INFORMATION REPORT

June 15, 2007 SECY-07-0100

For: The Commissioners

From: Vonna L. Ordaz, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING JUNE 8, 2007

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*No input this week.

/RA by Tamara E. Bloomer Acting For/
Vonna L. Ordaz
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
U. Shoop, OEDO

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UShoop:paa	VLOrdaz
06/15/07	06/15/07

WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING JUNE 8, 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 June 8, 2007

American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code for Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants

On June 4, 2007, the staff participated in a public meeting with members of the ASME Code for Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants (OM Code) at NRC Headquarters to discuss pump inservice testing issues. Key activities at this meeting involved the discussion of the purpose of the current OM Code pump inservice tests, proposed definitions of pump design flow, and instrumentation requirements. Preliminary consensus was reached on the need for testing to demonstrate the ability of pumps to achieve their design basis flows. Additionally, the need for further discussion regarding acceptance criteria and instrument accuracy during comprehensive pump tests was identified. Also, the value of Group B pump tests in detecting degradation was discussed. Follow up discussion on future code direction regarding pump testing will occur at the summer ASME OM meeting the week of June 25, 2007.

Observation of the National Nuclear Accrediting Board Meetings

On June 6, 2007, the staff observed two meetings of the National Nuclear Accrediting Board (NNAB). The Institute of Nuclear Power Operations manages accreditation as a means of meeting systems approach to training requirements. Observation of the NNAB meetings allows NRC to monitor the implementation of programmatic aspects of the accreditation process, to understand what is happening with industry training programs, to assess the effectiveness of the accreditation process, and to determine the overall effectiveness of industry training programs.

Risk Management Technical Specifications (RMTS) Meeting

On June 7, 2007, the staff met with Nuclear Energy Institute and the industry owner group representatives to discuss the status of specific Risk Management Technical Specifications (RMTS) initiatives. The RMTS initiatives are significant agency efforts to risk-inform the Standard Technical Specifications. The discussion focused on status of the active RMTS initiatives and plans for the upcoming months to achieve Operating Plan milestones. The following RMTS Initiatives were discussed at the meeting: Initiative 1 to modify plant Technical Specifications (TS) Required Action end states; Initiative 4b to allow licensee use of risk to calculate Completion Times for TS Required Actions; Initiative 5 to allow relocation of certain risk-informed TS Required Surveillance Frequencies to Licensee's Control Program; Initiative 6 to allow risk-informed TS Required Action Completion Times to restore system Operability prior to starting a TS 3.0.3 plant shutdown; and Initiative 8 which proposes to allow Removal/Relocation of non-safety and non-risk significant systems from TS.

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Subcommittee (ACRS) Meeting Concerning the Staff's Review of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station License Renewal Application

On June 5, 2007, the staff presented to the ACRS subcommittee the results of the staff's evaluation of the Vermont Yankee license renewal application (LRA). Entergy Nuclear Vermont

Yankee, LLC, and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. submitted the LRA for Vermont Yankee on January 25, 2006. The staff has completed its preliminary review and determined that there are no open items. There are six confirmatory items that the staff is reviewing and will be addressed in the final Safety Evaluation Report.

Participation in Bilateral Meeting With Korean Institute of Nuclear Safety (KINS)

On June 6, 2007, the staff made two presentations to the visiting delegation from KINS. Information presented included risk-informed operational decision-making process in the areas of the reactive inspections, the Significance Determination Process, Notices of Enforcement Discretion, emergent safety issues, status of risk-informed regulation activities including risk-informed technical specification initiatives, risk-informed rulemaking, and Regulatory Guide 1.200 on probabilistic risk assessment quality.

Generic Safety Issue 191

During the week of June 4, 2007, staff performed a site visit to Waterford to audit the licensee's corrective actions for Generic Safety Issue 191, PWR Sump Clogging. This audit is one of ten that have been and/or will be performed to provide insights to the staff on actions taken by the licensees and their strainer vendors to address debris-induced sump strainer clogging and related issues.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 8, 2007

Teleconference with U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

On June 5, 2007, staff held an "Appendix 7" teleconference with DOE, to gather information on Yucca Mountain Project human-reliability analysis. The teleconference was held between NRC; the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses in San Antonio, Texas; and the DOE, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Public participation included representatives from: the State of Nevada; Clark County, Nevada; the Nuclear Energy Institute; and Platts News Service, a Division of McGraw-Hill Companies, which provides energy information services.

Meeting with DOE on Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP)

On June 5, 2007, staff from NMSS, the Office of New Reactors, and the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research met with staff from DOE, Office of Nuclear Energy, to discuss DOE activities and projects for the GNEP. DOE provided status updates on GNEP projects and planning for the Advanced Burner Reactor (ABR), and the May 9, 2007, Funding Opportunity Announcement for industry engagement, in design and planning for the ABR and a nuclear fuel recycling center, which would be NRC-licensed commercial facilities. DOE plans for the Advanced Fuel Cycle Facility, Grid-Appropriate Reactors (small to medium reactors for international deployment) and their plans for research and development affecting other areas of GNEP, were also discussed.

