INFORMATION REPORT

November 1, 2001 SECY-01-0195

For: The Commissioners

From: John W. Craig, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO

Subject: SECY-01-0195 WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 26, 2001

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*No input this week.

/RA by Margo Bridgers Acting For/

John W. Craig
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
S. Rosenberg, OEDO

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SRosenberg:paa	JWCraig **CMB for**
11/1/01	11/1/01

WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 26, 2001

The Weekly Information Report is compiled by the Office of the EDO and includes highlights of Headquarters and Regional Office activities.
Contact: S. Rosenberg, OEDO by E-mail: slr1@nrc.gov.

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*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 26, 2001

Staff Holds Public Scoping Meetings on the North Anna and Catawba Supplemental Environmental Impact Statements for License Renewal

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff participated in a number of activities the week of October 15 related to the license renewal application for North Anna Power Station, Units 1 and 2. On Thursday, October 18, 2001, the staff conducted two meetings to solicit comments from the public on the scope of the supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) that is being prepared. The SEIS will be a plant-specific supplement to the "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Power Plants" (NUREG-1437). Approximately 65 people attended the meetings, including representatives of the NRC staff, Dominion Energy, local governments, the press, and members of the public. More than 15 individuals spoke at the meetings, with a few expressing concerns with extending the operating life of the two nuclear units at North Anna. The scoping period ends on November 5, 2001.

In addition, the NRC staff participated in a number of activities this week related to the license renewal application for Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2. On Tuesday, October 23, 2001, the staff conducted two meetings to solicit comments from the public on the scope of the Catawba SEIS. A number of people attended the meetings, including representatives of the NRC staff, Duke, and members of the public. The scoping period for Catawba ends on November 22, 2001.

NRC Regulatory Issue Summary 2001-19: Deficiencies in the Documentation of Design Basis Radiological Analyses Submitted in Conjunction with License Amendment Requests, dated October 18, 2001

The NRC is issuing this regulatory issue summary to inform addressees of inadequacies in licensees' documentation of design basis accident (DBA) radiological analyses in license amendment submittals.

Reactor Oversight Process

The Inspection Program Branch conducted another of a continuing series of public meetings on October 17-18, 2001, with industry's working group on the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP). The key issues discussed included: changes to the initiating events unplanned scrams replacement performance indicator (PI); ROP industry trends; planned revisions to IMC 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program;" NEI 99-02,"Regulatory Assessment Performance Indicator Guideline;" IMC 0610, "Power Reactor Inspection Reports;" significance determination process issues; and a review of one frequently asked question. Also, at this meeting, the NRC/Industry Safety System Unavailability (SSU) Working Group discussed and reviewed issues associated with Safety System Unavailability (SSU) performance indicators (PIs) and a draft of the guidance for a pilot program to test the long-term changes to the SSU indicators.

Electronic Fingerprinting and Access Authorization

The Reactor Safeguards Section conducted another in a continuing series of public meetings on October 23, 2001 with industry stakeholders on electronic fingerprinting and staff comments regarding proposed Industry Guidelines for Nuclear Power Plant Access Authorization (NEI 99-08). The key topics discussed included: status on NRC initiatives to expedite the fingerprint process; NEI initiatives to expedite completion of background investigations through increased use of electronic information exchange; and staff comments to proposed industry access authorization guidelines in NEI 99-08. Follow-up discussions to this meeting will be included in the agenda for the next stakeholder meeting on the Fitness for Duty rulemaking, which is scheduled for November 15, 2001.

Hope Creek, Salem, and Peach Bottom License Transfers

On October 18, 2001, the NRC issued license amendments for the Hope Creek Generating Station; Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1 and 2; and Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Units 2 and 3, to reflect the transfer of Atlantic City Electric Company's minority ownership interests in the five units to the majority owners.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 26, 2001

Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Meetings for Catawba License Renewal

On October 23, 2001, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards staff supported two public environmental impact statement scoping meetings in Rock Hill, South Carolina, relating to the license renewal of the Catawba nuclear power plants. Several comments were received, suggesting that the impacts of the use of mixed-oxide fuel be considered in the environmental impact statement supporting the license renewal decision.

Proposed Rule Signed by Executive Director for Operations

On October 25, 2001, the Executive Director for Operations approved a proposed rule which revises 10 CFR Part 72.214," List of approved spent fuel storage casks," revising the BNFL Fuel Solutions cask system listing within the "List of approved spent fuel storage casks." Amendment No. 2 to the FuelSolutions™ cask system Certificate of Compliance would modify the Technical Specifications (TS) to provide an alternative to returning the W74 canister to the spent fuel building, to clarify the description of the other non-fissile material permitted to be stored in the W74 canister, and to revise the temperatures to correspond to the liner thermocouples. Specific changes would be made to TS Tables 2.1-3 and 2.1-4; TS 3.3.2 and 3.3.3; and the bases for TS 3.3.2 and 3.3.3. No changes would be made to the conditions of the Certificate of Compliance.

