000, the Spent Fuel Project Office completed two licensing actions on a very compressed schedule in support of the Department of Energy's Foreign Research Reactor Spent Nuclear Fuel Return program. The staff approved an amendment request for the

NAC-LWT transportation cask to authorize the transport of highly-enriched uranium materials test reactor fuel from McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, and recommended to the Department of Transportation the revalidation of the Canadian Certificate of Compliance for the Nordion F-257 transport cask for the shipment of a SLOWPOKE-2 research reactor core from the University of Toronto.

TN-32 Cask Unloaded at Surry

On May 31, 2000, Virginia Electric and Power Company (Virginia Power) received a low pressure alarm on a TN-32 cask at the Surry Power Station independent spent fuel storage installation. The licensee determined that there was a seal leak, and returned the cask to the spent fuel pool on June 15, 2000, to remove the lid and replace the seal. Corrosion was discovered on a two foot length inside of the lid in the area from the seal seating surface to the outside edge of the cask lid. Upon discovery, the licensee made the decision to unload the fuel and place the cask in the decontamination bay for further investigation. Investigation as to the cause of the corrosion is ongoing, with an expected root cause determination by Virginia Power by June 30, 2000. The Spent Fuel Project Office, working with RII, plans to conduct a followup inspection at the site.

Virginia Electric and Power Company

On June 15, 2000, Virginia Electric and Power Company (Virginia Power) submitted a letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to formally notify the Commission of its intent to participate as the lead facility for the renewal of its Surry independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) license. The Surry ISFSI license expires in 2006, however, Virginia Power plans to submit its application for ISFSI license renewal in the last quarter of 2001. The Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) staff have conducted preliminary discussions with the licensee in two public meetings held in March and June 2000. In addition, SFPO has established a license renewal team which is developing guidance for the development and review of a renewal application. Additional public meetings will be held with the licensee over the next year to facilitate the lead plant activities.

Staff Conducts Briefings on Financial Review of the U.S. Enrichment Corporation

On June 20, 2000, staff from the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) provided a briefing to the Department of Energy management on the status of its financial review of the U.S. Enrichment Corporation (USEC). This review was prompted by the lowering of USEC's credit rating to below investment grade, or speculative, by Standard and Poor's and Moody's in February 2000. On June 21, 2000, NMSS staff provided the same briefing to the Enrichment Oversight Committee which includes representatives from the Office of the Vice President, the Department of State, the Department of Energy, the Department of Commerce, the Department of the Treasury, the National Security Council, and the Office of Management and Budget. The briefings did not surface any issues or scenarios that were not already considered in the review.

U.S. Enrichment Corporation's Announcement to Shutdown the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant in 2001

On June 21, 2000, the Board of Directors of the U.S. Enrichment Corporation (USEC) announced that uranium enrichment activities at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Piketon, Ohio, would cease beginning in June 2001. USEC will continue enrichment activities at its other gaseous diffusion plant in Paducah, Kentucky. According to USEC, the decision to cease enrichment activities at one of its two enrichment plants was due to business challenges currently facing the uranium enrichment industry. Key factors considered by USEC in deciding to cease enrichment at Portsmouth and not Paducah were electricity costs, operational performance and reliability, design and material condition of the plants, and new enrichment technology issues.

USEC currently employs about 1900 workers at the Portsmouth plant and plans to reduce that number to about 1550 in July 2000. After uranium enrichment activities cease at the plant, there will be a transition period during which several stages of workforce reductions will take place. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will continue to regulate safety and safeguards over the enrichment portion of the plant until USEC transfers back to the Department of Energy that portion of the plant at the end of the transition period. USEC will continue to operate its transfer and shipping activities at the Portsmouth plant under the regulatory oversight of the NRC for about four to five years after enrichment activities have ceased, after which similar facilities will be available at the Paducah plant. The NRC certificates currently authorize USEC to enrich uranium at Portsmouth and Paducah to 10 and 2.75 weight percent U²³⁵, respectively. USEC expects the Paducah plant to be upgraded, certified and tested to produce finished customer product (4 to 5 weight percent U²³⁵) by June 2001.

