

 **Weekly Information Report****For the Week Ending September 22, 2000**[[archive](#)]

The Weekly Information Report is compiled by the NRC Office of the Executive Director for Operations and includes highlights of Headquarters and Regional Office activities. For technical questions, please contact S. Rosenberg, OEDO by E-mail: slr1@nrc.gov. For administrative questions, please contact Patricia Anderson at (301) 415-1703, or by E-mail: paa@nrc.gov. If you would like to request a hard copy, you may contact the NRC Public Document Room at (202) 634-3273, or by E-mail: pdr@nrc.gov.

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The following offices had No information for this issue:

- Executive Director for Operations
 - State and Tribal Programs
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 - Chief Financial Officer
 - General Counsel
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2 - 2R14 Refueling and Steam Generator Replacement Outage

On September 15, 2000, ANO-2 began its 2R14 outage. Major activities include refueling, steam generator replacement, high-pressure and low-pressure turbine replacement (to support a planned power uprate), main generator stator rewinding, and replacement of various segments of service water piping.

The power uprate application (7.5 percent) is scheduled for submittal to NRR sometime during the fall of 2000. The licensee will be requesting NRC approval of the uprate by the next refueling outage (March 2002).

Maine Yankee

On Wednesday, September 11, 2000, Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company announced that it was revising its plan for disposing of concrete from demolished buildings at the Maine Yankee site. Maine Yankee took this step due to feedback that it had received from various stakeholders, including the State of Maine, the Town of Wiscasset, and the Friends of the Coast. Maine Yankee decided to dispose of above-grade concrete from demolished buildings by shipping the concrete to off-site disposal facilities rather than place it in the building foundations as it had initially proposed. The portion of the above-grade concrete that is radiologically contaminated will be shipped by rail to the Envirocare facility in Utah that is licensed to receive this material. The utility also announced that it is likely that the radiologically clean concrete will be shipped to landfill facilities outside the State of Maine. The licensee still intends to leave the below-grade concrete foundations and slabs in place and backfill the spaces with soil. This decision effectively precludes "rubblization" and on-site disposal of radiologically contaminated concrete at the Maine Yankee site. Currently, no power reactor licensee is pursuing a decommissioning option that would involve on-site disposal of dismantlement debris.

Maine Yankee also announced that it is in the process of amending the License Termination Plan (LTP) submitted in January 2000 to reflect new State standards for radiological cleanup and the decision to dispose of the above-grade concrete off-site. The licensee intends to resubmit the LTP by the end of October.

Indian Point Unit 2

Consolidated Edison Company of New York (ConEd) continues to make preparations inside the vapor containment in support of the replacement of the steam generators at Indian Point Unit 2. The major activities include the isolation of asbestos insulation on the existing steam generators and installation of temporary hoisting equipment.

On September 11, 2000, the staff met at the plant site with ConEd to discuss the status of the licensee's recovery plan activities after being designated as an "agency focus" plant. The specific activities are included in the ConEd Business Plan for IP2. In particular, ConEd discussed (1) the actions taken in response to each of the areas of concern expressed in the NRC's letter of May 23, 2000, designating IP2 as an Agency Focus Plant, (2) the metrics to be used to measure performance, and (3) the current status.

Reactor Oversight Process

The Inspection Program Branch (IIPB) held its second cross-cutting issue task group Meeting at NRC headquarters on September 14, 2000. The task group discussed baseline inspection procedure IP 71152, "Identification and Resolution of Problems," lessons learned to Date. Key findings included: (1) the inspection teams should including a resident inspector, if possible,

(2) a 2-week inspection with fewer inspectors is preferable to a more intensive 1 week inspection, (3) No white or above findings have been generated by the inspections to Date, and (4) certain inspection requirements such as the performance indicator (PI) data verification and the risk assessment of the maintenance backlog should be deleted. The task group also discussed the need for clearer guidance on documenting cross-cutting issues. A draft human performance supplemental IP which has been reviewed by the regions was discussed.

