INFORMATION REPORT

November 20, 2007 SECY-07-0204

For: The Commissioners

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

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 9, 2007

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*No input this week.

/RA/

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Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
A.C. Ridge, OEDO

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WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 9, 2007

The Weekly Information Report is compiled by the Office of the EDO and includes highlights of Headquarters and Regional Office activities.
Contact: A.C. Ridge, OEDO by E-mail: acr1@nrc.gov.

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*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 9, 2007

Vogtle Units 1 and 2 Measurement Uncertainty Recapture Power Uprate (MUR) Acceptance

By letter dated November 2, 2007, NRC informed the Vice President of the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant that the licensee has provided the necessary information for the staff to begin a detailed technical review of the licensee's August 28, 2007, request for a 1.7% MUR for Vogtle Units 1 and 2. In its letter, NRC noted that the MUR application includes several items that go beyond the scope of a typical MUR application and that the potential complexity of these items may result in a challenge to completing the MUR review within typical timeframes.

Pre-Submittal Meeting with Pressurized Water Reactor Owners Group (PWROG)

On October 29, 2007, the staff participated in a pre-submittal meeting with PWROG to discuss a proposed analysis methodology to estimate the release of gaseous iodine into the environment as a fraction of the incoming iodine in Engineered Safety Features leakage per unit time over 30 days after the initiation of an accident. The staff provided input on the need for coordination of this activity with on-going activities related to Generic Safety Issue 191.

Meeting with the Korean Institute of Nuclear Safety (KINS)

On November 5, 2007, the staff met with six members of KINS and one member from each of the Korea Electric Power Research Institute and the Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power Co. Ltd. The discussions focused on risk informed methods for in-service inspection and included Probabilistic Safety Assessment (PSA) model qualification, PSA quality and American Society of Mechanical Engineers standards, pipe failure probability, Alloy 600 primary water stress corrosion cracking, and pressurized thermal shock. Of particular interest was an issue involving leakage from the cold leg side of the bowl drain nozzle of a steam generator at Yonggwang Unit 3, which was detected because of observed boron deposits.

Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) Subcommittee (SC-2) Meeting

On November 5 and 6, 2007, NRC representatives from NRR, Office of New Reactors (NRO), and Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) attended the IEEE SC-2 meeting in Clearwater, Florida to discuss qualification criteria for Electromagnetic and Radio-Frequency Interface (EMI/RFI), data communication, and cyber security associated with the IEEE Standard 323. NRC representatives provided clarifications on applicability and documentation requirements of Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.209, "Guidelines for environmental qualification of microprocessor-based equipment important to safety in nuclear power plants." The new reactor vendors opted not to use the 10 CFR 50.69 approach in their design control document and provided presentations on motor and cable qualification methods.

Members of the subcommittee also discussed the potential benefits of having joint International Electrotechnical Commission and IEEE meetings. AREVA stated that for European Pressurized Reactor (EPR) design it is planning for 60 year instead of 40 year qualified life. AREVA also indicated it is planning for 4 durations for post-accident operating time (i.e., 2 hour, 24 hour, 4

months and one year). The meeting was attended by approximately 40 members including representatives from several foreign countries.

Meeting of a Task Working Group of the Digital Instrumentation and Control Project with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) Regarding Risk Informing the Digital Instrumentation and Control (I&C) System

On November 6, 2007, a public meeting of TWG 3 of the I&C Project was held at the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) in Washington, DC to discuss risk-informing the digital I&C system. Participants included NRC staff for NRR, RES, NRO, the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), and members of the nuclear power industry. Topics covered in the meeting included the status of previous action items, an NEI/industry presentation on satisfaction of RG 1.174, "Principles in the Diversity and Defense-In-Depth Evaluation," work coordination, and NEI/Electrical Power Research Institute research participation. NEI/Industry agreed to provide written comments on a staff conceptual paper. The next meeting of TWG 3 is tentatively scheduled for January 2008.