Presentation to World Nuclear Transport Institute

On June 5, 2007, staff made a presentation, at the semi-annual meeting of the World Nuclear Transport Institute, in Charleston, South Carolina. The title of the presentation was "A joint Canadian-U.S. Initiative on Type B(U) and Fissile Material Transportation Package Approval." This is a joint effort between the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, U.S. Department of Transportation, and U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The aim of this project is to facilitate a more timely validation of the Certificate of Compliance for the transportation package designs. These packages are used to transport radioactive and fissile materials between the two countries. The attendees included domestic and international shippers of radioactive and fissile materials.

Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 8, 2007

Preliminary Notification

- PNO-IV-O7-005A, RIVER BEND STATION, UPDATE TO REACTOR SHUTDOWN DUE TO UNEXPECTED CHANGE IN RECIRCULATION FLOW.

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 8, 2007

Revision of Fee Schedules; Fee Recovery for FY 2007 (AI00 - Parts 170 and 171)

On June 6, 2007, the NRC published a final rule in the *Federal Register* (72 FR 31402) that amends the licensing, inspection, and annual fees charged to the Commission's applicants and licensees. The final rule is intended to ensure NRC compliance with the Omnibus Budget and Reconciliation Act of 1990, as amended. The Act mandates that the NRC recover approximately 90 percent of its budget authority in Fiscal Year 2007, less amounts appropriated from the Nuclear Waste Fund, for Waste Incidental to Reprocessing, and for generic homeland security activities. The amount to be recovered for FY 2007, including carryover and billing adjustments, is approximately $670.5 million. The final rule becomes effective August 6, 2007.

Award for Technical Assistance in Support of GSI-191 (NRC-03-07-041)

On June 4, 2007, a competitive cost reimbursement, task ordering type contract was awarded to Environmental Management Support, Inc. The contractor will provide technical assistance in support of chemical effects in response to Generic Safety Issue -191. The period of performance is for three years. The total estimated cost is $196,762.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 8, 2007

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of June 1 through June 7, 2007:

Companies/businesses with current radioactive material licenses/permits within specified cities within 25 miles of MacDill Air Force Base, Hillsborough Co., FL; provide specific isotope and maximum activity authorized for each item	FOIA/PA-2007-0224
OI investigative file no. 3-2005-010, all exhibits, appendices and supporting documentation including transcripts of named individual	FOIA/PA-2007-0225

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 8, 2007

Arrivals		
AVILES, OLGA	SUMMER INTERN	RES
BAQUERA, MICA	REACTOR ENGINEER (NSPDP)	RIV
BENEDETTI, JAY	SUMMER INTERN	NRR
BERRY, ROLLIE	GENERAL ENGINEER	NSIR
CAMERON-GONZALEZ, ANTONIO	STUDENT SCIENTIST	NMSS
CASTELLO, JENNIFER	SENIOR SYSTEMS ANALYST	CFO
CEPURA, HARRY	BUILDING MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST	ADM
CIANCI, SANDRA	SECRETARY	CFO
COLON, JESSICA AIMEE	STUDENT ENGINEER TRAINEE (CO-OP)	RES
DESCHAINE, WESLEY	GENERAL ENGINEER (NSPDP)	NRO
FIGUEROA, ROBERTO	IT SPECIALIST (PLCYPLN)	NSIR
GORDON, MARK	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST	RII
KISH, EDWARD	CHEMICAL ENGINEER	NMSS
LEE, MICHAEL	MANAGEMENT ANALYST TRAINEE (CO-OP)	NRR
LIU, SHERRY	ACCOUNTANT/SYSTEMS ACCOUNTANT	CFO
LOFTUS, MATTHEW	ATTORNEY	OGC
LUEBBERING, AMY	CHEMICAL ENGINEER	NMSS
MCGOVERN, DENISE	ELECTRICAL ENGINEER	NRO
MOONEY, BARRETT	REACTOR INSPECTOR	RII
MURRAY, HEATHER	BUDGET ANALYST (2 POS.)	CFO
PETROVICH, CHRISTOPHER	PHYSICAL SCIENTIST STUDENT TRAINEE	NRR
RABER, HARRIET	SUMMER CLERK	EDO
RULEMAN, KARLEN	STUDENT ENGINEER	NRR
RYAN, CHRISTOPHER	REACTOR INSPECTOR (NSPDP)	RIV