Meeting with Sequoyah Fuels Corporation

On June 21, 2000, staff from the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards and the Office of the General Counsel met with representatives of Sequoyah Fuels Corporation (SFC) to discuss decommissioning and potential long-term custodianship of the former uranium conversion facility. SFC presented a rationale by which the majority of the residual contamination on the site should be considered as AEA 11(e)(2) material. The bases for this concept is that the front end of the SFC process -- solvent extraction -- is the same as the process at a mill, therefore the material should be classified the same. SFC anticipates submitting a license amendment request to implement this concept in the near future.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 23, 2000

Paper on Software Reuse

At the 43rd International Society for Measurement and Control, Power Division Conference in San Antonio, Texas, RES/DET staff presented a paper on in-house research involving software reuse. The paper, "A Checklist for Software Reuse," describes the benefits and potential safety concerns when software is reused. Examples of software reuse include commercial off-the-shelf software and modification of previously developed software for a new application. The conference was attended by approximately 300 I&C engineers from both fossil and nuclear generation. An estimated 60 I&C engineers from nuclear power plants and nuclear vendors were in attendance at the presentation. Several of the attendees remarked that the paper was a timely identification and reminder of design features that should be considered when digital systems are installed in nuclear power plants.

The conference provided insights into future digital I&C upgrades at nuclear power plants. While three to four plants are currently planning extensive digital I&C upgrades of their safety systems and control rooms, most of the licensees are planning small digital upgrades to their safety systems. Using either approach, licensees acknowledge that they will be dealing with hybrid (mixed analog and digital technology) control rooms and safety systems. They are also planning to install some emerging technology and applications, including on-line monitoring systems, smart transmitters, and computer communication networks. The conference committee views RES participation as valuable. It has invited RES to cosponsor future conferences, along with EPRI and DOE, and chair a regulatory session.

Information Exchange Meeting with D. Besnard of CEA

On June 13, 2000, the DSARE staff and contractors met with Dr. D. Besnard of the Commissariat à l'Énergie Atomique (CEA) of France. The purpose was to exchange technical information between CEA and the NRC and to explore future cooperation in thermal hydraulics, especially in providing data and advanced models for code development and in using a graphics-user-interface package to facilitate code input deck preparation and post-processing visualization and analysis. Five presentations were made in the half-day meeting, which was also attended by the NRR staff.

Dr. Besnard summarized the CEA's activities in the areas of thermal hydraulics and severe accidents. His talk was followed by presentations by NRC's contractors, including Prof. G. Kojasoy of the University of Wisconsin on interfacial area transport, Prof. V. Dhir of UCLA on subcooled boiling at low pressure, Prof. Q. Wu of Oregon State University on phase separation phenomena in a vertical tee junction of the reactor hot leg, and Mr. Ken Jones of Applied Programming Technology on Symbolic Nuclear Analysis Package (SNAP, which is a powerful graphics-user-interface package). Dr. Besnard is interested in using SNAP with their thermal-hydraulic CATHARE code.

Draft Regulatory Guide on Fire Protection

RES has issued, for public comment, Draft Regulatory Guide DG-1097, "Fire Protection for Operating Nuclear Power Plants." This guide is being developed to provide a comprehensive fire protection guidance document and to identify the scope and depth of fire protection that the NRC staff has determined to be acceptable for operating nuclear power plants.

June 23, 2000

ENCLOSURE C

Incident Response Operations
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 23, 2000

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-I-00-015, Yale University, POTENTIAL PERSONNEL OVEREXPOSURE
2. PNO-I-00-016, Aea Technology, PERSONNEL EXPOSURE EVENT AT AEA TECHNOLOGY
3. PNO-I-00-017, Dnx Transgenic Sciences, 200 MICROCURIES OF PHOSPHORUS-32 MISSING FROM VIAL
4. PNO-III-00-023, U. S. Enrichment Corporation, USEC ANNOUNCES IT WILL CLOSE ITS PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, FUEL PRODUCTION PLANT
5. PNO-III-00-024, David Lewin Corporation, DAMAGED MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE
6. PNO-III-00-025, Southeast Missouri State University, CONTAMINATION OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL STORAGE AREA
6. PNO-III-025A, Southeast Missouri State University, CONTAMINATION OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL STORAGE AREA
7. PNO-III-00-026, American Electric Power (Cook 2), D. C. COOK UNIT 2 STARTUP AFTER 33-MONTH OUTAGE

Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 23, 2000

Interim Storage for Greater Than Class C Waste (Parts 72 and 150)

A proposed rule that would allow licensing for the interim storage of greater than class C waste (GTCC) in a manner that would be consistent with the interim storage of spent fuel was published in the Federal Register on June 16, 2000 (65 FR 37712). The proposed rule would apply only to the interim storage of GTCC waste generated or used by commercial nuclear power plants and would maintain Federal jurisdiction for storage of reactor-related GTCC. The comment period for this action closes August 30, 2000.