The Working Group tasked with revising Manual Chapter 1245, "Inspector Qualifications for the NRR Inspection Program," met in Region I on September 12-13, 2000. The Regional Administrator and the Deputy Regional Administrator met with the group, providing their thoughts on making the qualification program more efficient and effective. The group completed the identification of inspector tasks to be addressed in the training and qualification process. The group will now begin work to develop core competencies by describing the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to be successful as an inspector. The next Meeting of the group will be in Region II on October 3-4, 2000.

NRC Staff Meeting with Stakeholders on NRC's Reassessment of the Commission's Policy on Factors Causing Fatigue of Operating Personnel at Nuclear Reactors

On September 14, 2000, staff from the Operator Licensing, Human Performance, and Plant Support Branch (IOLB) held a public Meeting to discuss data collected by the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) concerning the implementation of the Commission's "Policy on Factors Causing Fatigue of Operating Personnel at Nuclear Reactors." The IOLB staff presentation emphasized that 1) the policy provided guidelines for limiting the use of overtime during plant outages, 2) the policy was explicit in anticipating that approval to exceed the guidelines would be limited to "very unusual circumstances," and 3) working hours in excess of the policy guidelines increases the risk of personnel impairment. The staff also described the data provided by NEI, emphasizing the large number of guideline deviations and concluding that the frequency of deviations appeared inconsistent with the policy. NEI provided an analysis of the data which showed that on average, licensed and non-licensed personnel have relatively few deviations from the policy. Based on their analysis, NEI concluded that rulemaking was not warranted. The staff responded to NEI's presentation with concerns regarding the validity of NEI's use of averages in their analysis and as a basis for their conclusions.

Reactor Oversight Process Initial Implementation Evaluation Panel

On August 31, 2000, the staff received approval from the Committee Management Secretariat of the General Services Administration to establish the Reactor Oversight Process Initial Implementation Evaluation Panel (IIEP). The IIEP is being formed in response to Commission direction in the Staff Requirements Memorandum from SECY-00-0049, "Results of the Revised Reactor Oversight Process Pilot Program." The IIEP will function as a cross-disciplinary

oversight group to independently monitor and evaluate the results of the first year of initial implementation of the Reactor Oversight Process. The Director of Division of Reactor Projects,

Region II is the IIEP Chairman. IIEP Committee members consist of an SES-level manager from each of the NRC regional offices, the Director of the Office of Enforcement, a Senior Reactor Analyst, a Senior Resident Inspector, a senior-level manager from a licensee in each of the four NRC regions, a senior official from two state governmental organizations, a UCS representative, and an NEI representative. The final IIEP charter will be issued in October 2000, along with the *Federal Register* Notice, filings to the appropriate Congressional Committees, and a copy to the Library of Congress. The first Meeting of the IIEP will be held in early-November. The staff plans on keeping the Commission informed of developments and progress associated with the IIEP through monthly hi-light reports.

Visit by French Delegation

On September 19-20, 2000, a six member French delegation met with the NRR and RES staffs to exchange information on regulatory uses and safety insights of operating events risk analysis. The French delegation was composed of representatives from the Directorate for the Safety of Nuclear Installations (DSIN), the Institute for Protection and Nuclear Safety (IPSN), and Electricite de France (EDF). At the conclusion of the Meeting, a consensus paper was jointly developed on guidelines for the application of PSA in assessing operating events/conditions to the regulatory and operational safety decision-making process.

The participants concluded that a Meeting on this Subject should be held periodically (probably once a year) to exchange information on the insights from analyses from safety significant events or findings from France and the U.S. One question that DSIN voiced was why there are many more accident sequence precursors for the French fleet of 58 reactors compared with the number occurring in the U.S. DSIN hopes that these meetings would help to provide a better understanding this phenomenon.

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National Conference of State Legislatures High-Level Radioactive Waste Working Group

On September 18, 2000, a staff member from the Spent Fuel Project Office gave a presentation to the National Conference of State Legislatures High-Level Radioactive Waste Working Group. Areas addressed included: (1) an update on cask regulation changes (both storage and transportation); (2) an update on initiatives to streamline the certification process for dry storage casks; and (3) a summary of results of inspections related to NS-4-FR and Holtite-A. Other presentations were given by staff from the Department of Energy (DOE), the Southwest Research Institute, and the Private Fuel Storage facility. The Working Group, including representatives from Nevada, were supportive of DOE's Yucca Mountain work and efforts by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and industry on dry storage and transportation.

