

INFORMATION REPORT

May 25, 2007

SECY-07-0085

For: The Commissioners
From: Vonna L. Ordaz, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
MAY 4, 2007

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*No input this week.

/RA/

Vonna L. Ordaz
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
U. Shoop, OEDO

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Contact:
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05/25/07	05/29/07

WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING MAY 4, 2007

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

Contact: U. Shoop, OEDO by E-mail: USS@nrc.gov.

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*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 4, 2007

Meeting with the Industry on Pressurizer Dissimilar Metal Welds Advanced Fracture Mechanics Analyses

On May 4, 2007, staff members from the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) and the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES), and an RES contractor (EMCC) met with Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), EPRI's contractor (Dominion Engineering), and members of EPRI's expert panel. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss weld residual stress distributions proposed for use in industry's advanced fracture mechanics analyses. These analyses are being performed to address the staff's concerns with the potential for extensive primary water stress corrosion cracking (PWSCC) in pressurizer dissimilar metal welds. Dominion Engineering and EMCC representatives presented the results of previous studies in the area of weld residual stress analysis. Discussions were held on nozzle weld configurations, welding repair histories, and welding residual stress analyses that should be performed for the surge line, safety and relief line, and the spray line nozzle welds. These analyses will be performed to characterize the weld residual stresses from potential construction and welding repair conditions. Additional discussions will be held during a public meeting scheduled for May 8, 2007.

License Renewal Application for Indian Point Energy Center, Units 2 and 3

On April 30, 2007, the staff received an application from Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc., requesting the renewal of the operating licenses for Indian Point Energy Center (IPEC), Unit 2 and Unit 3. IPEC Units 2 and 3 are 4-loop pressurized water reactors designed by Westinghouse Electric with current operating licenses that expire at midnight on September 28, 2013, and December 12, 2015, respectively. The license renewal application was submitted pursuant to 10 CFR Parts 51 and 54, and requests an additional 20 years beyond the current 40-year terms. The staff has commenced its acceptability review to determine whether the application has sufficient information for docketing. If found acceptable for docketing, the staff plans to hold a public information session and environmental scoping meeting near the site towards the end of July 2007.

Public Meeting on Status of Topical Report on Flow Measurement Accuracy

On May 1, 2007, a public meeting was held between the NRC staff and representatives from Westinghouse regarding a Draft Safety Evaluation which proposes to suspend approval of Topical Report CENPD-397-P, Rev 01-P, "Improved Flow Measurement Accuracy Using CROSSFLOW Ultrasonic Flow Measurement Technology." The status of this topical report may impact a number of licensees who intend to use this technology for either Measurement Uncertainty Recapture (MUR) power uprates, or 10 CFR 50.59 evaluations to support power recovery. Westinghouse provided its comments on the Draft Safety Evaluation and discussed path-forward options with the NRC. These options include submittal of another revision to the Topical Report, or plant-specific analyses associated with a License Amendment Request.

Nuclear Procurement Issues Committee (NUPIC) Audit at Southern Testing Services

From April 23 - 27, 2007, staff observed the performance of a NUPIC audit conducted at Southern Testing Services (STS) in Knoxville, Tennessee. STS supplies seismic qualification testing, commercial-grade dedication services, and nuclear qualified products. The purpose of the observation was to assess the NUPIC quality assurance audit process used for approving suppliers of safety-related and commercial-grade dedicated components to the nuclear industry. The staff also provided clarification on issues related to NRC regulations, including 10 CFR Part 21, "Reporting of Defects and Noncompliance."

Measurement Uncertainty Recapture for Crystal River Unit 3

On April 25, 2007, Progress Energy requested a measurement uncertainty recapture (MUR) power uprate for Crystal River Unit 3. The licensee proposed to increase power from 2568 to 2609 MWth, an increase of 41 MWth, by using the Caldon Leading Edge Flowmeter Checkplus system to achieve a power measurement uncertainty of 0.4%. The licensee developed the application using the guidance in NRC Regulatory Issue Summary 2002-03, "Guidance on the Content of Measurement Uncertainty Recapture Power Uprate Applications," dated January 31, 2002, and has requested approval by November 15, 2007, to support implementation during a fall 2007 refueling outage.