Elimination of the Requirement for Noncombustible Fire Barrier Penetration Seal Materials and Other Minor Changes (Part 50)

A final rule that amends the regulations concerning fire protection at nuclear power plants was published in the Federal Register on June 20, 2000 (65 FR 38182). The final rule removes the requirement that fire barrier penetration seals be noncombustible and makes other minor changes. The final rule becomes effective July 20, 2000.

List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: (NUHOMS-24P and NUHOMS-52B) Revision (Part 72)

A direct final rule that revises the Transnuclear West, Inc. Standardized NUHOMS-24P and NUHOMS-52B cask system listing within the list of approved spent fuel storage casks was published in the Federal Register on June 22, 2000 (65 FR 38715). The amendment updates the Technical Specifications' fuel qualification tables and allows storage of burnable poison rod assemblies. The amendment also revises and renumbers several of the conditions in the certificate of compliance to reflect the new NRC standard format. The final rule becomes effective September 5, 2000.

The companion proposed rule to this direct final rule was published in the Federal Register on June 22, 2000 (65 FR 38794). The comment period closes July 24, 2000.

List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: (VSC-24) Revision (Part 72)

A direct final rule that revises the Pacific Sierra Nuclear Associates VSC-24 cask system listing within the list of approved spent fuel storage casks was published in the Federal Register on June 22, 2000 (65 FR 38718). The amendment modifies the Technical Specifications and certificate of compliance regarding welding and nondestructive examination of welds, the method for determining cask drain time during loading, the minimum temperature for moving the loaded multi-assembly sealed basket, artificial thermal loads other than spent fuel that may be used to obtain temperature data, and the maximum permissible air outlet temperature. The final rule becomes effective September 5, 2000.

The companion proposed rule to this direct final rule was published in the Federal Register on June 22, 2000 (65 FR 38795). The comment period closes July 24, 2000.

June 23, 2000

ENCLOSURE F

Chief Information Officer
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 23, 2000

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the 5-Day Period of
June 16, 2000 through June 22, 2000:

NRC Plant Performance Reviews dated 3/31/00, and the 5/18/00 Annual Assessment Letters with enclosure 1. (FOIA/PA 2000-0266)

Materials license No. 21-17093-01. (FOIA/PA 2000-0267)

U.S. export policy or controls on sales of nuclear materials to India & Pakistan, 6/98 to present. (FOIA/PA 2000-0268)

Referral from Department of Justice. (FOIA/PA 2000-0269)

Vacancy announcement no. 0016001, selectee's application. (FOIA/PA 2000-0270)

June 23, 2000

ENCLOSURE G

Office of Human Resources
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 23, 2000

Staff Member Attends Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Human Resources Development Council and Legislation Committee Meeting

On June 21, 2000, Lillian van Santen, of the Human Resources Development staff, attended the OPM Human Resources Development Council and Legislation Committee meeting. Topics discussed were: Memorandum on Improving Management of Federal Human Resources; Strategic Human Resources Alignment: Self Assessment Tool; Employment in the Senior Executive Service (amended regulations); Advisory Committee on Expanding Training Opportunities; and Proposed Bill to Amend Section 4107 of Title 5, U.S.C. Also mentioned were possible upcoming legislation on academic degrees and certificates, regulations on continued service agreement, and payment by agencies of student loans; and possible forthcoming Executive Orders on career items and executive exchange with private sector. The Steering Committee submitted a draft on Training Technology Task Force Recommendations.

