INFORMATION REPORT

February 17, 2006 SECY-06-0040

For: The Commissioners

From: William M. Dean, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO /RA/

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 10, 2006

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*No input this week.

/RA/

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Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
L. Rakovan, OEDO

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Contact:
L. Rakovan, OEDO

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OEDO	AO/OEDO
LRakovan:paa	WMDean
02/16/06	02/17/06

WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 10, 2006

The Weekly Information Report is compiled by the Office of the EDO and includes highlights of Headquarters and Regional Office activities.
Contact: L. Rakovan, OEDO by E-mail: LJR2@nrc.gov.

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*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 10, 2006

Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Coating Aging Task Group & American Society of Testing and Standards (ASTM) Coating Annual Meeting

The staff attended the subject meetings held in Tampa, Florida during the week of January 30, 2006. The intent of the EPRI Task Group meeting was to discuss results from EPRI's industry survey on containment coating degradation and identify future actions necessary to understand and address the potential degradation of containment coatings. The ASTM Annual Coating Standards meeting followed the EPRI Meeting and included a breakout session intended to address coating assessment. The staff reinforced its position, at both meetings, that coating condition monitoring needs to demonstrate and ensure that the original qualification requirements continue to be met.

Meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Board of Nuclear Codes and Standards (BNCS)

On February 1-2, 2006, the NRR staff member on the BNCS participated in the periodic meetings. The BNCS meets to discuss broad issues related to strategic planning for and the development and use of ASME nuclear codes. The NRC representative provided information relative to ongoing regulatory endorsement actions, NRC perspectives on risk-informed standards, and other regulatory activities of interest to BNCS, such as primary water stress corrosion cracking and the proposed revision to 10 CFR 50.46.

American Nuclear Society (ANS) ANS 3.2 Working Group

On February 1, 2006, the NRR staff participated in an ANS 3.2 working group meeting in Clearwater, Florida. ANS 3.2, "Administrative Controls and Quality Assurance for the Operational Phase of Nuclear Power Plants," was approved by the ANS Nuclear Facilities Standards Committee (NFSC) in November 2005. The working committee is scheduled to meet with the NFSC in June 2006 to discuss additional public comments. The standard is expected to be issued in the fall of 2006.

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) subcommittee meeting presentation - Brunswick's license renewal application

On February 8, 2006, the NRC staff presented the results of staff's evaluation of Brunswick license renewal application to the ACRS subcommittee. Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc. submitted the renewal application for the Brunswick Steam Electric Plant on October 18, 2004. The staff has completed its safety review and determined that there are no open items or issues to be followed. The Regional Administrator's letter dated December 22, 2005, also determined that based on inspections conducted at Brunswick, the programs and activities related to license renewal have been or will be completed in substantial agreement with docketed commitments. The current schedule for the ACRS full committee meeting is May 2006, and issuance of the renewed license by June 25, 2006.

Staff Meets with NuStart Energy to discuss the Bellefonte Combined Operating License (COL)

On February 7, 2006, the NRC staff held a public meeting with NuStart to discuss the Bellefonte Combined Operating License (COL) pre-application activities. NuStart stated that it is planning to use some of the existing structures at the Bellefonte site, such as the cooling towers, intake structure, switchyard and tower. During the meeting, the NRC staff and NuStart discussed the concept of the design-centered approach, including one issue - one review - one position, and standardization of COL applications among other applicants referencing the AP1000 design. The COL application is scheduled to be submitted during the fourth quarter of 2007.

Duke Energy Corporation - Corporation Restructuring

By application dated August 5, 2005, as supplemented by letters dated September 16, November 28, and December 14, 2005, and February 6, 2006, Duke Energy Corporation requested approval of indirect license transfers that would be effected by the indirect transfer of control of Duke Energy's ownership and/or operating interests in Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3, McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2 and Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2.

This action is being sought as a result of a corporate merger involving the creation of a new holding company which will become the parent of the current licensee. The new holding company, to be named Duke Energy Corporation, will be created in connection with the merger of Duke Energy with Cinergy Corporation. Duke Energy, will convert its corporate form to a limited liability company (LLC) without interruption of its legal existence and be renamed Duke Power Company LLC. Duke Energy is the sole owner of the Oconee and McGuire units, a 25 percent owner of Catawba Unit 1, and a non-owner operator of Catawba Unit 2. The co-licensees of Catawba holding ownership shares of the Catawba units not held by Duke Energy will not be affected by the Duke Energy merger, and the proposed transfers will not affect their financial qualifications. Duke Energy presently operates the Catawba units for itself and other owners under operating agreements. Duke Energy's operating responsibilities under these operating agreements with the owners of Catawba will continue to be borne by the renamed Duke Power Company LLC entity.