Incident Response Operations
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 26, 2001

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-IV-01-049, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE.

2. PNO-I-01-030, Underwood Engineering Testing Co., Inc., STOLEN TROXLER MOISTURE GAUGE.

3. PNO-I-01-031, Trap Rock Industries, Inc., STOLEN TROXLER DENSITY GAUGE.

4. PNO-II-01-036, Eastern Isotopes, POTENTIAL EXTREMITY OVEREXPOSURE.

5. PNO-II-01-037, Beiswenger, Hoch & Associates, Inc., STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE.

6. PNO-IV-01-045A, Leighton and Associates, STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE.

7. PNO-III-01-035, Bowser-Morner, Inc., STOLEN MOISTURE-DENSITY GAUGE.

Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 26, 2001

Contract Award

On October 23, 2001, a firm fixed-price performance-based contract, No. NRC-10-02-138, was awarded to AMC Focus, Inc. of Alexandria, VA, under the Small Business Administration's 8(a) program, for internal mail delivery services. The contract period runs for 13 months with 3 one-year options and is valued at $989,000 over that period. Following development of the Statement of Work, the contract was awarded in 70 days using streamlined procedures outlined in the new NRC/SBA partnership agreement and the Commercial Items exception to certified cost and pricing data.

Procurement Executive Council Electronic Commerce Committee Meeting

On October 18, 2001, a staff member attended a meeting of the Procurement Executive Council's Electronic Commerce Committee. This interagency committee includes representatives from the Office of Federal Procurement Policy, the Department of Defense, and various civilian agencies. The committee discussed implementation of several short-term acquisition projects identified by the Office of Management and Budget for inclusion in the Administration's E-Government vision. The Administration's long term goal for E-Government is to allow business information to be entered once, stored, maintained by the data owners, and shared with all others who need the data. The short-term projects to be implemented included consolidated e-Catalogs, Federal-wide Integrated Vendor Profile Network using the Central Contractor Registration database, and a re-engineering of the Federal Procurement Data System, to enable the program to collect real-time award information using state of the art, user-friendly technology.

Federal Day Program

On October 25, 2001, NRC staff attended an agency-wide Federal Day to learn how the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) can streamline the procurement and payment process. Federal adoption of CCR is included in the integrated acquisition initiative developed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Quicksilver team. The program was presented by representatives from CCR, OMB, the Office of Federal Financial Management, and the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP). A civilian agency which has implemented CCR in their procurement and payment process also made a presentation. The CCR is central to the Administration's E-Government initiative. CCR and OFPP representatives recognized that small agencies would have difficulty paying for this program and said they were working to make it affordable for all agencies if required for use Federal-wide.

Chief Information Officer
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 26, 2001

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the Period of October 19, 2001 through October 25, 2001:

Allegation summaries since 1/1/2000 to present for named plants operated by Nuclear Management Company, LLC (Duane Arnold, Kewaunee, Palisades, Point Beach, Prairie Island; and Monticello). (FOIA/PA-2002-0027)

Referral, records from a privacy system of records. (FOIA/PA-2002-0028)

Contract solicitation number ASL-01-302, all bid packets and awarded contract. (FOIA/PA-2002-0029)

Allegation number RIII-00-A-0173, report and supporting documents. (FOIA/PA-2002-0030)

Three Mile Island power plant information. (FOIA/PA-2002-0031)

Dresden power plant, Commonwealth Edison Company, allegation no. 96-A-109 related to discrimination. (FOIA/PA-2002-0032)

Office of Human Resources
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 26, 2001

Arrivals		
DIAS, Antonio	NUCLEAR ENGINEER	NMSS
KENNEDY, Silas	REACTOR INSPECTOR	RI
KROEGER, Ann	SECRETARY (OA)	RII
MALLOY, Molly	STUDENT ENGINEER (COOP)	RI
Retirements		
TAPIA, Joseph	BRANCH CHIEF	RIV
Departures		
HAROLD, Jeffrey	REACTOR ENGINEER	RIII

Office of Public Affairs
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 26, 2001

Media Interest

New York Governor George Pataki's announcement that the Coast Guard would continue to provide 24-hour surveillance at the Indian Point nuclear plant received wide media coverage.

An Associated Press story about a 1982 report on the vulnerability of U.S. reactors to a jetliner crash in the NRC's public reading room received widespread attention. The report was publicly available for nearly 20 years before it was removed from circulation October 11.

Remarks by NRC Chairman Richard Meserve at a nuclear safety research conference in Washington about nuclear power plant security and the future of the agency's daily Plant Status report were widely reported.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
01-125	NRC Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards To Meet November 8 - 10 in Rockville, Maryland
Regions:	
I-01-061	NRC Seeks Public Input on Environmental Statement for Proposed Peach Bottom Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal
III-01-047	NRC Staff Proposes $3,000 Fine Against the University of Missouri-Columbia for Violating Regulations

Office of International Programs
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 26, 2001

Ukranian Officials Meet with the Commission

Vitaliy Tolstonogov, Director of the Chornobyl Nuclear Power Plant in Ukraine, and his delegation, met with Chairman Meserve and Commissioners Merrifield and Dicus on October 22.