Office of New Reactors (NRO)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 4, 2007

International Cooperation with Japan on New Reactor Construction

On April 23, 2007, staff and management met with representatives of the Inspection Affairs Division of the Japan Nuclear Energy Safety Organization (JNES) at JNES Headquarters in Tokyo. Discussions focused on regulatory oversight of vendor, fabrication and reactor construction activities and other areas of mutual interest. NRO staff also visited the Tomari Nuclear Power Station in Hokkaido, Japan in order to observe ongoing construction, quality controls and inspection activities for Unit 3. The NRC representatives met with the General Manager of the site operated by Hokkaido Electric Power Company (HEPC), as well as Mitsubishi representatives constructing Unit 3. Unit 3 will feature the first all-digital reactor control room and is scheduled to begin operation in 2009. HEPC and NRC representatives discussed areas for potential future interaction with respect to the advanced control room and the reactor operator training program for all-digital control systems.

Staff visits proposed site for new reactor construction

During the week of April 23, NRO and Region II management toured the Levy County, Florida site where Progress Energy is considering building two AP-1000 units. The staff anticipates receiving a combined license application in mid-2008. This is the first green field site that the staff has toured.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 4, 2007

Issuance of Orders Imposing Requirements for Fingerprinting and Criminal History Records Checks for Unescorted Access to Radioactive Material or Other Property

On April 30, 2007, the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards signed, and issued, immediately effective orders to fuel cycle licensees and certificate holders, implementing Section 652 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Section 652 amended the fingerprinting requirements provided in Section 149 of the Atomic Energy Act, and requires fingerprinting before anyone is given unescorted access to radioactive material, or other property, determined by the Commission to be of such significance to public health and safety, or common defense and security, as to warrant fingerprinting. Section 149, as amended, also requires a Federal Bureau of Investigation identification and criminal history records check based on the fingerprints. Licensees and certificate holders have 20 days to respond to the Orders, and 90 days to submit fingerprint cards.

May 4, 2007

ENCLOSURE C

Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 4, 2007

Monitoring Visit and Public Meeting Regarding Disposal of Incidental Waste at the Idaho National Laboratory

On April 24-25, 2007, staff conducted its first monitoring visit at the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Tank Farm Facility, consistent with the responsibility assigned to NRC under the Ronald Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2005 (NDAA). This visit was primarily focused on tank grouting activities and the DOE program to protect workers and the public from radiation exposure during tank closure operations. On April 25, staff also hosted a public meeting to explain NRC's activities at the INL site related to implementation of the NDAA.

May 4, 2007

ENCLOSURE D

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 4, 2007

Results of Armored Electric Cable Fire Damage and Circuit Failure Tests Conducted by Duke Energy Corporation

In 2006, Duke Energy completed a series of tests similar to tests recently completed by the NRC-sponsored Cable Response to Live Fire (CAROLFIRE) project at Sandia National Laboratories. A staff member witnessed the tests, received and analyzed the Duke Energy test data, and prepared a report. Since the Duke Energy test data are considered proprietary, a redacted (non-proprietary) version of the report was made publicly available on April 30, 2007. The results of both the CAROLFIRE and the Duke Energy tests will be used by the NRC and the industry to determine the risk resulting from potential circuit failures caused by fire damage to associated electric cables in nuclear power plants.

Meeting on Next Generation Nuclear Plants (NGNP) Licensing Strategy Development

On May 1, 2007, Department of Energy and NRC members of the working group involved in developing the licensing strategy for the NGNP project met to discuss progress made in developing the licensing strategy and related documentation. The group discussed preliminary evaluation of various potential licensing approaches in order to identify two primary options, both in compliance with the language of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The next working group meeting is scheduled on May 23, 2007.