Briefing of Senate Staff on the Review of the U.S. Enrichment Corporation Financial Review

On September 15, 2000, the Deputy Executive Director for Materials, Research and State

Programs, along with staff from the Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards and the Office of the General Counsel, briefed staff from the offices of Senators McConnell, DeWine, Voinovich, and Domenici on the results of the U.S. Enrichment Corporation financial review. Staff discussed the Commission's letter to Representative Bliley, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's role in the financial review, and the results of the financial analyses.

U.S. Enrichment Corporation and Department of Energy Centrifuge Agreement

On September 19, 2000, the U.S. Enrichment Corporation (USEC) and the Department of Energy (DOE) announced that they signed an agreement to begin designing a new uranium enrichment method that utilizes the circa 1980 DOE gas centrifuge technology. USEC began investigating the gas centrifuge last year as one of the possible enrichment technologies to be used in the U.S. USEC and DOE centrifuge partnership will last at least for one year and will be based on DOE's design with incorporation of design enhancements and cost reductions. The research effort will be centered at Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

International Atomic Energy Agency Safeguards Inspection at BWX Technologies

On September 18-20, 2000, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) conducted its monthly safeguards inspection of the BWX Technologies (BWXT) Highly Enriched Uranium Downblending Facility. The inspectors collected and evaluated data from their monitoring equipment and reviewed the facility process and material accounting declarations. BWXT instituted new information security procedures for this and future inspections to facilitate the IAEA's review and analysis of the inspector data and operator declarations while maintaining the level of information security deemed necessary. The security procedures were reviewed and approved by the Department of Energy prior to implementation. No problems were encountered by the IAEA inspectors during the inspection.

Stakeholder Meeting on Oversight Program Revision for Fuel Cycle Facilities

On September 13, 2000, an announced Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) public Meeting was held with members of the public, regulatees, Nuclear Energy Institute, and other stakeholders to review the status of the ongoing revision to the oversight program for fuel cycle facilities. At the public Meeting, there was overall agreement on accomplishments to Date and the remaining work items, including their priority. Next, NRC staff will develop a "strawman" work plan (milestones with schedules) for completing the remaining work items and provide it to stakeholders for their comment.

Resolving Container Life and Source Term Key Technical Issue at Yucca Mountain

On September 12-13, 2000, Division of Waste Management staff engaged in a technical exchange and management Meeting with the Department of Energy (DOE) in Las Vegas, Nevada. The public Meeting focused on the Container Life and Source Term (CLST) Key Technical Issue (KTI). The CLST KTI is one of nine KTIs that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is addressing associated with the potential Yucca Mountain high-level waste repository. During the Meeting, issues associated with the corrosion and mechanical failure of the waste package, radionuclide mobilization and release from spent nuclear fuel and high-level waste glass, and alternative designs of the engineered barrier system were discussed. The effects of in-package criticality on the waste package and engineered barrier subsystem performance were not addressed at this Meeting and will be discussed in a future Meeting.

Issues were closed at the staff level pending DOE's completion of planned tests, analyses and modeling work prior to the expected licensing application submission. Specific NRC/DOE agreements were made to clarify what information the NRC staff needs to evaluate the issues. The agreements were reached based on the risk-informed approach of the total system performance. Representatives from Nye County, Clark County, State of Nevada, U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, Nuclear Energy Institute, and Electric Power Research Institute were also present.

Food and Drug Administration's Circulatory System Devices Panel Meeting

On September 11, 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 Novoste Corporation's application for FDA approval of their Pre-market Application (PMA) for their Beta-Cath System for the prevention of restenosis. This system uses Sr-90 seeds in a hydraulic delivery system to perform intravascular brachytherapy of coronary arteries.

The Panel devoted considerable Time to reviewing and discussing both the clinical data presented and the reported adverse events, particularly the reported incidents of device failures. 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, at a minimum, of a radiation oncologist, interventional cardiologist, and a medical physicist.