DOE invited the delegation to the U.S. in order to update various U.S. government agencies on the status of the activities at the Chornobyl plant. Before coming to NRC, the delegation had visited Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and met with officials from the Department of Energy, State Department, and the Congress. The major topics discussed at NRC were the Shelter, decommissioning the closed reactors and spent fuel storage. Mr. Tolstonogov described some of the technical and financial difficulties in managing the activities at the plant, and noted that the future of nuclear power depends in part on the safe operation of the Chornobyl facility.

Office of the Secretary
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 26, 2001

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Information Papers		
1. SECY-01-0185	10/05/01	Status Report - Reevaluation of the Technical Basis for the Pressurized Thermal Shock Rule (10 CFR 50.61)
2. SECY-01-0188	10/12/01	Future Licensing and Inspection Readiness Assessment
3. SECY-01-0187	10/11/01	Review of NRC's Information Technology Capital Planning and Investment Control Process

Commission Correspondence

1. Letters to Lake Barrett, Department of Energy, Les W. Bradshaw, Nye County Department of Natural Resources and Federal Facilities, Nevada, and Robert R. Loux, Nevada Agency for Nuclear Projects, dated October 19, 2001, concerning NRC concurrence in DOE's draft final siting guidelines for nuclear waste repositories.

2. Letter to Pennsylvania Governor Mark Schweiker, dated October 19, 2001, concerns continued participation in the NRC's State Liaison Officer program.

3. Letter to Congress, dated October 18, 2001, concerns the status of fee collection activities for fiscal year 2001.

4. Letter to Congressman Edward J. Markey, dated October 16, 2001, concerns actions taken by the NRC and nuclear industry in response to the terrorist attacks and security at nuclear power plants.

5. Letter to Congress, dated October 16, 2001, responds to the recommendation in the GAO report entitled "Nuclear Regulation - Progress Made in Emergency Preparedness at Indian Point 2, but Additional Improvements Needed."

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Final Decision Related to the U.S. Department of Energy's General Guidelines for the Recommendation of Sites for Nuclear Waste Repositories (10 CFR Part 960) and Its Yucca Mountain Site Suitability Guidelines (10 CFR Part 963).

2. 10 CFR Parts 2, 19, 20, 21, 30, 40, 51, 60, 61, 63, 70, 72, 73, and 75; Disposal of High-Level Radioactive Wastes in a Proposed Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada; Final Rule.

3. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Revised Meeting Notice.

4. ACRS Subcommittee on Reactor Fuels; Notice of Meeting.

Region II
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 26, 2001

Shearon Harris Nuclear Plant

On October 25, 2001, the Acting Regional Administrator toured the Harris Nuclear Plant to observe the steam generator replacement outage activities, and met with licensee management and resident inspectors.

Brunswick Nuclear Plant

On October 22-23, 2001, the Director, Division of Reactor Safety was at the Brunswick Nuclear Plant for a site tour and to attend the Brunswick Facility Senior Reactor Operator and Reactor Operator License evening Banquet in Southport, North Carolina.

State of Tennessee Integrated Material Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP)

On October 25, 2001, the Director, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety participated in the exit meeting for the IMPEP followup review of the State of Tennessee.

Region III
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 26, 2001

Regional Staff Holds Monticello Management Meeting

On October 23, 2001, regional staff met with Nuclear Management Company officials in the regional office to review the licensee's final corrective actions regarding in-service testing and program deficiencies at the Monticello Nuclear Power Plant in Minnesota.

Regional Staff Attends Media Training Session

On October 23, 2001, regional staff members participated in a one-day Media Training course at the regional office. Participants were new employees and resident inspectors.

Region IV
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 26, 2001

Management Changes at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station

Jim Levine has been named Chief Operating Officer and Warren C. Kotzmann was named Vice President of Business and Corporate Services for Pinnacle West Energy. Pinnacle West Energy is the majority owner of the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station. In his role as Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Levine will have day-to-day oversight of nuclear and fossil generation, fuel procurement, and related functions.

Office of Congressional Affairs
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 26, 2001

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 36					
OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Combs	10/31/01 2123 RHOB	10:00	Markup	Price-Anderson Act	Reps. Tauzin/Dingell Energy and Commerce
Keeling	11/01/01 SD-406	2:00	Homeland Security, FEMA, OMB, GSA, EPA, SBA, EDA, NRC	Infrastructure Security, Chemical Site Security, and Economic Recovery	Senators Jeffords/Smith Environment and Public Works
Combs	TBA SD-416	TBA	Chairman Meserve, DOE, other groups	Price-Anderson Act	Senators Reid/Inhofe Transp, Infrastr & Nuclear Safety Environment and Public Works