

# INFORMATION REPORT

February 8, 2007

SECY-07-0029

For: The Commissioners  
From: Michael R. Johnson, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO  
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING  
FEBRUARY 2, 2007

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\*No input this week.

**/RA/**

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Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:  
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02/08/07	02/12/07

## WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 2, 2007

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

Contact: R. Taylor, OEDO by E-mail: [rxt2@nrc.gov](mailto:rxt2@nrc.gov).

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\*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending February 2, 2007

Staff Holds Public Meetings to Solicit Comments on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the License Renewal of Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

On January 24, 2007, the staff conducted two meetings in Plymouth, MA, to solicit comments from the public on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS), regarding the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station License Renewal Review. The Draft Supplement 29, published on December 8, 2006, is a plant-specific supplement to the "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants" (NUREG-1437). Approximately 150 people attended the meetings, including members of the public and representatives of the NRC staff, EarthTech, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc., local citizen organizations, and local news media. Public comments and questions were mainly focused on severe accident mitigation alternatives, radiological impacts on human health, and the plant's cooling system on aquatic resources.

As part of the public outreach effort, the staff held an open house for one hour prior to the start of each meeting. The open house provided members of the public with an opportunity to talk informally with NRC staff and view informational displays and brochures.

The public comment period ends on February 28, 2007. At the conclusion of the comment period, the staff will evaluate the comments received and revise the DSEIS if necessary. The final supplemental environmental impact statement is scheduled to be published in July 2007.

LaSalle County Station - Public Meeting with Exelon Generating Company

On January 26, 2007, a public pre-application meeting was held with Exelon Generating Company (EGC or the licensee) to discuss EGC's planned re-submittals of the rod control management system (RCMS) and the ultimate heat sink (UHS) temperature amendments related to the LaSalle County Station, Units 1 and 2 (LaSalle). This was the second meeting with the EGC staff to discuss the licensee's planned re-submittal regarding RCMS after it was withdrawn by LaSalle approximately 6 months ago. The planned re-submittal follows a LaSalle amendment request on UHS temperature submitted by the licensee in April 2006 which was denied by the staff in November 2006. The focus of the meeting was to address the staff's bases of its denial. A follow-up meeting is planned to continue the technical discussion on UHS temperature with the licensee.

Millstone Nuclear Power Station Audit for Corrective Actions

During the week of January 22, 2007, the staff visited the Dominion Nuclear's Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit 2 (Millstone) site near New London, Connecticut. The purpose of the visit was to audit Dominion Nuclear's sump performance corrective actions for Generic Letter 2004-02, "Potential Impact of Debris Blockage on Emergency Recirculation During Design Basis Accidents at Pressurized Water Reactors." The audit team conducted numerous meetings with Millstone's technical representatives, and will continue to review information provided by the

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ENCLOSURE A

licensee in house. The staff is preparing a report to document the areas reviewed and open items identified. The staff will continue to perform audits at selective plants to monitor corrective actions in order to resolve Generic Safety Issue 191, "Assessment of Debris Accumulation on PWR Sump Pump Performance."

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Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending February 2, 2007

Participation in Nuclear Energy Agency's (NEA) Symposium on Safety Cases

On January 23-25, 2007, the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses (CNWRA) participated in the NEA Symposium, "Safety Cases for the Deep Disposal of Radioactive Waste: Where Do We Stand?," in Paris, France. The symposium addressed: (i) practical experiences on preparing for, developing and documenting a safety case; (ii) experiences on the regulatory perspective of safety cases; (iii) progress on safety cases made in the last decade, the actual state of the art, and the observed trends; (iv) assessment of the relevance of international contributions in this field; and (v) NEA and other international organization's future working programs regarding safety cases. The staff presented a paper on developing independent performance assessment capability to support regulatory reviews, and presented a poster, on behalf of the NRC staff, on preclosure safety analysis for seismically initiated event sequences. NEA will prepare a proceedings document, containing all papers presented at the symposium, and a meeting summary, both made available through its website at <http://www.nea.fr>.

American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Meeting on Spent Fuel and High Level Waste

On January 29-31, 2007, staff participated in an ASTM Subcommittee meeting on Spent Fuel and High Level Waste, in Costa Mesa, CA. CNWRA staff, with NRC staff participating via teleconference, attended the meeting. NRC staff discussed the revision of ASTM C1174, which provides standards for long-term prediction of materials, and gave a presentation on hydride effects on cladding in the disposal of high-level waste. CNWRA staff participated in various guidance development activities, and presented a paper on cladding stress for hydride re-orientation and delayed hydride cracking.