Staff Holds Public Meetings to Solicit Comments on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the License Renewal of Wolf Creek Generating Station

On November 8, 2007, the staff conducted two meetings in Burlington, Kansas, to solicit comments from the public on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) regarding the Wolf Creek Generating Station License Renewal Review. The Draft Supplement 32, published in September 2007, is a plant-specific supplement to the "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants" (NUREG-1437). The public comment period ends on December 26, 2007. At the conclusion of the comment period, the staff will evaluate the comments received and revise the DSEIS if necessary.

Office of New Reactors (NRO)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 9, 2007

Florida Power & Light Company Selects AP1000 Technology for Turkey Point Site

By letter dated October 26, 2007 (ADAMS Accession # ML073100136), Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) notified NRC that it has preliminarily selected the AP1000 technology and expects to submit a combined license application for two AP1000 units at FPL's existing Turkey Point site in March 2009. FPL plans to initiate site characterization activities in January 2008.

Korean Institute of Nuclear Safety Vendor Inspection

From October 24 to 26 and from October 29 to 31, 2007, NRC staff observed the vendor inspections the Korean Institute of Nuclear Safety (KINS) conducted at Westinghouse Newington Operations in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and at Tyco Valves & Controls, Anderson Greenwood Crosby, in Wrentham, Massachusetts. Both facilities are fabricating components for Korean units under construction. The NRC staff observed the inspections to become familiar with the regulatory requirements, quality assurance procedures, and inspection methods KINS implements to perform vendor inspections. These are the first inspections that NRC staff has observed at the invitation of another national regulator. The staff plans to continue discussions with KINS to identify other potential areas of cooperation between the two regulatory bodies and will invite KINS to participate in a future NRO vendor inspection.

Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 9, 2007

The Interagency Steering Committee on Radiation Standards (ISCORS) Public Meeting

On October 30, 2007, ISCORS held their annual public meeting at NRC Headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. Attendees consisted of representatives from NRC, the State of Pennsylvania, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Defense, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S Department of Energy, and members of the public. Committee members gave presentations on a variety of radiation-related topics including the Safety Light Corporation Superfund site cleanup, tritium exit signs, radon activities, and International Atomic Energy Agency basic safety standards. All presentations will be made available on the ISCORS website at http://www.iscors.org/.

Staff Issues Letter on NRC Jurisdiction Over Activities Related to Brunswick Nuclear Plant Canal Dredgings

On November 7, 2007, NRC responded to a letter from the North Carolina regulatory authority that requested clarification of NRC jurisdiction over canal dredging and movement of material to an on-site spoil pond burial at the Brunswick Nuclear Plant. NRC indicated that it maintains jurisdiction over the operation of any production or utilization facility under Section 274.c(1) of the Atomic Energy Act. This jurisdiction is based on the understanding that the licensee categorizes the proposed action (dredging and movement of materials to the on-site spoil pond) as storage rather than disposal. NRC interprets operation of any production or utilization facility to include storage and handling of radioactive wastes.

Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 9, 2007

PNO-II-07-012A, Catawba Nuclear Station

UPDATE – ONSITE GROUND WATER TRITIUM CONTAMINATION AT THE CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION SITE

PNO-IV-07-010, Arizona Public Service Company

PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION (PVNGS) NOTIFICATION OF UNUSUAL EVENT

PNO-II-07-012A, Catawba Nuclear Station

UPDATE – ONSITE GROUND WATER TRITIUM CONTAMINATION AT THE CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION SITE

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 9, 2007

Friends United for Sustainable Energy; Denial of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-54-4)

On November 8, 2007, the NRC published a document in the Federal Register (72 FR 63141) denying a petition for rulemaking (PRM-54-4) submitted by Susan Shapiro, Esquire, Friends United for Sustainable Energy. The petitioner requested that the NRC issue an order to enjoin itself from considering any new license applications until it can amend its regulations so that the regulations do not suppress and/or eliminate a stakeholder's right to redress, due process, and equal protection in the licensing renewal process. A notice of receipt of this petition was not published in the Federal Register.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 9, 2007