Third Phenomena Identification and Ranking Technique (PIRT) Meeting on Next Generation Nuclear Plant (NGNP) Thermofluidics and Accident Analysis

On May 1-3, 2007, the staff conducted the subject meeting to rank safety-relevant NGNP phenomena for importance and assess the knowledge base of these phenomena. The neutronics phenomena related to NGNP was also discussed.

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 4, 2007

Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the State of Washington, Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-71-13)

On April 27, 2007, the NRC published a document in the *Federal Register* (72 FR 20962) that requests comment on a petition for rulemaking submitted by Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the State of Washington (PRM-71-13). The petitioner requests an amendment to the regulations that adopt the use of global positioning satellite (GPS) tracking as a national requirement for mobile or portable uses of highly radioactive sources. The comment period for this action closes July 11, 2007.

May 4, 2007

ENCLOSURE G

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 4, 2007

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of April 27 through May 3, 2007:

Clinton site emergency plan, two letters from utility dated June 30, 2006 and December 19, 2006, re: NRC's safety evaluation	FOIA/PA-2007-0187
NRC's Oversight of Davis-Besse Boric Acid Leak and Corrosion during April 2000 Refueling Outage, case no. 03-02S, and all records generated by the OIG	FOIA/PA-2007-0188
Report "Review and Analysis of the Davis-Besse March 2002 Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Wastage Event," all communications between NRC and First Energy Nuclear Operating Company, Nuclear Energy Institute, NEIL and Institute of Nuclear Power Operations, re: report	FOIA/PA-2007-0189
Charleston Air Force Base, Charleston Co., SC, companies currently holding radioactive material licenses/permits in named cities	FOIA/PA-2007-0190
Grand Forks Air Force Base, Grand Forks/Cass Co., ND, companies currently holding radioactive material licenses/permits in named cities	FOIA/PA-2007-0191
Background investigation, 2006, on named individual - Referral by OPM	FOIA/PA-2007-0192
Uranium Resources Inc and/or Hydro Resources Inc., list of denied material or operating licenses; list of source material license allowing the possession of uranium by HRI	FOIA/PA-2007-0193

May 4, 2007

ENCLOSURE H

Office of Human Resources (HR)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending May 4, 2007

Arrivals		
CALVO, JOSE	SR. PROJECT MANAGER	NRO
COMBS, THOMAS	CONSULTANT	OCA
DANIELS, CHRISTIAN	SECRETARY (OA)	NMSS
THROM, EDWARD	SR. REACTOR SYSTEMS ENGINEER	NRR
Retirement		
CALVO, JOSE	DEP DIR, DIV OF NEW REAC LICENSING	NRO
COMBS, THOMAS	SENIOR CONGRESSIONAL LIASON OFFICER	OCA
LOOS, ROGER	SENIOR SYSTEMS ACCOUNTANT	CFO
MARCY, CYNTHIA	CHIEF, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CENTER	ADM
MEYER, RALPH	SR TECH ADV FOR CORE PERFORMANCE AND FUEL BEHAVIOR	RES
NERSES, VICTOR	SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER	NRR
STOVER, ROLAND	BUDGET ANALYST	CFO
WILSON, JOHN	IT SPECIALIST	OIS
Departure		
BANERJEE, RONNIE	STUDENT HR SPECIALIST	RI
YOUSEFIAN, NARBETH	STUDENT INTERN	OIS

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 4, 2007

OPA received significant media inquiries on the following:

Aircraft and new reactor design assessments.

Abnormal occurrences report to Congress that made public the March 2006 spill of high-enriched uranium and potential criticality at Nuclear Fuel Services, previously considered sensitive.

Oyster Creek relicensing hearings.

Exponent Davis-Besse Report and the 2.206 Petition.

Inquiry from the Washington Post regarding potential COL application at Calvert Cliffs.

Indian Point license renewal and questions on recent tritium leak at site.

Research reactor fingerprinting order issued.

R.E. Ginna nuclear plant change in performance indicator from "green" to "yellow."

Other Public Affairs Items:

Fox News NY interviewed Sam Collins for a segment on safety of nuclear power plants and relicensing the Indian Point plant.