Staff Meets with Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)

On January 30, 2007, the NRC staff publicly met with representatives from NEI and EPRI on NRC high-level waste program staff guidance. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and understand NEI and EPRI technical comments on NRC Interim Staff Guidance HLWRS-ISG-01, titled "Review Methodology for Seismically Initiated Event Sequences." The comments had been previously described in a December 2006 NEI and EPRI presentation to the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste. NRC staff will respond to the technical comments in a follow-up letter to NEI .

Meetings with Transnuclear (TN) and Omaha Public Power District (OPPD), Associated with Light Weight Transfer Cask

On January 25, 2007, staff met with TN and OPPD in separate meetings. TN indicated it would provide an amendment request, in March 2007, requesting that the light-weight transfer cask design be added to 10 CFR 72.214, via rulemaking, by March 2008, for OPPD's next dry cask storage campaign at the Fort Calhoun Station. In addition to allowing the use of the light-weight

transfer cask, TN indicated that the amendment request would propose simplifying the technical specifications for the Standardized NUHOMS® design. The staff indicated that, given the scope and complexity of the amendment request, TN's proposed schedule was problematic.

In a separate meeting, OPPD indicated it was exploring two options for the next dry cask storage campaign namely, to (a) use the light-weight transfer cask, or (b) upgrade the spent fuel pool building crane and support structure to accommodate a standard weight (100-ton) transfer cask. OPPD indicated that it must load canisters before the Fall 2009 refueling outage, to maintain full core off-load capability. OPPD stated its preferred option is use of the light-weight transfer cask, and that it would have additional information about the costs associated with upgrading the crane and the crane support structure, in early Fall 2007. OPPD indicated that it expected to make a decision in late 2007 on which option to pursue, with a target date for a dry cask storage campaign of October 2008.

#### NRC Staff Hosts Meeting of the Forum on Stakeholder Confidence Core Group

On January 29-30, 2007, the core group of the Nuclear Energy Agency/Forum on Stakeholder Confidence (FSC) met at NRC headquarters. High Level Waste Repository Safety staff served as host to this year's core group meeting. The core group includes members from France, Sweden, Japan, the United Kingdom and the U.S. The purpose of the meeting was to prepare the agenda for the FSC annual meeting that will take place in Paris, France, June 6-9, 2007, and make preliminary arrangements for the annual FSC country workshop in the fall.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending February 2, 2007

Public Meeting to Discuss Comments on Regulatory Guides (RGs) that Support New Reactor Licensing

On January 30, 2007, the staff conducted the subject meeting to give the staff and interested stakeholders an opportunity to discuss public comments on those RGs which some commenters requested either be significantly revised or withdrawn. The meeting provided a forum for the exchange of information and the discussion of comments received on those regulatory guides.

Information Exchange Meeting with the Institute for Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety (IRSN)

On January 25-26, 2007, staff from the offices of RES, Nuclear Reactor Regulation, and New Reactors participated in the subject meeting. The main topic areas for this meeting were reactivity-initiated accidents and loss-of-coolant accident (LOCA) acceptance criteria, LOCA break size redefinition and LOCA evaluation methods. The NRC and IRSN staff discussed potential areas of cooperation in these areas and are pursuing specific exchanges of data.

Implementing Agreement Between the NRC and the Consejo de Seguridad Nuclear (CSN) of the Kingdom of Spain in the Area of Nuclear Safety Research

The subject Implementing Agreement was signed by the NRC's Executive Director for Operations on January 31, 2007. This Implementing Agreement defines the terms and conditions by which the NRC and the CSN will continue cooperation in the area of nuclear safety research which includes: (1) probabilistic risk assessment, (2) human performance, (3) advanced instrumentation, (4) severe accident program, (5) high burnup fuel, (6) aging, (7) site characterization, (8) radionuclide transport in the environment and (9) radioactive waste management, storage and disposal. This Implementing Agreement will enter into force upon signature, with effect from September 21, 2006, and will remain in effect for 5 years. The next step is for the Implementing Agreement to be sent to Spain for counter-signature.



Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending February 2, 2007

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-I-06-013A - Princeton University, Office of Environmental Health and Safety, LEAKING STRONTIUM-90 PLATED SOURCE IDENTIFIED AT UNIVERSITY (UPDATE)
2. PNO-III-07-002 - Conam Inspection, POTENTIAL OVEREXPOSURE OF A RADIOGRAPHER

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Office of Administration (ADM)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending February 2, 2007

Criticality Control of Fuel Within Dry Storage Casks or Transportation Packages in a Spent Fuel Pool; Confirmation of Effective Date (AH95 - Part 50)

On January 26, 2007, the NRC published a document in the *Federal Register* (71 FR 66648) confirming the January 30, 2007, effective date for a direct final rule that amends its regulations that govern domestic licensing of production and utilization facilities. The direct final rule clarifies that the requirements governing criticality control for spent fuel pool storage racks do not apply to the fuel within a spent fuel transportation package or storage cask when a package or cask is in a spent fuel pool.