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of November 2 through November 8, 2007

SECY-87-186A, Distribution of Radioactive Gems Irradiated in Reactors to Unlicensed Persons, unredacted copy	FOIA/PA-2008-0030
Office of Investigations report 1-2007-012	FOIA/PA-2008-0031
Arizona Nuclear Power Project Participation Agreement, dated August 23, 1973, and amendments made between 1985 and 1988	FOIA/PA-2008-0032
Indian Point Individual Plant Examination of External Events Program documents that concern the assessment of accident risks due to seismic events, submitted by Consolidated Edison, New York Power Authority, or Entergy	FOIA/PA-2008-0033
Allegation RIV-1999-A-0044, including all correspondence between named individual and NRC	FOIA/PA-2008-0034
NUREG/CR-6042	FOIA/PA-2008-0035
NRC's investigation of conduct of licensee's meeting at Exelon Nuclear's Byron Plant on October 17, 2007, list of interviewees, notes, discussions between staff members/offices	FOIA/PA-2008-0036
Mine plans of operation and associated environmental permitting documentation for uranium mining, milling, and drilling operations at named sites	FOIA/PA-2008-0037

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 9, 2007

Arrivals		
ABIGAIL, YVETTE MICHELLE	ACCOUNTANT/SYSTEMS ACCOUNTANT	CFO
BARCZY, THERESA	POLICY ANALYST (TERM APPT)	ADM
BILLOCH, ARACELI	GENERAL ENGINEER (NSPDP)	NRR
CARNES, MIKE	MAIL SERVICES ASSISTANT	ADM
CHANDLER, TIMOTHY	RESIDENT INSPECTOR DEV. PROGRAM	RII
DO, PHUONG-ANH	ACCOUNTANT/SYSTEMS ACCOUNTANT	CFO
DUNN, SCARLET	SECRETARY (OA)	NRO
GOLDFEIZ, BANU	SECRETARY (OA)	NRR
HEDGER, SEAN DREW	OPERATIONS ENGINEER	RIV
IRANI, GUITA	IT SPECIALIST	ACRS
MARCANO, JONATHAN	CIVIL ENGINEER	NMSS
NORTON, CHARLES	PROJECT ENGINEER	RIV
PALMROSE, DONALD	SR. PROJECT MANAGER (ENVIRONMENTAL)	NRO
RONEWICZ, LYNN	SECRETARY (OA)	OGC
TSE, ANTHONY	SR. MANAGEMENT ANALYST	OIS
URIBE, JUAN	GENERAL ENGINEER (NSPDP)	NRR
VETTORI, ROBERT	FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEER	NRR
WILLIAMS, LISA	HR ASSISTANT	HR
YEH, LILLIAN	IT SPECIALIST	OIS
Retirements		
KARJALA, DUANE	RESIDENT INSPECTOR (PWR)	RIII
Departures		
DEMPSEY, MARLENE	CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR	OIG
KARMIS, GEORGE	TRANS & STORAGE SAFETY ENGR	NMSS

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 9, 2007

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following

Inattentive guards and the Augmented Inspection Team review of plant security at Peach Bottom nuclear plant.

Barnwell upcoming closure and issues with future low-level waste disposal.

Vermont Yankee nuclear plant's recent inspection report which covered the partial cooling tower collapse.

Status of Hope Creek nuclear plant's extended power uprate application.

Other Public Affairs Items

OPA's Director met with various media outlets and Cox Communications to discuss getting a television signal from the NRC's Las Vegas hearing facility to prepare for next month's ASLB hearing on DOE's Licensing Support Network (LSN) certification.