Proposed Rule Signed by EDO

On September 20, 2000, the EDO approved a proposed rule for publication in the *Federal Register* that amends 10 CFR Part 72.214, "List of approved spent fuel storage casks," to include the Holtec International HI-STAR 100 cask system within the list of approved spent fuel storage casks. This amendment will allow the holders of power reactor operating licenses to store spent fuel in the approved cask under a general license.

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Regulatory Guide on Environmental Reports for License Renewal

RES has issued Supplement 1, "Preparation of Supplemental Environmental Reports for Applications To Renew Nuclear Power Plant Operating Licenses," as a supplement to Regulatory Guide 4.2, "Preparation of Environmental Reports for Nuclear Power Stations." Supplement 1 provides guidance to licensees and applicants on the format and content of an environmental report that is to be submitted to the NRC as part of an application for the renewal of a nuclear power plant operating license.

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Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-I-00-030, Syncor International Corporation, ACCIDENT IN SALEM COUNTY, NEW JERSEY INVOLVING A VEHICLE TRANSPORTING DIAGNOSTIC RADIO-PHARMACEUTICALS.
 2. PNO-II-00-036A, Fuller, Mossbarger, Scott and May, Engineers, STOLEN PORTABLE MOISTURE-DENSITY GAUGE RECOVERED.
 3. PNO-II-00-038, Florida Power Corporation (Crystal River 3), RESPONSE TO HURRICANE GORDON.
 4. PNO-II-00-039, Carolina Power & Light Company (Brunswick 2), FIRE IN B MAIN POWER TRANSFORMER.
 5. PNO-IV-00-021, Transalta Centralia Mining LLC, MECHANICAL FAILURE OF A RONAN MODEL SA-4 GAUGING DEVICE.
 6. PNO-IV-00-021A, Transalta Centralia Mining LLC, UPDATE ON THE MECHANICAL FAILURE OF A RONAN GAUGING DEVICE.
 7. PNO-IV-00-022, Tolunay Wong Engineers, Inc., STOLEN TROXLER PORTABLE GAUGE.
 8. PNO-IV-00-023, Raba-Kistner, STOLEN/LOST TROXLER NUCLEAR GAUGE.
 9. PNO-IV-00-024, Quality Testing and Engineering, Inc., STOLEN TROXLER NUCLEAR GAUGE.
 10. PNO-IV-00-025, Construction Materials Testing Co., STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE.
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Acquisition Training

On September 19, 2000, the Division of Contracts and Property Management conducted its Acquisition for Project Managers module, "Contract Administration." This module focuses on monitoring contractor performance, spending controls, modifying contracts and agreements and remedying contractual problems. The next module, "Closing Out the Contract," will be held on October 5, 2000.

Domestic Licensing of Special Nuclear Material; Possession of a Critical Mass of

Special Nuclear Material (Part 70)

A final rule that amends the regulations governing the domestic licensing of special nuclear material for licensees authorized to possess a critical mass of special nuclear material that are engaged in specified activities was published in the *Federal Register* on September 18, 2000 (65 FR 56211). The final rule: (1) establishes performance requirements; (2) requires affected licensees to perform an integrated safety analysis to identify potential accidents at the facility and the items relied on for safety necessary to prevent these accidents or mitigate their consequences; (3) requires measures to ensure that items relied on for safety are available and reliable; (4) requires safety bases to be maintained and changes to them be reported to NRC; (5) allows licensees to make certain changes to their safety program without prior NRC approval; (6) requires reporting of certain events; and (7) requires that the NRC perform a backfit analysis under certain circumstances. With the exemption of § 70.76, the final rule becomes effective October 18, 2000. Section 70.76 will become effective after staff guidance for the implementation of that provision is issued.

Privacy Act of 1974; Republication of Systems of Records Notices

A document that republishes the NRC's Systems of Records notices was published in the *Federal Register* on September 18, 2000 (65 FR 56414). The republication reflects a comprehensive review of all NRC Privacy Act Systems of Records.