List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: Standardized NUHOMS® System Revision 9 (AI03 - Part 72)

On February 1, 2007, the NRC published a direct final rule in the *Federal Register* (72 FR 4615) that amends the entry for the Standardized NUHOMS® cask system in the list of approved spent fuel storage casks (Amendment 9) (AI03 - Part 72). This action approves additional fuel assemblies for storage in a specific dry shielded canister. The direct final rule becomes effective April 17, 2007.

On February 1, 2007, the NRC published the companion proposed rule to this direct final rule in the *Federal Register* (72 FR 24660). The comment period closes March 5, 2007.

Office of Information Services (OIS)  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending February 2, 2007

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of January 26 through February 1, 2007:

Exelon Generation Company, NRC acceptance of the Exelon Quality Assurance Program based on NQA-1-1994 (ML021070541)	FOIA/PA-2007-0095
Contract NRC1004398 for onsite office support services, awarded contract, related attachments & exhibits, task/delivery/purchase orders, & list of proposal submitters	FOIA/PA-2007-0096
Supposed private issues from our homes/home offices getting stolen i.e., virtual tour, movies, and TV shows	FOIA/PA-2007-0097
Office of Inspector General investigation cases, multiple case numbers, first 5 pages of closing memo or final report	FOIA/PA-2007-0098
Open or pending FOIA requests, NRC's ten oldest	FOIA/PA-2007-0099
SF-311, the classification management program data, all years	FOIA/PA-2007-0100
Contract NRC-27-01-001, Ivy Planning Group LLC, Section B pricing	FOIA/PA-2007-0101
Huntington Empire Soils, Inc., 398 Lincoln Boulevard, Middlesex, NJ 08846, license number 29-30191-01, all records	FOIA/PA-2007-0102
Contract NRC-27-01-001, Ivy Planning Group, award date, duration, contract type & program office/technical POCs	FOIA/PA-2007-0103
Contract NRC-10-04-398, including attachments and modifications	FOIA/PA-2007-0104
Senator Pete Domenici, all correspondence to and from NRC from January 1, 2003 to present	FOIA/PA-2007-0105
Senator Jeff Bingaman, all correspondence to and from NRC from January 1, 2000 to present	FOIA/PA-2007-0106

Office of Human Resources (HR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending February 2, 2007

<b>Arrivals</b>		
BARNES, TERRESSA	SECRETARY	NRR
CURRIE, BRUCE	CIVIL RIGHT SPECIALIST	SBCR
FIELDS, MELVIN	PROJECT MANAGER	NRR
GOLD, MARAGARET	SR. PROGRAM ANALYST	OIS
KELLY, GLENN	SR. RELIABILITY AND RISK ANALYST	NRO
LIEBERMAN, JAMES	CONSULTANT	OGC
LOHR, EDWARD	HEALTH PHYSICIST	FSME
MCKOY-MOORE, LARNIECE	MANAGEMENT ANALYST	OGC
MEEHAN, BARBARA,	SENIOR CONTRACT SPECIALIST	ADM
MILLER, FREDERICK	SR. BUDGET ANALYST	CFO
RAND, JENNIFER	SR. BUDGET ANALYST	CFO
SASTRE FUENTE, EDUARDO	GENERAL ENGINEER (NSPDP)	NRR
SMITH, EBONY	STUDENT CLERK	NRR
STRASMA, RICHARD	SENIOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER	RIII
TIEN, KIRK	REACTOR SYSTEMS ENGR (THERM-HYD)	RES
WELSH, ASHA	STUDENT CLERK	OPA
<b>Retirement</b>		
DANDOIS, DIANE	ACCOUNTANT	CFO
FIELDS, MEL	SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER	NRR
HARBAUGH, CYNTHIA	SR. SECURITY SPECIALIST (FACILITIES)	ADM
KELLY, GLENN	SENIOR RELIABILITY AND RISK ANALYST	NRR
LINVILLE, JAMES	SPECIAL ASSISTANT	OIP
PATTERSON, CHARLES	SENIOR RESIDENT INSPECTOR (PWR/TL)	RII
PAUL, RICHARD	DIRECTOR, OI FIELD OFFICE	OI

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STRASMA, RICHARD	SENIOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER	RIII
<b>Departures</b>		
BENVENUTO, PABLO	RESIDENT INSPECTOR (PWR)	R-IV
LANE, SUSAN	STRUCTURAL ENGINEER	NRR
NG, SAI WAH	GENERAL ENGINEER (NSPDP)	NRR

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending February 2, 2007

OPA received significant media inquiries on the following:

Security requirements for nuclear plants and the agency's new Design Basis Threat rule.

Oyster Creek license renewal.

NRC's high ranking in an OPM survey of the best places to work in the federal government.