OPA supported Braidwood nuclear plant's recent community information forum.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
07-148	NRC Meeting Dec. 4 in Evansville, Tennessee, to Discuss Oversight of Watts Bar Unit 2 Construction (11/08)
07-147	NRC Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste and Materials to Meet in Rockville, Maryland, Nov. 13-15 (11/05)
Regions:	
I-07-057	NRC Commences Follow-Up Security Inspection at Peach Bottom (11/05)
I-07-0581	NRC to Discuss Process for Review of License Renewal Application For Beaver Valley Nuclear Plant, Seek Environmental Input (11/08)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 9, 2007

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. Voting Record on SECY-07-0162	11/02/2007	Final Rule to Amend 10 CFR Parts 19, 20, and 50: Occupational Dose Records Labeling Containers, and the Total Effective Dose Equivalent (RIN 3150-AH40)
2. SECY-07-0182	10/19/07	Semi-Annual Update on the Status of Emergency Preparedness Activities
3. SECY-07-0146	8/24/07	Regulatory Options for Licensing New Uranium Conversion and Depleted Uranium Deconversion Facilities
SRM on 07-0146	10/10/07	(same)
Voting Record on 07-0146	10/10/07	(same)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-07-0183	10/22/07	Annual Review of the Need for Rulemaking and/or Regulatory Guidance on Low-Level Radioactive Waste Storage
2. SECY-07-0184	10/22/07	Industry Trends Program for Operating Power Reactors – Baseline Risk Index for Initiative Events
3. SECY-07-0189	10/25/07	Staff Considerations Regarding Increased Openness and Transparency in the Security Inspection Programs
Memoranda		
1. M071003	10/23/2007	Staff Requirements – Briefing on NRC's International Programs, Performance, and Plans
2. M071102	11/02/2007	Staff Requirements – Affirmation Session: SECY-07-0162 – Final Rule to Amend 10 CFR Parts 19, 20, and 50: Occupational Dose Records Labeling Containers, and the Total Effective Dose Equivalent (RIN 3150-AH40)

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congress, dated October 31, 2007, responds to letter concerning the collapse of a portion of a cooling tower at Vermont Yankee.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Final rule. 10 CFR Parts 30, 40, 50, 52, 60, 61, 63, 70, 71, 72, and 76, RIN 3150-AH59, Clarification of NRC Civil Penalty Authority over Contractors and Subcontractors Who Discriminate Against Employees for Engaging in Protected Activities.

2. Independent External Review Panel to Identify Vulnerabilities in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Materials Licensing Program, notice of meeting (November 27 to 30, 2007).

3. 10 CFR Part 51, Docket No. PRM-51-12, State of California; Supplement to a Petition for Rulemaking.

4. Final rule, correction. 10 CFR Parts 1, 2, 13, and 110, RIN 3150-AH74, Use of Electronic Submissions in Agency Hearings.

Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 9, 2007

Regulatory Conference with Omaha Public Power District

On November 8, the staff conducted a regulatory conference in the RIV office with representatives of the Omaha Public Power District to discuss two apparent violations involving the Fort Calhoun Station facility. The apparent violations, which were characterized as one preliminarily greater than Green finding, involved improper electrical maintenance activities and inadequate corrective actions with respect to the station's emergency diesel generators. Omaha Public Power District representatives did not dispute the violations and concluded on the basis of their analysis that the significance of the finding was low to moderate (White). The staff will issue a final significance determination at a later date. One member of the public monitored the conference by telephone.

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 9, 2007

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 36					
OCA Contact	Date & Place	Time	Committee	Subject	Witnesses
Powell	11/06/07 366 Dirksen	10:00	Senate Energy and Natural Resources (Senators Bingaman and Domenici)	Domestic Energy Industry Workforce Needs	• Emily DeRocco – Assistant Secretary of Labor for employment and training • Patricia Hoffman – Office of Energy Research and Development, DOE • Andra Cornelius – Workforce Florida • Norm Szydlowski – Colonial Pipeline • Paul Bowers – Southern Co. • Ray Stults – National Renewable Energy Laboratory • Carol Berrigan – Nuclear Energy Institute • Jim Hunter – International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
Sahm	11/06/07 2154 Rayburn	10:00	House Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service, and the District of Columbia (Representatives Davis and Marchant)	"Telework: Breaking New Ground"	• Not yet available