

INFORMATION REPORT

January 2, 2003

SECY-02-0226

For: The Commissioners
From: John W. Craig, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: SECY-02-0226 WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK
ENDING DECEMBER 27, 2002

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*No input this week.

/RA by Melinda Malloy Acting For/
John W. Craig
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
C. Glenn, OEDO

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**/RA by Melinda Malloy Acting For/
John W. Craig
Assistant for Operations, OEDO**

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12/31/02

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WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 27, 2002

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

Contact: C. Glenn, OEDO by E-mail: cjg1@nrc.gov.

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*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 27, 2002

Donald C. Cook, Unit 1

On December 20, 2002, the NRC approved a measurement uncertainty power uprate amendment request by Indiana Michigan Power Company to increase the generating capacity of the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant Unit 1 by 1.66 percent. The power uprate will increase the generating capacity from 1077 megawatts electric to 1095 megawatts electric. The licensee intends to implement the power uprate within 60 days.

Completion of Review Standard for Extended Power Uprates

The staff has completed Draft Review Standard (RS)-001 for the staff's review of extended power uprate (EPU) applications. The staff expects to publish a notice in the *Federal Register* requesting public comment on this review standard. Completion of the review standard meets a commitment made by the staff in SECY-02-0106 and SECY-02-0115. Draft RS-001 provides (1) a definition of the scope of the staff's review, (2) references to existing review criteria (e.g., applicable Standard Review Plan sections, branch technical positions, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation instructions, information notices, generic letters, bulletins), and (3) templates of safety evaluations (one for boiling-water reactor plants and one for pressurized-water reactor plants). It serves as a tool to facilitate and expedite staff review of EPU applications by providing detailed references to various documents containing specific information related to the areas of review. The review standard also includes information that should help licensees prepare complete EPU applications by identifying the topics required for the staff's review and the guidance the staff will use when reviewing these topics in EPU applications. By following the review standard, a licensee could minimize the staff's need for requests for additional information and thereby improve the efficiency of the staff's review.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 27, 2002

U.S. Enrichment Corporation and the Department of Energy Sign Lease Concerning Gas Centrifuge Technology

On December 23, 2002, the U.S. Enrichment Corporation (USEC) signed a lease with the Department of Energy (DOE) for use of the existing K-1600 building in the East Tennessee Technology Park in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, to test the first new gas centrifuge uranium enrichment machines. Prior to 1985, DOE had used K-1600 to conduct tests on its machines. USEC plans to refurbish the building and begin testing its machines under the regulatory oversight of DOE. Currently, USEC and DOE are working toward a lease agreement concerning the existing gas centrifuge facility located at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Piketon, Ohio, where USEC intends to construct and operate its Lead Cascade, under the regulatory oversight of NRC, by 2005.

December 27, 2002

ENCLOSURE B

Nuclear Security and Incident Response
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 27, 2002

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-IV-02-079, P&M Construction, Inc. - STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE

December 27, 2002

ENCLOSURE D

Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 27, 2002

Material Control and Accounting Amendments (Parts 51, 61, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, and 150)

On December 23, 2002, a final rule that amends the NRC's material control and accounting regulations was published in the Federal Register (67 FR 78130). The requirements concerning the frequency and timing for submitting Material Balance Reports and Inventory Composition Reports is revised for all licensees except Category I licensees, the categorical exclusion for approving safeguards plans is amended to include the approval of amendments to safeguards plans, and the material control and accounting requirements for Category II facilities are revised to make them more risk-informed. The final rule becomes effective March 24, 2003.

Decommissioning Trust Provisions (Part 50)

On December 24, 2002, a final rule that amends the regulations concerning decommissioning trust provisions for nuclear power plants was published in the Federal Register (67 FR 78332). The final rule requires licensees that are no longer rate-regulated, or that no longer have access to a non-bypassable charge for decommissioning, have decommissioning trust agreements in a form acceptable to the NRC. The final rule is intended to increase assurance that adequate funds will be available for decommissioning. The final rule becomes effective December 24, 2003.