OPA wrote a letter to the editor of the San Francisco Chronicle, pointing out two studies on the Baltimore and Caldecott tunnel fire studies that showed spent fuel casks would withstand prolonged, high-temperature fires in light of this week's truck fire and highway collapse in Oakland.

Federal Times interview of NRO Director Bill Borchardt.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
07-054	NRC Names Darren Ash as Chief Information Officer and Deputy Executive Director for Information Services (4/30)
07-055	NRC Issues Security Order to Research and Test Reactors (5/1)
07-056	License Renewal Application for Indian Point Nuclear Plant Available for Public Inspection (5/2)

May 4, 2007

ENCLOSURE M

07-057	NRC Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste to Meet in Rockville, Maryland, May 16-17 (5/3)
Regions:	
I-07-024	NRC Proposes \$3,250 Fine for Englewood, NJ., Hospital (4/30)
I-07-025	NRC to Discuss 2006 Assessment for Vermont Yankee Nuclear Plant at Public Meeting in Brattleboro, Vt., on May 14 (5/4)
I-07-026	R.E. Ginna Nuclear Plant to Receive Additional NRC Oversight (5/4)
II-07-028	NRC Begins Special Inspection at Farley Nuclear Plant (4/30)
III-07-017	NRC to Hold Public Meeting May 8 on Cross-Cutting Issues at the Kewaunee Plant (5/3)
III-07-018	NRC to Discuss 2006 Performance Assessment for Clinton Nuclear Power Plant (5/4)
III-07-019	NRC to Discuss 2006 Performance Assessment for Byron Nuclear Power Plant (5/4)
IV-07-012	NRC to Discuss 2006 Performance at Wolf Creek Nuclear Plant(4/30)
IV-07-013	NRC to Discuss 2006 Performance at Grand Gulf Nuclear Plant (5/2)

May 4, 2007

ENCLOSURE M

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending May 4, 2007

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SECY-07-0037	2/22/07	Report to Congress on Abnormal Occurrences: Fiscal Year 2006
SRM-SECY-07-0037	4/5/07	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 07-0037	4/5/07	(same)
Information Papers		
- SECY-07-0075	4/30/07	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending April 20, 2007
Memoranda		
- M070417C	4/30/07	Staff Requirements - Briefing on RES Programs, Performance, and Plans

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congress, dated April 27, 2007, provides the "Report to Congress on Abnormal Occurrences: Fiscal Year 2006" (NUREG-0090, Vol. 29).
2. Letter to Margaret Spellings, Secretary of Education, dated April 25, 2007, provides NRC's FY 2006 Annual Performance Report on Executive Agency Actions to Assist Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs).
3. Letter to Li Ganjie, People's Republic of China, dated April 25, 2007, concerning furthering the cooperative relationship between the National Nuclear Safety Administration and the NRC.
4. Letter to Yasutaka Moriguchi, Japan, dated April 24, 2007, extends appreciation for meeting during recent trip to Japan.
5. Letter to Congress, dated April 23, 2007, expresses appreciation for commitment to funding NRC's increased hiring efforts.
6. Letter to Michael Chertoff, Secretary of DHS, dated April 23, 2007, responds to letter requesting that the Radiation Source Protection and Security Task Force reevaluate the list of radioactive sources that warrant enhanced security and protection.

May 4, 2007

ENCLOSURE O

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, Designation of Presiding Officer, Consumers Energy Company, Nuclear management company, LLC, Entergy Nuclear Palisades, LLC, and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Palisades Nuclear Power Plant).
2. Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste, revised 179th notice of meeting (5/16-17/2007).
3. Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes: Meeting Notice (6/12-13/2007).
4. ACRS Subcommittee Meeting on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena: Meeting Notice (05/24-25/2007).

May 4, 2007

ENCLOSURE O

Region II (RII)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 4, 2007

Virgil C. Summer Public Meeting

On May 2, 2007, representatives from South Carolina Electric & Gas Company attended a public meeting for the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station in the Region II Office. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Fall 2006 refueling outage at the site.