Other Public Affairs Items:

OPA assisted at public meetings on the Vermont Yankee license renewal application, and the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards meeting on the Oyster Creek renewal.

Commissioner McGaffigan was interviewed by the Las Vegas Sun and National Public Radio. Commissioner Merrifield was interviewed by The Washington Post.

<b>Press Releases</b>	
<b>Headquarters:</b>	
07-011	NRC Solicits Comments on Proposed Enforcement Policy Revisions (1/29)
07-012	NRC Approves Final Rule Amending Security Requirements (1/29)
07-013	Statement from Chairman Dale Klein on Commission's Affirmation of the Final DBT Rule (1/29)
07-014	NRC Issues License to RMD Operations of Colorado for Extracting Uranium from Municipal Water Supplies (1/30)
07-015	NRC Scores Near Top of Government-Wide Human Capital Survey (1/30)
07-016	NRC Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste to Meet in Rockville, Maryland, Feb. 13-15 (1/31)
07-017	NRC to Meet with Public to Discuss Revisions, Additions to Physical Security Requirements for Nuclear Power Plants (1/31)
07-018	Note to Editors: NRC 2008 Budget Briefing (2/1)
07-019	NRC Proposes to Amend Licensing, Inspection and Annual Fees Rule (2/2)
<b>Regions:</b>	
I-07-005	NRC Proposes \$3,250 Civil Penalty for Mount Laurel, N.J., Firm over Theft of Nuclear Gauge from Pennsylvania Site (1/31)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending February 2, 2007

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
<b>Information Papers</b>		
- SECY-07-0016	01/24/07	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending January 12, 2007
<b>Memoranda</b>		
1. M070129	01/29/07	Affirmation Session: SECY-06-0219 - Final Rulemaking to Revise 10 CFR 73.1, Design Basis Threat (DBT) Requirements
2. M070201A	02/01/07	Staff Requirements-Affirmation Session: I. SECY-07-0010 - USEC, Inc. (American Centrifuge Plant); II. SECY-07-0020 - David Geisen, "Order (Denying Government's Request to Stay Proceeding)" (January 12, 2007)

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congress, dated January 24, 2007, provides the status of NRC's rulemaking efforts to implement Section 651(e) of the 2005 EPAct on "Treatment of Accelerator-Produced and Other Radioactive Material as Byproduct Material."
2. Letter to Gary Keppinger, GAO, dated January 22, 2007, responds to letter concerning provisions of the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, Subcommittee Meeting on Materials, Metallurgy, and Reactor Fuels, notice of meeting (2/21/07).
2. Proposed rule. 10 CFR Parts 40, 72, 74, and 150, RIN: 3150-AH85, Regulatory Improvements to the Nuclear Materials Management and Safeguards System.

Region II (RII)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending February 2, 2007

Turkey Point Public Meeting

On February 1, 2007, staff held a public meeting with representatives from Florida Power and Light Company regarding the Turkey Point Nuclear Plant. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the progress of cross-cutting issues with the licensee.

February 2, 2007

ENCLOSURE P



Region IV (RIV)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending February 2, 2007

Senior Management Change at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station

On January 31, 2007, Arizona Public Service announced that Mr. Bob Bement, former Organizational Effectiveness Team Manager at INPO, has been selected as Operations Vice President at Palo Verde effective February 1, 2007.

February 2, 2007

ENCLOSURE P

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending February 2, 2007

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 2					
OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	WITNESSES
Sahm	01/30/2007 406 Dirksen	9:00	Senate Environment and Public Works (Senators Boxer / Inhofe)	Senators' Perspectives on Global Climate Change	▶ N/A
Decker	01/30/2007 2123 Rayburn	10:00	House Energy and Commerce - Oversight and Investigations (Representatives Stupak / Whitfield)	Security at DOE Facilities, Especially Los Alamos National Laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Gregory Friedman, Inspector General, DOE</li> <li>▶ Glenn Podonsky, Chief Health Safety and Security Officer, DOE</li> <li>▶ Danielle Bryan, Executive Director, Project on Government Oversight</li> <li>▶ Clay Sell, Deputy Energy Secretary</li> <li>▶ Thomas D'Agostino, Acting NNSA Director</li> <li>▶ William Desmond, Associate Administrator and Chief for Defense Nuclear Security, NNSA</li> <li>▶ Linda Wilbanks, Chief Information Officer, NNSA</li> <li>▶ Thomas Pyke Jr, Chief Information Officer, DOE</li> <li>▶ Michael Anastasio, Director, Los Alamos National Laboratory</li> </ul>
Decker	02/07/2007 366 Dirksen	9:30	Senate Energy and Natural Resources (Senators Bingaman / Domenici)	Proposed FY2008 Budget for the Department of Energy	▶ Secretary Samuel Bodman, DOE