Chief Information Officer
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 27, 2002

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the period of
December 20 through December 26, 2002:

Indian Point nuclear power plant, safety violations, from 1962 to present (FOIA/PA-2003-0101)

Human Resources files on named individual (FOIA/PA-2003-0102)

OI 2-2001-031, copy of report and all exhibits (FOIA/PA-2003-0103)

RIV-95-A-0134, all documents and all correspondence between named individual and NRC
(FOIA/PA-2003-0104)

December 27, 2002

ENCLOSURE G

Office of Human Resources
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 27, 2002

Arrivals		
ALLEN, Kathleen	SR. SYSTEMS ANALYST	OCFO
BURNELL, Scott	PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER	OPA
DESMOND, William	SENIOR LEVEL ADVISOR ON SECURITY	NSIR
LARE, Megan*	STUDENT CLERK	RI
McCONNELL, Timothy	REACTOR INSPECTOR	RIV
SULLIVAN, Margaret**	OFFICE ASSISTANT	RIII
WIDMAYER, David	PROJECT MANAGER	NMSS
Departures		
GIUSEPPI, Larizza	RESIDENT INSPECTOR	RIII
JONES, Jamil	MECHANICAL ENGINEER	ADM

* Effective 12/24/02

**Effective 12/16/02

Office of Public Affairs
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 27, 2002

Media Interest

There was media interest in an industry-sponsored report that found nuclear plants could survive a direct hit by a fully fueled jetliner.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
02-145	NRC Issues Supplement to Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement on Decommissioning of Power Plants
02-146	NRC Approves Power Uprate for D.C. Cook Nuclear Plant

Office of the Secretary
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 27, 2002

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Information Papers		
1. SECY-02-0220	12/20/02	SECY-02-0220 Weekly Information Report - Week Ending December 13, 2002

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Mr. Steven Dolley, Nuclear Control Institute, dated December 18, 2002, concerns the application of Transport Logistics to export 25,983 kilograms of depleted uranium as uranium hexafluoride to Japan to be used as test material for the Rokkasho reprocessing facility (export license application XSOU8790).
2. Letter to Dr. William R. Hendee, Medical College of Wisconsin, dated December 17, 2002, concerns possible revisions to 10 CFR Part 35 that could impact NRC recognition of the various certification boards.
3. Letter to Mr. Joe F. Colvin, Nuclear Control Institute, dated December 17, 2002, concerns the NRC's review of its security requirements.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Material Control and Accounting Amendments - Final Rule.
2. Decommissioning Trust Provisions - Final Rule.
3. Advisory Committee on Medical Uses of Isotopes: Call for Nominations.
4. Notice of Renewal of the Charter for the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards.
5. Notice of renewal of the Charter of the Licensing Support Network Advisory Review Panel.
6. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Joint Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittees on Reliability and Probabilistic Risk Assessment and on Plant Operations - Notice of Meeting.
7. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Reliability and Probabilistic Risk Assessment, January 22, 2003 - Notice of Meeting.
8. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Reliability and Probabilistic Risk Assessment, January 23-24, 2003 - Notice of Meeting.
9. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Subcommittee Meeting on Safety Research Program - Notice of Meeting.

December 27, 2002

ENCLOSURE O

Region II
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 27, 2002

Steel of West Virginia, Inc. - Update of December 20, 2002 Items of Interest

On December 24, 2002, Region II issued a Confirmatory Action Letter (CAL) to Steel of West Virginia, Inc. to ensure the licensee appropriately followed up on the damaged fixed gauge event of December 16, 2002. Actions addressed in the CAL included the completion of a survey in the immediate area where the gauge was installed after removal of the other operational gauges from the area, assessing the condition of the gauge to confirm that the source is not leaking, completing dose assessments for those licensee employees involved in the immediate event response and subsequent removal of the damaged gauge.

December 27, 2002

ENCLOSURE P

Region III
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 27, 2002

NRC Oversight Panel Meeting with FirstEnergy

The NRC Oversight Panel, established under Manual Chapter 0350 to coordinate the agency's activities in response to the reactor vessel head damage at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station, met December 23, 2002, with representatives of FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company in the Region III Office to discuss the status and scope of the utility's review of plant safety systems.

December 27, 2002

ENCLOSURE P

Region IV
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 27, 2002

Regional Administrator On Site at Columbia Generating Station

On December 20, 2002, the Regional Administrator was on site at Columbia Generating Station and met with licensee management personnel, including the Chief Executive Officer, Vice President Nuclear Generation, Vice President Technical Services, Plant General Manager, and the acting Security Manager. While at Columbia Generating Station, the Regional Administrator conducted a plant tour with the Senior Resident Inspector and presented operator license certificates.

December 27, 2002

ENCLOSURE P