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Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the 5-Day Period of September 15, 2000 through September 21, 2000:

OI report No. 3-1997-0433 and supporting documentation. (FOIA/PA-2000-0357)

Graftel Inc., investigation concerning quality control, sales, product testing & calibration, and employee training. (FOIA/PA 2000-0358)

Atlas Minerals, Inc., Moab, UT, all correspondence, investigations, reports, contracts, permits. (FOIA/PA 2000-0359)

Safety Assessment calculation for aircraft crash frequency, dated 6/19/00, formulae, data, assumptions, and line-by-line calculations. (FOIA/PA-2000-0360)

Site assessment, Menlo Park, CA; 4040 Campbell Ave. and 4055 Bohannon Dr. (FOIA/PA-2000-0361)

Radioactive materials (handling, production or processing) at 7 identified sites in Illinois, 1930 to 1975. (FOIA/PA-2000-0362)

Callaway Plant, background documents related to the 12/21/83 Trip Report: Fire Protection Site Audit. (FOIA/PA-2000-0363)

IMPAC card holders. (FOIA/PA-2000-0364)

Mallinckrodt, Harrisburg, PA, 8/30/2000 Region 1 Meeting minutes and relevant documents. (FOIA/PA-2000-0365)

Self, U.S. District Court of Columbia Case 00-1610-HHK vs Dept. of Health, 1999 to present. (FOIA/PA-2000-0366)

Diablo Canyon, notes provided by named individual re OI discrimination investigation. (FOIA/PA-2000-0367)

Spent fuel pool accident risk at decommissioning plants, draft report published 1st quarter year 2000, records related to specific areas of report. (FOIA/PA-2000-0368)

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Arrivals		
GRIFFIS, Neale	HEALTH PHYSICIST	RII
JANICKI, Michelle	CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR	RIII
Retirements		
YANDELL, Larry	TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF	RIV
Departures		
WOLFE, Evan	GEOLOGIST	NMSS

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Increased Civil Penalty Amounts for Inflation

On September 13, 2000, the Commission approved changes to the Enforcement Policy to increase the civil penalty amounts it can impose against licensees for violations of Commission requirements. The increase, mandated by Congress, adjusts fines for inflation. The maximum civil monetary penalty increases from \$110,000 per violation per day to \$120,000 per violation per day. The Commission also approved increases to the lesser civil penalty amounts in Table 1A of the Enforcement Policy to maintain the same proportional relationships between the penalties. This revision will soon be issued concurrent with a change to 10 CFR 2.205 to reflect the new maximum civil penalty. The Policy will become effective 30 days from publication in the *Federal Register*. The new civil penalty amounts apply only to violations that occur after the Date the increase takes effect. The Office of Enforcement will update the Enforcement Policy on its web site to reflect the change and will make conforming changes to the Enforcement Manual on its web site. OE will also issue a communication to the staff to notify them when the new

penalties go into effect and that the new penalties only apply to violations that *occur* after the Date the increases take effect (versus violations that were *identified* after the Date the increases take effect).

Discontinuation of NUREG-0940

In SECY-00-0105, the staff recommended to the Commission that it use the Office of Enforcement web site to disseminate significant enforcement action information and to discontinue publishing NUREG-0940, "Enforcement Actions: Significant Actions Resolved." The Commission subsequently requested that the staff solicit public comments on this issue and consult with the Commission if significant public comments in opposition to the proposal were received. The NRC received one comment in response to the *Federal Register* notice. The comment, submitted by TVA, supported the agency's efforts to operate more efficiently. Therefore, consistent with Commission approval and direction, the Office of Enforcement will no longer publish NUREG-0940.

Settlement Agreement, Western Soil, Inc., Mayaguez, PR

On August 29, 2000, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board approved a Settlement Agreement between NRC and Western Soil, Inc., of Mayaguez, PR regarding an April 13, 2000, Order Imposing Monetary Penalty (EA 99-262). Western Soil paid the agreed upon Civil Penalty of \$500 on August 8, 2000.

Discrimination Task Group Public Meetings

The Discrimination Task Group held public meetings with external stakeholders on

September 7, 2000 in Chattanooga, TN and on September 14, 2000 in San Luis Obispo, CA. Meeting summaries outlining the issues discussed will be placed on the OE web site for review. Additionally, on September 13, 2000, the group held a Meeting with internal stakeholders in the Region IV office. Subsequent meetings are scheduled for October 5, 2000 in Lisle, IL; October 19, 2000 in Paducah, KY; and November 1, 2000 in Waterford, CT.