By letter dated February 7, 2006, the NRC issued an order which approved the indirect license transfers. The order also approved conforming amendments to reflect the change in name of the licensee from Duke Energy Corporation to Duke Power Company LLC. The amendments will be issued and made effective at the time the corporate restructuring is complete. The licensee estimates completion of the corporate restructuring by April 2006.

Palisades - Plans to Remove Trisodium Phosphate from Containment

On February 2, 2006, Nuclear Management Company (NMC) met with members of the NRC staff to discuss removing trisodium phosphate (TSP) from the containment at Palisades during its spring 2006 refueling outage, or shortly thereafter. NMC plans to submit a license amendment request in March 2006 to remove the TSP from containment for one operating cycle. This will reduce the risk from the chemical effects of TSP on calcium silicate insulation in containment. TSP/calcium silicate testing at Argonne National Laboratory, as part of the resolution of Generic Safety Issue 191, "Assessment of Debris Accumulation on PWR Sump

Performance," has shown adverse effects on containment sumps during design-basis accidents.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 10, 2006

Meeting with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Regarding Incidental Waste Review

On February 1, 2006, staff from the Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection hosted a public meeting with DOE at NRC Headquarters. This meeting covered a wide range of technical issues related to the current incidental waste review for the Idaho National Laboratory Tank Farm Facility. NRC is reviewing this waste determination consistent with its responsibilities under the Ronald Reagan National Defense Authorization Act of FY 2005, Section 3116.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 10, 2006

Fission Product Burnup Credit Meeting with the Department of Energy (DOE), Electric Power Research Institute, and Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL)

On February 7, 2006, staff from RES and NMSS participated in the subject meeting in Washington, DC, to discuss the status of DOE's acquisition of French fission product burnup credit data, which will be used to validate the NRC's criticality safety code. ORNL has received experimental data needed to develop a technical basis for fission product burnup credit for loading spent nuclear fuel assemblies in high-capacity casks.

Publication of NUREG/CR-6889, "Seismic Analysis of Simplified Piping Systems for the NUPEC Ultimate Strength Piping Test Program"

RES has published the subject report, which documents the collaborative efforts between the NRC and the Nuclear Power Engineering Corporation of Japan (NUPEC) under the NRC-NUPEC agreement in the area of seismic engineering research. This is one of a series of large-scale seismic testing programs of nuclear power plant structures, systems and components conducted by NUPEC which has provided enhanced understanding of seismic safety margins in current piping design codes. The research conducted under this collaborative agreement has allowed the NRC to obtain valuable seismic data from large-scale test programs that are not available anywhere else.

Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 10, 2006

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-I-06-001, Unison Industries, Inc. - AGREEMENT STATE REPORT.

2. PNO-I-06-001A, Unison Industries, Inc. - AGREEMENT STATE REPORT (UPDATE).

3. PNO-III-05-016C, Braidwood 1 and 1, Exelon Generation Co. - POTENTIAL OFF-SITE MIGRATION OF TRITIUM CONTAMINATION (3RD UPDATE).

4. PNO-III-06-003, Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Nuclear Management Company - TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION REQUIRED SHUTDOWN OF PRAIRIE ISLAND UNIT 2 FOR GREATER THAN 72 HOURS.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 10, 2006

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act Requests Received During the Period of February 3, 2006 through February 9, 2006:

SES & SLS merit awards, 2005, 2004 & 2003	FOIA/PA-2006-0097
Personnel Access Data Systems (PAD) - Referral by FBI	FOIA/PA-2006-0098
Allegation NRR-1997-A-0094, include all correspondence between NRC & named individual	FOIA/PA-2006-0099
Radiation Safety Officer for Rutgers University license	FOIA/PA-2006-0100
International Business Machines Corp., 180 Kost Rd., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055, license 37-23773-01, license history, inspections, contamination at site	FOIA/PA-2006-0101
MLTS database, active & retired facilities	FOIA/PA-2006-0102
NRC Exhibit 300s, business case for major IT investments listed in FY07 “Report of Information Technology (IT) Spending for the Federal Government for FY2005, 2006 & 2007"	FOIA/PA-2006-0103
SECY-05-0067	FOIA/PA-2006-0104
Security file on named individual	FOIA/PA-2006-0105
Mailing list - Referral by GSA	FOIA/PA-2006-0106

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 10, 2006

Arrival		
HILLEY, ASHLEY	SECRETARY (OA)	NRR
SUN, ROBERT	GENERAL ENGINEER (NSPDP)	NRR

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 10, 2006

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

Braidwood potential tritium contamination.

Early Site Permits and Combined Site Licenses (Part 52).

Oyster Creek shut-down and restart.

NRC FY 2007 Budget Request.

Release of NAS Spent Fuel Transport Study.

Potential submittal of COL in South Carolina.

