INFORMATION REPORT

November 22, 2006 SECY-06-0229

For: The Commissioners

From: Michael R. Johnson, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 3, 2006

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Executive Director for Operations	Q*
Congressional Affairs	R*
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards/ Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste	S*

*No input this week.

/RA/

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Assistant for Operations, OEDO

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L. Rakovan, OEDO

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LRakovan:paa	MRJohnson
11/22/06	11/22/06

WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 3, 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 November 3, 2006

Meeting with Industry on Inspection of Dissimilar Metal Butt Welds

On October 25, 2006, the staff met with representatives of the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), the Materials Reliability Program (MRP), and Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) to discuss Materials Reliability Program -139, "Primary System Piping Butt Weld Inspection and Flaw Evaluation Guideline." This document contains the industry guidelines for volumetric and visual inspection of dissimilar metal butt welds in pressurized water reactor primary system piping. Industry representatives presented their proposed resolutions of NRC staff comments on MRP-139, including a proposal to inspect small bore piping butt welds at pressurizer and hot leg temperatures and in emergency core cooling system piping. The MRP plans to issue a revision to MRP-139 early in 2007.

Meeting with Southern Nuclear Operating Company

October 31, 2006, the staff conducted a public meeting with the Southern Nuclear Operating Company, concerning a technical specifications change for the Containment Personnel Hatch at their Farley nuclear facility. The licensee is considering submitting an amendment changing the requirement for one door in each personnel air lock to be "closed" to "is capable of being closed" during refueling operations. The meeting discussed the regulatory basis and a related previously approved Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) 68, the licensee's analytical approach in determining the Control Room personnel dose, and the amendment submittal schedule which is expected to be in the early part of next year.

Meeting with Nuclear Energy Institute

On November 1, 2006, the staff conducted a public meeting with the NEI, industry representatives, and members of the public to review and discuss preliminary revisions being considered by the staff to the Public Radiation Safety Significance Determination Process, which is part of the Reactor Oversight Process used to assess the significance of findings related to radiological releases from nuclear power plants. The staff is evaluating the Public Radiation Safety Significance Determination process as part of the agency response to recent ground water contamination events at power plants to determine if improvements should be made to the process to enhance the ability to evaluate the significance of these events. Comments received from the public and industry during this meeting will be considered by the staff as part of the procedure revision process.

Staff Issues Renewed Facility Operating Licenses for Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2

On October 31, 2006, the staff issued Renewed Facility Operating Licenses for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2 (NMPNS) for an additional 20 year term. The issuance of NMPNS renewed licenses is based on the staff review and audit of the applicant's license renewal application. The applications were submitted to the NRC by letter dated May 26, 2004, as supplemented by letters submitted through April 21, 2006. NMPNS is located approximately

five miles north-northeast of the City of Oswego, New York. The renewed license for NMPNS Unit 1 will expire at midnight August 22, 2029, and the renewed license for NMPNS Unit 2 will expire at midnight October 31, 2046. A *Federal Register* Notice will be published and a press release will be issued to inform the public of this event.

NEI brief to the Commission on Generic Safety Issue (GSI)-191

On October 25, 2006, the staff and the NEI briefed the Commission on the status of GSI-191, Pressurized Water Reactor Sump Clogging. The NEI representatives discussed actions that the industry has taken to address this GSI and presented a number of photographs of typical new strainer installations. The staff discussed the background of the GSI and the current status of resolution, noted remaining issues and challenges, and highlighted the chemical effects issue as being the most challenging remaining aspect of GSI-191 review. The staff continues to expect all licensees to provide information by the end of 2007 to demonstrate that they will have fully addressed this GSI.

Office of New Reactors (NRO)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 3, 2006

NRC Public Meeting with AREVA on U.S. Evolutionary Power Reactor (US EPR)

On October 24 and 25, 2006, NRC staff hosted two public meetings with AREVA representatives regarding the US EPR standard design. The meeting topics included AREVA's intended approach for the probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) portion of the US EPR standard design, the unique design features of the US EPR, and the containment design basis. The unique design features discussed included a description of the four redundant safety trains for emergency core cooling, the incore neutron measuring system, the heavy neutron reflector, control rod drive mechanism housing, pressurizer pressure control, main steam relief train, and the medium head safety injection.

Public Meeting on 10 CFR Part 52 Supplemental Proposed Rule on Limited Work Authorizations

On November 1, 2006, NRC staff held a public meeting to answer stakeholder questions about the supplemental proposed rule for 10 CFR Part 52, "Early Site Permits; Standard Design Certifications; and Combined Licenses for Nuclear Power Plants." The supplement addresses proposed changes related to issuance of limited work authorizations (LWAs) for construction related to new nuclear power plants. On October 17, 2006, the supplemental proposed rule was published for comment in the *Federal Register* (71 FR 61330). During the meeting, the staff answered stakeholder questions about the supplemental proposed rule. Topics of discussion included the supplemental proposed rule's revised definition of "construction," and the proposed allowance for a phased application process when an applicant is seeking an LWA in advance of a construction permit or combined license. The public comment period for the supplemental proposed rule closes on November 16, 2006.

Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 3, 2006

Consolidated Decommissioning Guidance (NUREG-1757) Update

The staff published a revised NUREG-1757, "Consolidated Decommissioning Guidance," which provides guidance for planning and implementing license termination under the License Termination Rule (10 CFR Part 20, Subpart E). The revisions to Volumes 1 and 2 of this NUREG series address issues related to implementation of the License Termination Rule. The first volume, "Consolidated Decommissioning Guidance: Decommissioning Process for Materials Licensees" (NUREG-1757, Vol. 1, Rev. 2), provides guidance for planning and implementing the termination of materials licenses. The second volume, "Consolidated Decommissioning Guidance: Characterization, Survey, and Determination of Radiological Criteria" (NUREG-1757, Vol. 2, Rev. 1), provides guidance for compliance with the radiological criteria for termination of licenses. The revised Volumes 1 and 2 address public comments received on NUREG-1757, Draft Supplement 1, which was published for public comment in September 2005. All three volumes of NUREG-1757 are available at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/staff/sr1757.

Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 3, 2006

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-IV-06-013, Entergy Operations, Inc., - ALERT AT ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT 2

2. PNO-IV-06-13A, Entergy Operations, Inc., - UPDATE - TERMINATION OF ALERT AT ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT 2

3. PNO-II-06-005, Brunswick Steam Electric Plant - UNUSUAL EVENT DECLARED DUE TO LOSS OF OFFSITE POWER TO UNIT 2 4kV EMERGENCY BUSES

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 3, 2006

Incorporation by Reference of American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Cases (AH80 - Part 50)

On November 2, 2006, the NRC published a proposed rule in the *Federal Register* (71 FR 62942) that would incorporate by reference the latest revision of regulatory guides that address NRC's review and approval of the ASME Code cases. The proposed rule would allow licensees to use the Code cases listed in these regulatory guides as alternatives to requirements in the ASME Boiler and Pressure Code pertaining to the construction and inservice inspection of nuclear power plant components. The comment period on this action closes January 10, 2007.

Protection of Safeguards Information (AH57 - Parts 2, 30, 40, 50, 52, 60, 63, 70, 71, 72, 73, 76, and 150)

On October 31, 2006, the NRC published a proposed rule in the *Federal Register* (71 FR 64004) that would amend its regulations to protect safeguards information from inadvertent release and unauthorized disclosure which might compromise the security of nuclear facilities and materials. The proposed amendments would affect certain licensees, information, and materials not currently specified in the regulations, but which are within the scope of Commission authority under the Atomic Energy Act. The comment period for this action closes January 2, 2007.

Massachusetts Attorney General; Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-51-10)

On November 1, 2006, the NRC published a document in the *Federal Register* (71 FR 64169) that announces the receipt of a petition for rulemaking submitted by Diane Curran on behalf of the Massachusetts Attorney General (PRM-51-10). The petitioner requests that the NRC revoke certain regulations in their entirety, and revoke other regulations to the extent that these regulations, in the petitioner's view, state, imply, or assume that the environmental impacts of storing spent nuclear fuel in high-density pools are not significant; issue a generic determination to clarify that the environmental impacts of high-density pool storage of spent fuel will be considered significant; and require that any NRC licensing decision concerning high-density pool storage of spent nuclear fuel be accompanied by an environmental impact statement that addresses the environmental impacts of this storage and alternatives for avoiding or mitigating any environmental impacts. The comment period on this action closes January 16, 2007.

E. Russell Ritenour, PhD.; Receipt fo Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-35-20)

On November 1, 2006, the NRC published a document in the *Federal Register* (71 FR 64168) that announces the receipt of a petition for rulemaking submitted by E. Russell Ritenour on behalf of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (PRM-35-20). The petitioner requests that the NRC amend its regulations for the medical use of byproduct material to revise what it calls the "grandfather" provision to recognize individual diplomats of certifying boards that were named in the regulations before October 25, 2005. The comment period on this action closes January 16, 2007.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 3, 2006

Approval for Infrastructure Services and Support Contract (ISSC) Modifications

The Infrastructure and Computer Operations Division (ICOD) received approval to seek contract modifications to support an acquisition for the Infrastructure Services and Support contract. The modifications will include the additional support necessary for the transition of the Microsoft Office Suite to the new agency standard, the support and maintenance for expanded use of Blackberry devices, security enhancements to the agency's IT infrastructure, and additional equipment required to support agency growth due to new reactor licensing.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of October 27 through November 2, 2006:

Draft decommissioning plan for Hematite Facility, Revision 3, submitted by Westinghouse Electric Co. LLC to NRC, June 2006 & copies of all documents related to decommissioning funding assurance fro Hematite, MO facility	FOIA/PA-2007-0023
SK1 officer information including name, address, phone number, agency name & e-mail address	FOIA/PA-2007-0024
Distinguished Service Awards recipients, summary of ratings for 2006, 2005, & 2004, number of O's, E's, & FS's	FOIA/PA-2007-0025
Allegation RIII-2004-A-0113, entire OI file	FOIA/PA-2007-0026
Safety & security of nuclear materials in Russia, documents dated between 1-1-92 & 1-1-95 - Referral by the Department of State	FOIA/PA-2007-0027
Invention of "Virtual Tour," involvement; association to ISP Enter.net; people of Allentown, PA	FOIA/PA-2007-0028

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 3, 2006

Arrivals		
BASAVARAJU, CHAKRAPANI	MECHANICAL ENGINEER	NRR
BURNETT, WILLIAM	ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE	ASLBP
CLARK, MICHAEL	ATTORNEY	OGC
EINBERG, CHRISTIAN	SR. PROJECT MANAGER	FSME
SCHAFFER, STEVEN	HEALTH PHYSICIST	NRR
WALSH, J.	REACTOR TECHNOLOGY INSTRUCTOR	HR
Retirement		
BARBER, BETSY	INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST	OI
ESSIG, THOMAS	CHIEF, MATERIALS SFTY & INSP BR	NMSS
Departure		
NOLAN, MARK	BRANCH CHIEF	NRR
PORTER, RUTH	STUDENT LAW CLERK	OGC

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 3, 2006

The OPA received significant media inquiries on the following:

The Nine Mile Point license renewal.

New reactor licensing, and the NRC's new Atlanta office to oversee construction of new reactors.

Other Public Affairs Items:

Chairman Klein was interviewed by the Atlanta Journal & Constitution and held a press conference at Browns Ferry.

Commissioner Merrifield was interviewed by Bloomberg News and Exchange Monitor Publications.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
06-136	NRC Revises and Issues for Comment Proposed Rule on Safeguards Information (10/31)
06-137	NRC Renews Operating Licenses for Nine Mile Point Units 1 and 2 for an Additional 20 Years (10/31)
06-138	NRC Announces Opportunity to Request a Hearing on License Renewal Application for Susquehanna Nuclear Power Plant (10/31)
06-139	NRC Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste to Meet in Rockville, Maryland, Nov. 13-16 (11/1)
06-140	NRC to Hold Two Public Meetings on Proposed Changes to Nuclear Power Plant Security Requirements (11/3)
Regions:	
I-06-057	NRC to Meet with New Jersey Hospital Officials to Discuss Apparent Violation (11/1)
IV-06-023	NRC Monitors Alert at Arkansas Nuclear One (10/30)
IV-06-024	NRC to Hold Public Meeting to Discuss Rancho Seco License Termination Plan (10/31)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 3, 2006

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. COMSECY-06-0050	10/05/06	Response to OIG Audit of NRC's Process for Releasing Commission Decision Documents (OIG-06-A-22)
SRM on 06-0050	10/30/06	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 06-0050	10/30/06	(same)
2. Cmr. Jaczko's Vote on SECY-05-0233	02/09/06	Plan for Developing State-of-the-Art Reactor Consequence Analyses
3. SECY-06-0220	10/31/06	Final Rule to Update 10 CFR Part 52, "Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants" (RIN AG24)
4. COMSECY-06-0044	09/07/06	Streamlining Chairman Review Process and Enhancing Contract Oversight
SRM on 06-0044	11/02/06	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 06-0044	11/02/06	(same)
5. SECY-06-0212	10/17/06	Preparation of Annual Reports on Radioactive Materials Released in Gaseous and Liquid Effluents and in Solid Wastes Shipped for Disposal by Commercial Nuclear Power Plants
Information Papers		
1. SECY-06-0211	10/17/06	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending October 6, 2006
2. SECY-06-0214	10/25/06	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending October 13, 2006
3. SECY-06-0215	10/26/06	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending October 20, 2006

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, Subcommittee Meeting on Future Plant Designs, notice of meeting (11/30/06).

2. Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW), Meeting on Planning and Procedures, notice of meeting (11/13/06).

3. ACNW, notice of 174th meeting (11/13-16/06).

4. Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB), Notice of Opportunity to Make Oral or Written Limited Appearance Statements, USEC, Inc. (American Centrifuge Plant).

5. ASLB, Revised Notice of Hearing, System Energy Resources, Inc. (Early Site Permit for Grand Gulf Site).

6. 10 CFR Parts 20 and 32, RIN: 3150-AH48, National Source Tracking of Sealed Sources, Final rule.

7. Notice of Appointment of Adjudicatory Employees, HYDRO Resources, Inc.

Region II (RII)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 3, 2006

Chairman Visits Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant

On October 30-31, 2006, Chairman Klein, accompanied by the EDO and Region II Administrator, visited the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant in Huntsville, AL, for a site tour and met with licensee management.

2006 Institute of Nuclear Power Operations CEO Conference

On November 1-2, 2006, Chairman Klein, accompanied by the EDO and Region II Administrator, attended the 2006 Institute of Nuclear Power Operations CEO Conference in Atlanta, GA.