May 4, 2007

ENCLOSURE P

Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 4, 2007

Facility Tours by Commissioner Merrifield

On May 1-3, 2007, Commissioner Merrifield visited a division of Energy Solutions, which specializes in low level waste disposal, near Clive, Utah; toured the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, met with plant management and the resident inspectors, as well as addressed the plant staff; and visited Western Zirconium, a producer of zirconium products for the nuclear industry, near Ogden, Utah.

Columbia Generating Station Annual Assessment Meeting

On May 1, 2007, the NRC conducted a public meeting near the Columbia Generating Station. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss licensee performance for calendar year 2006. A few members of the public attended the meeting. There was no press in attendance. A representative for U.S. Congressman Doc Hastings also attended the meeting.

Office of the Executive Director for Operations (EDO)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 4, 2007

DPO-2006-004: Issuance of Differing Professional Opinion (DPO) Appeal
on the Davis Besse Reply to a Notice of Violation

On May 3, 2007, the Executive Director for Operations (EDO) issued a decision on an appeal to a December 18, 2006, decision made by the Director of the Office of Enforcement (OE). The appeal was related to an NRC employee submitted DPO, dated May 5, 2006, on the accuracy of the September 14, 2005, FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company's (FENOC) response to the NRC's Notice of Violation (NOV). The original DPO contended that the FENOC submittal was incomplete and inaccurate and should have been a cited violation of 10 CFR 50.9 "Completeness and Accuracy of Information." The DPO raised concerns with the agency's decision that the FENOC statement was not material and therefore, not a violation, and the agency's lack of regulatory action.

On receipt of the DPO appeal, the EDO reviewed relevant documents, met with the DPO Panel, conferred with OGC, and met with the DPO submitter. The DPO submitter identified several administrative deficiencies in the appeal, which OE will address in the OE annual program review. The technical concerns addressed the NRC decision not to issue a violation based on the inaccurate statements in the FENOC submittal. After careful review and deliberation the EDO concluded that the actions taken by staff in response to the DPO are adequate. The EDO agreed with the DPO Panel decision that based on the staff's prior understanding of the factual backdrop which attended FENOC's submittal that no additional 10 CFR 50.9 violation occurred. Additionally, the EDO verified that the Panel's recommendation, to release the initial correspondence from FENOC's general counsel addressing FENOC's submittal, publicly, was carried out.

As such, the EDO finds there is no need to reopen the DPO on the "Davis Besse Reply to a Notice of Violation." The EDO also recognized the efforts of the submitter in raising the issues and concerns, and the contribution of the employee in ensuring the agency's safety goals are achieved.

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending May 4, 2007

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 14

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	WITNESSES
Shane	05/02/07 366 Dirksen	10:00	Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee (Senators Bingaman / Domenici)	Markup of Pending Legislation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Biofuels, Energy Efficiency, and Carbon Sequestration bill ▶ S987 ▶ S1115 ▶ S731 ▶ S962 ▶ S278 ▶ S722 ▶ HR886 	▶ N/A

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 14

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	WITNESSES
Sahm	05/03/07 2318 Rayburn	10:00	House Science and Technology Committee, Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight (Representatives Miller / Sensenbrenner)	Environmental Management Lab (originally a part of DOE and was moved to DHS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Lynn Albin - Radiation Health Physicist, Office of Radiation Protection, Washington State Department of Health ▶ Charles F. McBrearty Jr. - Former Director of Materials Technology, Air Force Technical Applications Center, Patrick Air Force Base, FL ▶ Tony Fainberg - Former Program Manager, Radiological and Nuclear Countermeasures, Office of Research and Development, Science and Technology Directorate, DHS ▶ John F. Clarke - Deputy Director, Office of National Laboratories, Science and Technology Directorate, DHS ▶ Jay M. Cohen - Undersecretary of Homeland Security for Science and Technology ▶ Vayl Oxford - Director, Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, DHS