Other Public Affairs Items:

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
06-016	NRC FY 2007 Budget Reflects Anticipated New Nuclear Power Plant License Applications (2/6/06)
06-017	NRC Invites Applicants for Director of Nuclear Regulatory Research (2/7/06)
06-018	NRC's Public Document Room Marks 50 Years of Answering Public's Queries on Nuclear Energy (2/7/06)
06-019	NRC Names Otto L. Maynard to Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (2/8/06)
06-020	NRC Welcomes National Academies Study Conclusion that Transport of Spent Nuclear Fuel is Safe (2/9/06)
06-021	NRC Proposes to Amend Licensing, Inspection and Annual Fees Rule (2/10/06)
06-022	NRC Requests Additional Information on Application for North Anna Permit (2/10/06)
06-023	Media Advisory: Attention: Assignment Desk, Editors, Reporters (2/10/06)
Regions:	
I-06-005	New NRC Resident Inspector Assigned to Salem Nuclear Plant (2/10/06)

I-06-006	New NRC Resident Inspector Assigned to Hope Creek Nuclear Plant (2/10/06)
I-06-007	NRC Cites NASA for Violations of NRC Requirements (2/10/06)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 10, 2006

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. COMSECY-05-0064	12/20/05	Fiscal Year 2006 and 2007 Action Plan for the ACNW
SRM on COMSECY-05-0064	02/07/06	(same)
Voting Record on COMSECY-05-0064	02/07/06	(same)
2. SRM on SECY-06-0010	02/08/06	Withdraw Proposed Rulemaking - Fire Protection Program Post-Fire Operator Manual Actions (RIN 3150-AH54)
Voting Record on SECY-06-0010	02/08/06	(same)
3. COMEXM-06-0003	01/30/06	Regulation of Reprocessing Facilities
Information Papers		
1. SECY-06-0023	02/02/96	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending January 27, 2006
2. SECY-06-0016	02/24/06	Agencywide Documents Access and Management System: Semi-Annual Progress Report for July-December 2005
Memoranda		
1. M06011B	02/09/06	SRM - Meeting with Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW)

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Tim Pawlenty, Governor of Minnesota, dated February 3, 2006, responds to request for an Agreement between the NRC and the State of Minnesota.

2. Letter to Congressman Senator Voinovich, dated February 2, 2006, concerns meeting to discuss the NRC's human capital needs.

3. Letter to Timothy Kaine, Governor of Virginia, dated January 31, 2006, response to former Governor Warner's request that NRC and the Commonwealth of Virginia establish an Agreement.

Federal Register Notices Issued

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) Subcommittee Meeting on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena, notice of meeting (2/14-16/06).

Region II (RII)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 10, 2006

Oconee Regulatory Conference

On February 6, 2006, staff conducted a Regulatory Conference with representatives from Duke Energy Corporation to discuss the risk significance of an inspection finding at Oconee regarding tornado protection of a control room wall.

Surry Emergency Preparedness Exercise

On February 7, 2006, Region II participated in the Surry Emergency Preparedness Exercise in Surry, Virginia. The Region II participation included a Region II Base Team and Site Team.

Commissioner Merrifield Visits McGuire Nuclear Power Plant

On February 10, 2006, Commissioner Merrifield and staff visited the McGuire Nuclear Power Plant for a site tour.

Region III (RIII)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 10, 2006

Meeting on Tritium Contamination at Godley

On February 8, 2006, Region III staff attended a meeting at Godley, Illinois, between members of the public, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) and the NRC to discuss the elevated tritium levels in groundwater on and near the Braidwood site. The purpose of the meeting was to answer the public's questions about the tritium contamination from the Braidwood plant and how it affects the safety of drinking water in the area.

Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 10, 2006

New Site Director Position at Fort Calhoun Station

Effective February 8, 2006, Mr. Jeff Reinhart will assume the position of Fort Calhoun Station Site Director, a new position. Mr. Reinhart will be responsible for all site activities needed to support operation of the facility and will report directly to the Fort Calhoun Station Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer.

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 10, 2006

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 5					
OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Decker	02/09/06 SD-366	10:00	DOE Secretary Bodman	Fiscal Year 2007 Budget: DOE	Senator Domenici/Bingaman Energy and Natural Resources
Decker	02/09/06 SD-366 **Postponed**	2:30	Energy Information Administration	Energy Outlook and Trends	Senator Domenici/Bingaman Energy and Natural Resources
Combs	March 8 **Tentative** SD-406	TBA	DOE, EPA, NRC, NEI, NWTB, NAS, State of NV	Status of Yucca Mountain license application and radiation standards	Senator Inhofe/Jeffords Environment and Public Works
Shane	March 9 SD-406	TBA	NRC	NRC Oversight	Senator Voinovich/Carper Clean Air, Climate Change, and Nuclear Safety Environment and Public Works
Combs	March 14 **Tentative**	TBA	DOE	Status of Yucca Mountain license application	Senator Domenici/Bingaman Energy and Natural Resources