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Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
00-142	NRC Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards to Meeting on Steam Generator Tube Issues October 10-13
00-143	NRC Historian Examines History of Radiation Protection
00-144	NRC Approves Oklahoma Agreement to Regulate Use of Certain Radioactive Materials
Regions:	
I-00-67	NRC, Consolidated Edison to Discuss Indian Point 2 Inspection Findings
II-00-55	NRC Commissioner to Visit Two North Carolina Nuclear Facilities
II-00-56	NRC Staff to Meet With Hatch Nuclear Officials to Discuss Initial Plant License Renewal Inspection
III-00-48	Predecisional Enforcement Conference Set for Sept. 28 on Possible Violations at Mallinckrodt, Inc.
III-00-49	NRC Staff to Hold Public Meetings September 27 to Discuss D.C. Cook Nuclear Power Plant Restart Issues and Reactor Oversight Changes
II-00-50	NRC to Hold Public Meeting September 27 in Ohio on Reactor Oversight Changes
IV-00-36	NRC to Meet With Public for Comments on Packaging and Transportation of Radioactive Material

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Visit by T. Schempfke, GRS, Germany

On September 21, 2000, Mr. Thomas Schempfke, Technical Assistant to the General Manager of the Garching Center of the Company for Reactor Safety (GRS) of Germany, met with Deputy Executive Director for Reactor Programs, and staff members of NRR. Mr. Schempfke was briefed on the increased use of risk analysis in conducting our safety activities, and NRC's efforts to move toward risk informed regulation with our licensees. Additionally, he was informed of the basis and status of NRC's life extension activities.

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Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SECY-00-0190	9/1/00	Proposed License to Export Low-Enriched Uranium to Japan for Use as Reload Fuel in the FUGEN Advanced Thermal Reactor (Application No. XSNM03149)
SRM on 00-0190	9/20/00	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 00-0190	9/20/00	(same)
2. SECY-00-0198	9/14/00	Status Report on Study of Risk-Informed Changes to the Technical Requirements of 10 CFR Part 50 (Option 3) and Recommendations on Risk-Informed Changes to 10 CFR 50.44 (Combustible Gas Control)
Negative Consent Documents		
1. SECY-00-0162	7/28/00	Addressing PRA Quality in Risk-Informed Activities
Information Papers		
1. SECY-00-0191	9/1/00	High-Level Guidelines for Performance-Based Activities
2. SECY-00-0182	8/24/00	Technical Report on a Performance Assessment Methodology for Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Facilities

Commission Correspondence

- Letter to Congress dated September 14, 2000, concerns lessons learned from the initial license renewal reviews and the actions taken to ensure that the 2-year timetable will be sustained and improved upon for future license renewal applicants.
- Letter to Senator Domenici dated September 14, 2000, concerns evaluation of shipping containers used to transport transuranic wastes to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.
- Letter to John Hadder, Northern Nevada Coordinator, Citizen Alert, dated September 14, 2000, concerns the Yucca Mountain Project.
- Letter to Mary Lampert dated September 13, 2000, concerns consideration of the use of potassium iodide as a supplemental action for protection of the public.
- Letter to Professor Harold Lewis, University of California, Santa Barbara, dated September 13, 2000, concerns Meeting between the NRC staff the National Aeronautics and Space Administration staff on the Subject of probabilistic risk analysis.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. **Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes: Meeting Notice.**
2. **Northeast Nuclear Energy Company; Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit Nos. 50-336 and 50-423-LA; Establishment of Atomic Safety and Licensing Board.**

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Public Meetings for Haddam Neck (CT)

Management and staff from Region I, NMSS, and NRR supported two public meetings concerning the decommissioning of the Haddam Neck reactor, Haddam, CT. On Monday evening, September 18, 2000, the selectman of Haddam convened a special town Meeting to discuss the status of the storage of spent fuel at Haddam Neck. After presentations by the licensee, the NRC, the second selectman, and the Citizen's Awareness Network, members of the public asked questions and expressed their views concerning this issue. Approximately 350 members of the public attended this 4-hour Meeting. On Tuesday evening, September 19, 2000, the Haddam Neck Community Decommissioning Advisory Committee held a Meeting to discuss the latest progress on Haddam Neck decommissioning. Representatives of Region I and NMSS presented the latest NRC activities and answered questions. Approximately 30 people were in attendance.

