

INFORMATION REPORT

June 30, 2005

SECY-05-0114

For: The Commissioners
From: William M. Dean, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: SECY-05-0114 - "WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING JUNE 17, 2005"

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*No input this week.

/RA/

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Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
T. Kim, OEDO

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Contact:
T. Kim, OEDO

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OEDO	AO/OEDO
TJKim:paa	WMDean
06/29/05	06/30/05

WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING JUNE 17, , 2005

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

Contact: T. Kim, OEDO by E-mail: tjk3@nrc.gov.

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*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 17, 2005

Nine Mile Point - Public Meeting on Status of License Renewal

On June 9, 2005, representatives from the Constellation Energy Group (CEG) met with NRR staff to discuss the status of CEG's effort to "recover the quality" of the Nine Mile Point (NMP) license renewal application (LRA). By letter dated March 3, 2005, CEG had requested a 90-day grace period to address the quality issues identified during the course of the NRC staff's review and inspection of the LRA submitted in May 2004. CEG described its plan for updating the LRA to address the staff's requests for additional information (RAIs). In addressing the RAIs, the applicant identified 14 additional systems, that were not identified in the original LRA, to be within the scope of license renewal. CEG plans to submit an updated LRA by July 15, 2005.

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ENCLOSURE A

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 17, 2005

DOE Savannah River Site - Public Meeting Regarding Waste Cleanup

On June 8, 2005, Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection staff met with representatives of the Department of Energy (DOE) to discuss the NRC staff's Requests for Additional Information pertaining to the DOE's draft "Section 3116 determination" for the disposal of separated, solidified, low-activity salt waste at the Savannah River Site near Aiken, South Carolina. Section 3116 of the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 authorizes DOE, in consultation with NRC, to determine that certain waste from reprocessing is not high-level waste and that it may instead be disposed of as low-level waste if it meets the provisions set forth in Section 3116. Representatives of the State of South Carolina and the Defense Nuclear Facility Safety Board also attended the meeting.

Quarterly Meeting of Interagency Steering Committee on Radiation Standards (ISCORS)

On June 14, 2005, the subject meeting was held at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) headquarters offices in Washington, DC. Updates on the progress of several activities were presented including: (1) development of the "Multi-Agency Radiation Survey and Assessment of Materials and Equipment" (MARSAME) guidance; (2) protective action guide (PAG) development for radiological dispersion devices and improvised nuclear devices; and (3) EPA recovery phase PAG development. In addition, guidance planning was discussed for personal security screening systems, including back-scatter and transmission uses, public and worker exposures, and training. Recommendations were discussed regarding an update to the existing Federal guidance on medical x-ray systems to address increased exposures from new digital imaging, and potentially addressing trends toward increased exposures via (1) combined use of medical radiation modalities, and (2) non-medical exposures from radiation scans of asymptomatic patients (including children) for general health evaluations and legal evidence of abuse. The next meeting will be a public meeting, to be hosted at the NRC headquarters offices in Rockville, Maryland, on September 1, 2005.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 17, 2005

Publication of NUREG/CR-6876, "Risk-Informed Assessment of Degraded Buried Piping Systems in Nuclear Power Plants"

On June 6, 2005, staff published the subject NUREG/CR which documents the research conducted to assess the effect of age-related degradation on buried piping systems in nuclear power plants, including the most common aging effects observed in buried piping -- general wall thinning and localized loss of material/pitting. The scope of this research project included the development of a methodology to assess the failure probability of buried piping as a result of various input loads, a time-dependent methodology to assess the effect of degraded buried piping on plant risk, and the degradation acceptance criteria for buried piping. The methodologies presented in this report provide tools to help the NRC staff make a quick, independent assessment to determine whether the identified degradation has the potential for an immediate, significant effect on plant risk.

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ENCLOSURE C

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 17, 2005

Revision of Fee Schedules; Fee Recovery for FY 2005; Correction (AH61 - Parts 170 and 171)

On June 10, 2005, NRC issued a correction (70 FR 33819), addressing minor typographical and printing errors, to a previously published final rule (70 FR 30526; dated May 26, 2005) that amends the licensing, inspection, and annual fees charged to the Commission's applicants and licensees. The final rule becomes effective July 25, 2005.

Public Records (AH12 - Part 9)

On June 14, 2005, a final rule that amends the regulations concerning availability of agency records under the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act was published in the Federal Register (70 FR 34303). The final rule establishes procedures under which the NRC provides prediscovery information to submitters of confidential business or commercial information. The final rule becomes effective July 14, 2005.

Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-20-26)

On June 15, 2005, a notice requesting public comment on a petition for rulemaking was published in the Federal Register (PRM-20-26;70 FR 34699). The petitioner requests that NRC amend its regulations pertaining to exposure and environmental limits of heavy metal radionuclides. The comment period for this action closes August 29, 2005.

Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-54-2)

On June 15, 2005, a notice requesting public comment on a petition for rulemaking was published in the Federal Register (PRM-54-2;70 FR 34700). The petitioner, an elected official representing Westchester County, New York, requests that NRC amend its regulations for license renewal. The comment period for this action closes August 29, 2005.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending June 17, 2005

Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Requests Received During the Period of June 10 through June 16, 2005:

Industrial irradiator accident, Maryland, 1991, 1 injury	FOIA/PA-2005-0263
Site decommissioning, Route 46, Borough of Teterboro, Bergen, NJ, Block 202, Lots 1 thru 4, owned by Honeywell & Quest Diagnostics, all records	FOIA/PA-2005-0264
OI Report 1-2003-045, report only	FOIA/PA-2005-0265
MLTS information on 502 W. Office Center Drive, Ft. Washington, Montgomery Co., PA 19034	FOIA/PA-2005-0266
Collective bargaining agreement between NRC & NTEU, number of employees in bargaining unit with names, grades, etc, organization chart, employee handbook, administrative grievances, MSPB appeals, & EEO complaints in past 18 months	FOIA/PA-2005-0267
OI Reports 3-2004-019 & 3-2004-005	FOIA/PA-2005-0268
Quest Diagnostics of Missouri LLC, 2320 Schuetz Rd., St. Louis, MO 63146, license no. 24-25941-01, status of site re: unrestricted use	FOIA/PA-2005-0269
Engelhard Industries, Plainville, MA, documents pertaining to cleanup, Docket No. 070-00139	FOIA/PA-2005-0270
SECY 78-536 re: proposed rule to remove 10 CFR 20.304, published 12-4-78	FOIA/PA-2005-0271

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 17, 2005

Arrivals		
Michael C. Alderman	Student Management Analyst (Summer)	OCFO
Matthew A. Bartlett	Health Physicist (NSPDP)	NMSS
Terry L. Johnson	Consultant	NMSS
Paul Kollath-Romano	Student Engineer (Summer)	NRR
Leah Spradley	Student Engineer (Summer)	ACRS
Departure		
Douglas Dodge	Security Specialist	NSIR

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ENCLOSURE I

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 17, 2005

The Office of Public Affairs (OPA) received significant media inquiries on the following:

The article in this week's TIME magazine on nuclear plant security.

The feasibility study for Westchester County's closure of Indian Point.

Hope Creek's return to service early this week and subsequent shutdown because of a steam leak.

Other Public Affairs Items:

OPA provided support at the annual assessment meeting held June 13 for the Dresden nuclear plant.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
05-092	NRC Issues Final Environmental, Safety Evaluation Reports for Proposed Enrichment Plant in New Mexico (6/15)
05-093	NRC Issues Safety Evaluation Report for North Anna Early Site Permit Application (6/17)
Regions:	
I-05-034	NRC, N.J. Company to Discuss Apparent Violations Involving Gauge (6/16)
III-05-031	NRC to Meet June 22 with Westinghouse Electric Co. to Discuss Apparent Violations at Hematite, Mo., Facility (6/16)
IV-05-026	NRC Names New Senior Resident Inspector at Diablo Canyon Nuclear Plant (6/17)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 17, 2005

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Document		
1. SECY-05-0097	06/01/05	Options for Permitting Visitors of Hospitalized Patients to Receive Doses in Excess of Currently Permitted Levels
Information Papers		
1. SECY-05-0098	06/02/05	Status Report on Power Uprates
2. SECY-05-0103	06/10/05	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending May 27, 2005
3. SECY-05-0105	06/14/05	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending June 3, 2005

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Senator Patty Murray and Congressman Norm Dicks, dated June 10, 2005, responds to request for additional information on the disposal of low-activity radioactive waste and the conditions under which this waste may be disposed of at a facility not licensed by NRC.
2. Letter to Congressman Eliot L. Engel, dated June 10, 2005, responds to letter regarding the recent testing of the Hemyc fire barrier system.
3. Letter to Congress, dated June 10, 2005, provides the April 2005 monthly report on the status of NRC's licensing and other regulatory activities.
4. Letter to Congressman Fred Upton, dated June 8, 2005, responds to letter expressing strong support for the application from Nuclear Management Company, LLC, to extend the operating license for the Palisades Nuclear Plant.
5. Letter to Mr. Dan G. Blair, OPM, dated June 7, 2005, advises of the appointment of James McDermott to serve as Acting Chief Human Capital Officer at the NRC.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, Subcommittee Meeting on Planning and Procedures, notice of meeting (7/5/05).
2. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, notice of meeting (7/6-8/05).

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ENCLOSURE O

Region I (RI)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 17, 2005

Seabrook - Florida Power and Light (FPL) Management Changes

On June 17, 2005, FPL announced several management changes. Mr. Mark Warner, current FPL Seabrook Site Vice-President, has accepted the position of Vice President of Nuclear Operations Support at the FPL Corporate Headquarters, reporting to Mr. Art Stall, Senior Vice-President Nuclear Division. Mr. Gene St. Pierre, current Plant Manager, is promoted to Seabrook Site Vice-President. Mr. Mike Kiley, current Operations Manager, is promoted to Plant General Manager, reporting to Mr. St. Pierre.

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ENCLOSURE P

Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 17, 2005

San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station - Site Visit by Regional Administrator

On June 14, 2005, the Regional Administrator visited the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station to tour the site with the resident inspectors, discuss site security enhancements, and meet with licensee senior management to discuss items of interest.

Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station - Site Visit by NRC's Executive Director for Operations

On June 15, 2005, the Executive Director for Operations and the Regional Administrator visited the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station to tour the site with the resident inspectors, discuss site security enhancements, and meet with licensee senior management to discuss items of interest.

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending June 17, 2005

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 24

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Madden	06/22/05 2247 RHOB	2:00	TBA	Hearing on "The Evolution of Federal Financial Management - A Review of the Need to Consolidate, Simplify, and Streamline"	Reps Platts/Towns Government Management, Finance, and Accountability Government Reform
Shane	06/23/05 SD-430	10:00	TBA	Family and Medical Leave Act (PL 103-3)	Senators Enzi/Kennedy Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
Combs	TBA SD-366	TBA	DOE, NRC	Status of Yucca Mountain	Senators Domenici/Bingaman Energy and Natural Resources
Combs	April 13 2247 RHOB Postponed	10:00	TBA	Yucca Mountain Project: Digging for the Truth	Reps Porter/Davis Federal Workforce and Agency Organization Government Reform

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ENCLOSURE R