Arrivals		
SAMPSON, MICHELE	PROJECT MANAGER	NMSS
SOTOMAYOR-RIVERA, ALEXIS	NUCLEAR ENGINEER (NSPDP)	NMSS
STAMM, ERIC	PROJECT ENGINEER	RII
VERA, MERIELIZ	STUDENT ENGINEER	RES
WASHINGTON, BRITTANY	STUDENT CLERK	ADM
WASSON, DAVID	STUDENT ENGINEER	NRR
WHITE, MATHEW	STUDENT ENGINEER (SUMMER)	RII
WONG, JOANN	STUDENT INTERN	OPA
WRIGHT, WALTER	EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SPECIALIST	NSIR
Retirements		
CHRISTNOT, EDWARD	RESIDENT INSPECTOR (BWR)	RII
HARRIS, CAROL	SPECIAL ASSISTANT	NSIR
Departures		
BEACH, KIMBERLY	SECRETARY (OA)	NRO
GREENE, ALEXANDRA	REGULATIONS ASSISTANT	FSME
HEALY, SHAWN	SR. POLICY ANALYST	ADM

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 8, 2007

OPA received significant media inquiries on the following:

Chairman Klein's Speech at GE conference.

Diablo Canyon's ISFSI draft environmental assessment in response to the 9th Circuit case.

Staff's proposal to the Commission for developing a regulatory framework for reprocessing facilities and breeder reactors under GNEP.

Other Public Affairs Items:

OPA support for Chairman Klein's interview by a trade publication about the nuclear industry.

OPA support for Chairman Klein's speech at Goizueta Leadership Center in Atlanta, Ga., on June 5, 2007.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
07-070	NRC Issues Final Licensing, Inspection and Annual Fees Rule for Fiscal Year 2007(6/4)
07-071	NRC Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Changes to New Reactor Application Hearing Policy (6/7)
07-072	NRC Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste to Meet in Rockville, Maryland, June 19-21 (6/7)
07-073	NRC Seeks Public Comment on Terrorism Risk Assessment for Proposed Irradiator in Hawaii (6/8)
Regions:	
I-07-033	NRC Issues Final Licensing, Inspection and Annual Fees Rule for Fiscal Year 2007(6/4)
IV-07-017	William Raymond Named NRC Senior Resident Inspector at Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant (6/5)
IV-07-018	NRC to Discuss 2006 Performance at Comanche Peak Nuclear Plant (6/5)
IV-07-019	NRC to Discuss 2006 Performance at South Texas Nuclear Plant (6/5)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 8, 2007

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SECY-07-0083	5/17/07	Proposed Agreement Between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Commission Pursuant to Section 274 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended
SRM-SECY-07-0083	6/8/07	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 07-0083	6/8/07	(same)
2. COMSECY-07-0019	5/22/07	Status of NRC Research Conducted by the Russian Research Center and the Russian Academy of Sciences
Revised SRM on 07-0019	6/5/07	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 07-0019	6/5/07	(same)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-07-0087	6/4/07	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending May 11, 2007
2. SECY-07-0089	6/5/07	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending May 18, 2007
Memoranda		
- M070529	6/8/07	Staff Requirements - NRC All Hands Meeting

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congress, dated May 30, 2007, responds to request for information about telework programs at the NRC.

2. Letter to Steve Aitken, OMB, dated May 30, 2007, provides NRC's FY 2007 Regulatory Plan.

3. Letter to Congress, dated May 30, 2007, provides NRC's quarterly report on the status of its licensing and other regulatory activities.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Draft Statement of Policy on Conduct of New Reactor Licensing Proceedings - Issuance of Draft Policy Statement and Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment.

2. Establishment of Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, Shaw AREVA MOX Services (License Application for Possession and Use of Byproduct, Source, and Special Nuclear Materials).

3. Proposed rule - 10 CFR Part 2, RIN: 3150- AI08 - Interlocutory Review of Rulings on Requests by Potential Parties for Access to Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information and Safeguards Information.

Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 8, 2007

Public Meeting with Arizona Public Service Company

On June 6, 2007, the Regional Administrator and staff met with senior managers of the Arizona Public Service Company, the operator of Palo Verde, in Tonopah, Arizona. The meeting was the first of a series of quarterly meetings, open to public observation, where progress under the Palo Verde performance improvement plan is discussed. This meeting also served as the entrance meeting for NRC's supplemental inspection per NRC Procedure Number 95003.

Category 3 (Town Hall) Meeting near Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station

On June 7, 2007, the staff held a "town hall" public meeting in Tonapah, AZ, near the Palo Verde site. Topics discussed included plant performance, safety culture issues, and items in the news related to the Palo Verde Station.

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 8, 2007

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 18					
OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	WITNESSES
Decker	06/06/07 2359 Rayburn	10:00	House Committee on Appropriations (Representatives Obey / Lewis)	Markup of proposed FY2008 Energy-Water Appropriations	▸ N/A
Sahm	06/07/07 2154 Rayburn	2:00	House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Information Policy, Census, and National Archives (Representatives Clay / Turner)	"Federal IT Security: The Future of FISMA"	▸ TBD
Sahm	06/12/07 562 Dirksen	2:30	Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia (Senators Akaka / Voinovich)	"Assessing Telework Policies and Initiatives in the Federal Government"	▸ TBD