Arrivals		
BLACKWELL, Laura**	SUMMER CLERICAL	HR
BROWNE, Colin	SUMMER MANAGEMENT INTERN	ADM
CHIMOOD, Jane	OFFICE AUTOMATION ASSISTANT	NRR
CLEMENT, Robin	EEO ASSISTANT	SBCR
INGRAM, Emma*	SECRETARY	RII
KARCAGI, Kim	SUMMER CLERICAL	NRR
LACKNER, Flora	SUMMER TECHNICAL INTERN	NMSS
MALDONADO-SANTINI, Luis**	SUMMER TECHNICAL INTERN	NMSS
MCANALLEN, Julia	SUMMER TECHNICAL INTERN	NMSS
MUSSER Marcus**	SUMMER TECHNICAL INTERN	RES
PRUETT, Timothy	INFORMATION MGMT SPECIALIST	OCIO
SHPAK, Anna	SUMMER ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK	ADM
SNYDER, Amy	HEALTH PHYSICIST	NMSS
TAHERI, Mitra	SUMMER TECHNICAL INTERN	NMSS
WALLO, John*	PHYSICAL SECURITY INSPECTOR	RII
WOHN, Christopher	SUMMER TECHNICAL INTERN	NMSS

Departures		
BROWNELL, Helen	SECRETARY (OA)	RIV
TURPIN, Elizabeth	PAYROLL TECHNICIAN	OCFO

*effective 6/18/00 **effective 6/29/00

June 23, 2000

ENCLOSURE I

Office of Public Affairs
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending June 23, 2000

Media Interest

Two television and two print reporters attended the hearings in Salt Lake City, Utah, on Private Fuel Storage's proposal to build a spent fuel storage facility on the Goshute Reservation.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
00-99	NRC Requests Comments on Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Spent Fuel Storage Facility in Utah; Schedules Meetings
00-100	Nuclear Regulatory Commission Honors Employees
00-101	NRC Seeks Comment on Storage of Certain "Greater than Class C" Waste in an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Facility
Regions:	
I-00-44	NRC Sets New Date for Meeting with Public on IP2
I-00-45	Haddam Neck, Yankee Rowe Decommissioning Work to be Discussed
II-00-30	NRC to Hold Public Meetings June 26 and 27 on Changes in Reactor Oversight and Latest Assessment of Monticello Nuclear Power Plant
III-00-31	NRC Issues Confirmatory Order to Mallinckrodt, Inc., on Actions to Address Radiation Overexposures to Workers
III-00-32	NRC Staff to Hold Public Meeting June 28 in Oak Harbor, Ohio, to Describe Latest Assessment of Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant
III-00-33	NRC Staff to Hold Public Meeting June 28 in Welch, Minnesota, to Describe Latest Assessment of Prairie Island Nuclear Plant
II-00-34	NRC to Hold Public Meetings June 28 on Latest Assessment of Byron, Illinois, Nuclear Plant and Changes in Reactor Oversight
IV-00-25	NRC to Meet With Public to Discuss New Reactor Oversight Process for River Bend
IV-00-26	NRC to Meet With Public to Discuss New Reactor Oversight Process for Diablo Canyon
IV-00-27	NRC to Meet With Diablo Canyon Officials to Discuss Inspection of Electrical Fire

Office of International Programs
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 23, 2000

Visiting French Delegation

A six person French delegation headed by J. Lachaume, Head of Emergency Management for the Directorate for the Safety of Nuclear Installations (DSIN) was at NRC headquarters for emergency response briefings and to observe the Palisades exercise. The delegation included representatives from DSIN and the Institute for Protection and Nuclear Safety (IPSN). The NRC staff was informed of the French approach to nuclear emergencies including the demonstration of two computer codes that are used to evaluate and assess an evolving accident. The delegation traveled to Portsmouth, NH to observe the plume and post plume phases of an exercise at Seabrook.

Visit by German Team

Natalie Bath, Federal Office for Radiation Protection, and Dr. Alfred Kraut, Company for Reactor Safety, visited members of the IRO staff for briefings on the NRC role in nuclear emergencies and a tour of the Emergency Operations Center. Earlier in the week, they had observed the Palisades exercise near the site through arrangements made by NEI with the utility. Currently there is limited involvement by the German federal government in nuclear emergencies, but an expanded role is under consideration.