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Mexican Nuclear Society

On September 18-20, 2000, the Regional Administrator was on International travel in Mexico City, Mexico, to deliver a presentation on the NRC's Revised Reactor Oversight Program and met with representatives of the Mexican National Commission of Nuclear Safety and Safeguards.

PRA Steering Committee

As a member of the NRC's Probabilistic Risk Assessment (PRA) Steering Committee, the Regional Administrator participated in a September 21 public Meeting in Washington, D.C. Topics discussed included the NRC and industry efforts toward achieving a PRA standard.

Lessons Learned During Fire Protection Inspections Training

On September 20, 2000, representatives from the Office of Nuclear Reactor

Regulation and the Brookhaven National Laboratory, provided training to Region II staff and managers. The training content was lessons learned during NRC Fire Protection Inspections.

Hurricane Gordon and Florida Power Corporation - Crystal River Site

On September 17 and 18, 2000, Region II and the NRC Incident Response Operations organization conducted several activities to monitor the impact of Hurricane Gordon on Region II nuclear power plant sites. The Region II Incident Response Center was activated in an enhanced hurricane monitoring mode from 4 pm to 9 pm on September 17; the Crystal River senior resident inspector stayed at the site on September 17 and 18 to monitor and communicate plant status; the Region II State and Government Liason Officer was dispatched to the Florida Emergency Operations Center and interfaced with State and local Agencies and the Region IV Office of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

On September 16, 2000, Florida Power Corporation declared a Notification of Unusual Event for the Crystal River nuclear power plant due to Hurricane Gordan warnings at the site. The licensee conducted several activities in response to the Hurricane; there was No impact to the site and the plant operated at 100 per cent power throughout the storm.

Pavia Hospital

A Confirmatory Action Letter (CAL) was issued to Pavia Hospital, located near San Juan, Puerto Rico on September 22. The CAL confirmed the licensee's agreement to suspend the use of iodine-125 brachtherapy due to NRC inspection findings. The findings included an inadequate oversight of the radiation safety and Quality Management programs associated with the brachytherapy program.

Carolina Power and Light Company - Brunswick site

The licensee declared a Notification of Unusual Event (NOUE) at 4:00 am on September 22 due to a fire in the B main power transformer for Unit 2 of the Brunswick nuclear power plant. The fire was extinguished after 16 minutes and the licensee exited the NOUE at 5:12 am the same day. The Unit was at 100 percent power at the Time of the fire. The transformer failure caused the Unit 2 turbine to trip, followed by a reactor trip. Unit 1 was not affected by the event.

The NRC resident inspectors responded to the site. Region II issued a

Preliminary Notification and communicated with the State of North Carolina.

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Region III Dispositions a Differing Professional View

Region III dispositioned a Differing Professional View (DPV) regarding the operability of the fan room wall at D.C. Cook Unit 2. The filer of the DPV raised two concerns related to the operability of the containment wall. The first concern focused on the technical aspects of the licensee's operability evaluation of the wall which concluded that the design margin of the wall was adequate to support restart. The second concern questioned the appropriateness of applying the criteria of Generic Letter 91-18 to the degraded wall to permit restart. The ad hoc DPV panel concluded that the actions taken by the NRC staff were appropriate from both the technical and process perspectives.

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Commissioner Diaz Visit to Comanche Peak and South Texas Project

The Regional Administrator accompanied Commissioner Diaz during his visit to the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station on September 20 and to the South Texas Project on September 21, 2000. They toured the facilities and met with the resident inspectors and members of the licensee's management.

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Congressional Hearing Schedule, No. 31					
OCA Contact	Date & Place	Time	Witness	Subject	Committee
Combs	09/28/00 SD-366	10:00	TBA	Failure to Meet Nuclear Waste Storage Deadline	Senators Murkowski/Bingaman Energy and Natural Resources

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