Office of the Secretary
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 23, 2000

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. Commissioner Diaz' vote on SECY-00-0070	5/10/00	Control of Solid Materials: Results of Public Meetings, Status of Technical Analyses, and Recommendations for Proceeding
2. SECY-00-0113	5/23/00	Draft Final Policy Statement on the Medical Use of Byproduct Material
SRM on 00-0113	6/23/00	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 00-0113	6/23/00	(same)
3. SECY-00-0127	6/9/00	Proposed License to Export Nuclear Grade Graphite to Various Countries for Non-Nuclear End Use (XMAT0400)
SRM on 00-0127	6/23/00	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 00-0127	6/23/00	(same)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-00-0128	6/9/00	Litigation Report - 2000 - 3
Memoranda		
1. M000620A	6/20/00	Staff Requirements-Affirmation Session: I. SECY-00-0123-Carolina Power & Light Company (Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant), Docket No. 50-400-LA, LBP-00-12 (Memorandum and Order Ruling on Designation of Issues for an Evidentiary Hearing)(May 5, 2000)
2. M000525D	6/20/00	Staff Requirements-Briefing on Improvements to 2.206 Petition Process
3. M000620B	6/21/00	Briefing on Final Rule-Part 70-Regulating Fuel Cycle Facilities (SECY-00-0111)
4. M000621A/B	6/23/00	All Employees Meeting 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 21, 2000

June 23, 2000

ENCLOSURE O

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Representative Frank A. LoBiondo, dated June 15, 2000, concerns actions taken in response to a GAO survey on NRC staff concerns regarding risk-informed regulation.
2. Letter to Representative Maurice D. Hinchey, dated June 13, 2000, concerns the recent steam generator tube failure at Indian Point 2.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. GRAYSTAR, Inc.; Docket No. SSD 99-27; Designation of Presiding Officer.
2. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Meeting Notice.
3. ACRS Subcommittee Meeting on Planning and Procedures; Notice of Meeting.

June 23, 2000

ENCLOSURE O

Region I
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 23, 2000

Yankee Rowe

On June 15, 2000, the Region I lead inspector for Yankee Rowe attended the meeting of the Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) for the Yankee Rowe decommissioning project. The licensee provided a tour of the plant prior to the beginning of the meeting. The licensee presented their plans for construction of an independent fuel storage area and cask construction. The cask vendor had a representative at the meeting to answer questions. The licensee also introduced the new Site Manager, Brian Woods. The meeting lasted approximately two hours. There were only a few questions asked regarding cask fabrication and no members of the public were in attendance.

St. Albans (NY) Public Meeting

A public meeting was held on June 22, 2000, at the St. Albans Veterans Affairs Extended Care Center in Queens, NY, to discuss remediation plans for the nuclear medicine laboratory contaminated in 1963 due to a spill of strontium-90. At that time, a beaker of strontium-90 boiled over on a hot plate, resulting in contamination of the laboratory, surrounding rooms, and in a drain line in the basement laboratory. Further remediation efforts were identified as necessary in 1992, when small amounts of residual contamination were found in the concrete floor, walls, fixtures and a drain line. The US Army Corps of Engineers has responsibility for this action under the Formerly Used Defense Sites program. NRC issued a license in 1998 to authorize the decontamination and decommissioning of the facility.

NRC was represented at this meeting by the Chief, Decommissioning and Laboratory Branch, Region I. The meeting was a followup to a meeting held at the facility in April 2000 to explain to the public and the St Albans staff the plans for remediation and waste shipment. The St. Albans facility is a 230-bed medical center with a staff of 500. Concerns raised at this meeting were similar to those raised at the earlier meeting, and included the lack of notice for the meeting and specific information for the remediation, why the staff and public were only being informed now when the need for further remediation was identified in 1992, the safety of the waste shipments, any impact on the water supply since this area obtains its potable water from the local groundwater, and the potential health effects on the staff and the public. Numerous state and local elected officials expressed their concerns during the three-hour meeting.

Present plans are to have a contractor perform the work in August 2000, with shipments and a final US Army Corps of Engineer report in November 2000. Region will inspect the remediation and perform independent surveys.

Region II
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 23, 2000

Navy Master Material License (MML)

On June 21, the Director of the Division of Nuclear Materials Safety and the Navy MML Project Coordinator attended the Navy's quarterly Radiation Safety Committee meeting in Crystal City, VA. The committee was briefed on the status of depleted uranium penetrator recovery on the Vieques naval firing range. Discussion items included the next steps for penetrator recovery and analysis of environmental samples.

Region II Risk Analysts Information Meeting

On June 20-21, the Region hosted a Risk Analysts Information Meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to foster open communications among the Region II licensees and NRC risk representatives on various topics of interest to the risk community. Topics included the significant determination process for the revised reactor oversight program.

Florida Power and Light Company - Turkey Point Safety Systems Design Inspection

On June 22-23, the Director of the Division of Reactor Safety attended the Safety Systems Design inspection exit meeting at the Turkey Point facility in Florida. This is the first inspection of this type at Turkey Point under the revised reactor oversight program.

Duke Energy Corporation - McGuire Visit By Canadian

On June 19-23, Region II conducted a requalification inspection of the operator examination/training programs. A staff member of the Atomic Energy Control Board (now the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission) observed the inspection activities.

Region III
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 23, 2000

D.C. Cook Restarts

D.C. Cook Nuclear Power Station's Unit 2 in Michigan started up at 6:32 p.m. EDT on June 22, and was connected to the grid at 4:16 a.m. EDT June 25 after an outage that began September 1997. American Electric Power has issued a news release and held a press conference on June 26 to answer questions about Unit 2's return to service. NRC inspectors are monitoring the restart activities around the clock.

Ohio Public Meeting to Discuss Changes in Reactor Oversight

NRC officials June 20 held a public meeting in Perry, Ohio, to discuss the NRC's reactor oversight process. One reporter attended the meeting.

NRC Discusses Perry, Ohio, Plant Assessments

NRC officials on June 21 met with FirstEnergy Corp. officials to discuss Perry's latest plant performance results. The meeting was held at the plant and two reporters attended.

AIT Public Exit at Mallinckrodt Facility in Missouri

Region III's Regional Administrator Jim Dyer and members of the Augmented Inspection Team who were dispatched May 4 to the Mallinckrodt, Inc. facility in Maryland Heights, Missouri, met with company officials in a public meeting June 23 at the company's Missouri facility to review their findings. The AIT was dispatched to review the circumstances surrounding possible radiation exposures above NRC limits to several workers. Region III on June 22 issued a Confirmatory Order to Mallinckrodt requiring the company to review and improve its radiation protection program and its training for workers. Region III has issued news releases on this topic and there has been considerable media interest in the St. Louis area.

NRC Special Inspection at Southeast Missouri State University

Region III on June 21 dispatched an inspection team to Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, to gather information on contamination found in rooms in one of the university's science buildings. Region III issued a Confirmatory Action Letter June 22 to the university specifying short and long term actions to be taken by the university to address the contamination issue. Region III inspectors will return to the site during the week of June 26 to continue their monitoring of activities. The university has issued news releases and held news conferences on this situation. There has been considerable media interest in the Cape Girardeau, Missouri, area.

Region IV
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 23, 2000

Senior Management from Entergy Operations Inc. (EOI) and the NRC Meet on June 21, 2000

On June 21, 2000, the Region IV Regional Administrator, the Associate Director for Inspection & Programs from NRR, and other NRC management met with senior EOI officials, including the EOI Chief Executive Officer, President and Chief Operating Officer. The meeting was held to discuss the performance of the Entergy facilities in Region IV and to discuss the licensee's renewal program and self assessments. The meeting, held in Jackson, Mississippi, was open to public observation. No members of the public attended. Prior to this meeting, the Regional Administrator toured the Grand Gulf facility and the NRR Associate Director for Inspection & Programs toured the Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3.

June 23, 2000

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Office of Congressional Affairs
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending June 23, 2000

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 22

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Combs	06/27/00 SD-366	2:30	GAO, DOE	Nuclear Waste Cleanup at Paducah	Senators Nickles/Graham Energy R&D, Production & Regulation Energy and Natural Resources
Gerke	06/28/00 2123 RHOB	10:00	TBA	Summer Energy Concerns	Reps. Bliley/Dingell Commerce
Portner	Early July TBA	TBA	Markup	FY01 Energy and Water Development Appropriations	Senators Domenici/Reid Energy and Water Development Appropriations
Combs	Late July TBA	TBA	NRC Staff and others	Moab	Reps. Barton/Boucher Energy & Power Commerce