INFORMATION REPORT

December 6, 2007 SECY-07-0213

For: The Commissioners

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

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2007

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Congressional Affairs	R

*No input this week.

/RA/

Vonna L. Ordaz
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
A.C. Ridge, OEDO

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/RA/
Vonna L. Ordaz
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
A.C. Ridge, OEDO

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ACRidge	VLOrdaz	
12/04/07	12/05/07	

WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 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 30, 2007

Cooper Nuclear Station Measurement Uncertainty Recapture Power Uprate (MUR) Application

By application dated November 19, 2007, the licensee requested a 1.6% measurement uncertainty recapture power uprate for Cooper Nuclear Station. The application requests NRC approval of the amendment by April 8, 2008. The licensee plans to implement the power uprate within 90 days of the issuance of the amendment, if approved. The licensee indicated that they followed the guidance in NRC Regulatory Information Summary (RIS) 2002-03, "Guidance on the Content of Measurement Uncertainty Recapture Power Uprate Applications" in developing its application. The staff is currently conducting an acceptance review of the application.

Public Meeting for Safety Review and Environmental Scoping Process Regarding the License Renewal Application (LRA) review for Beaver Valley Power Station, Units 1 and 2 (BVPS)

On November 27, 2007, the staff conducted two public meetings in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to discuss the safety review and solicit comments on the scope of the environmental review for the BVPS license renewal application. Approximately 125 individuals attended the meetings. Comments addressed the potential environmental impacts of the uranium fuel cycle and potential radiological impacts on human health. The staff will continue to receive scoping comments by mail, electronically, or in person at headquarters until the scoping period ends on January 7, 2008.

Meeting with the Boiling Water Reactor (BWR) Owners Group (BWROG)

On November 27, 2007, staff from NRR and the Office of Research met with the BWROG to discuss disparities in treatment of debris-induced emergency core cooling system (ECCS) strainer performance issues. The BWROG agreed to evaluate some potential issues identified by the NRC staff with regard to BWR strainer performance. Another meeting was tentatively planned for second quarter 2008.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 30, 2007

Meeting with Nuclear Energy Institute

On November 27, 2007, NRC staff from the Division of Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation met with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) to discuss the agenda for a two-and-a-half day meeting which is being planned for January 30 to February 1, 2008, in Charlotte, NC. At the January 2008 meeting, participants will discuss the issues associated with Burnup Credit and Transport of High Burnup Spent Fuel Assemblies. NRC staff and NEI agreed to an agenda and format for the meeting to facilitate a more effective way of identifying paths for issue resolution. During the November 27 meeting, Energy Power Research Institute also presented the results of their study on the "Criticality Risk during Transportation of Spent Nuclear Fuel."

American National Standards (ANSI) N14.5 Committee Meeting

On November 27-28, 2007, staff from the Division of Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation participated in the ANSI N14.5 Committee meeting at Department of Energy offices in Germantown, MD. ANSI N14.5 is the standard for Leakage Tests on Packages for Shipment. The Committee agreed to reaffirm the current 1997 standard, with minor corrections, and to initiate a revision for 2009. For the 2009 revision, the Committee plans to consider clarifications on leakage testing of (1) loaded packages that are in storage, and (2) packages that are fully welded.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 30, 2007

Public meeting with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) regarding NEI's Comments on Draft Guide (DG)-4012 (Guidance for Implementing 10 CFR 20.1406, "Minimization of Contamination")

On November 28, 2007, RES staff and staff from other NRC offices held the subject public meeting with NEI. A significant discussion included NEI's recommendations to release DG-4012 as an interim guide and to relocate details found in the Regulatory Position to an appendix. These recommendations will be considered by the staff along with the other public comments.

Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 30, 2007

Cs-137 Irradiator Facilities

On November 29, NSIR and Region I management and staff toured two self-shielded Cs-137 irradiator facilities at George Washington University (GWU) and GWU Hospital in Washington, DC. The meeting and discussions that followed with the GWU Radiation Safety Officers and security management provided an overview of the cesium chloride irradiator security upgrades and examples of how these licensees implemented the Increased Controls Order.

Emergency Response Drill

On December 1, 2007, staff conducted an unannounced emergency response drill involving NRC headquarters and Region IV. Major exercise objectives were met.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 30, 2007

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of November 23 through November 29, 2007:

NRC internal policy or guidance governing the acceptance by NRC employees of offers of travel paid by third parties, approvals of same, January 1, 2001, to present	FOIA/PA-2008-0050
NEDO-21159-2, Airborne Releases from Boiling Water Reactors for Environmental Impact Evaluations - Amendment 2 (Iodine-131) October 1978	FOIA/PA-2008-0051
Earthquake in the Niigata prefecture, Japan, 2007, all documents regarding any reports of trips, inspections, or conferences	FOIA/PA-2008-0052

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 30, 2007

Arrivals		
HECHT, MYRON	CONSULTANT	ACRS
Retirements		
ALEXANDER, STEPHEN	REACTOR ENGINEER	NRR
GEORGIEV, GEORGE	SENIOR MATERIALS ENGINEER	NRR
HOSKINS, RITA	SENIOR PROGRAM ASSISTANT	OIP
RAMEY-SMITH, ANN	TECHNICAL ASSISTANT	RES
TRAVERS, WILLIAM	REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR	RII
Departures		
BARNES, TERESSA	SECRETARY (OA)	NRR
FIELDS, MEL	SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER	NRR
KARMIS, GEORGE	TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE SAFETY ENGINEER	NMSS
MINNICK, SHERI	REGIONAL GOVT LIAISON SPECIALIST	RIII
MORAN, BRUCE	SENIOR INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS TECHNICAL ANALYST	NMSS
WOLF, DEBRA	LAW CLERK	ASLBP

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 30, 2007

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SECY-07-0197	11/07/07	Reactor Decommissioning Trust Fund Oversight by Other Agencies and Recommendations Regarding Further Commission Action
2. SRM on SECY-07-0126	11/27/07	Proposed Rule: Geologic Repository Operations Area Security and Material Control and Accounting Requirements (RIN 3150-A106)
Commission Voting Record on SECY-07-0126	11/27/07	(same)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-07-0198	11/7/07	Performance and Coordination of the Regulatory Framework for the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership
2. SECY-07-0205	11/23/07	Weekly Information Report – Week Ending November 16, 2007
3. SECY-07-0200	11/14/07	2007 Summary of Decommissioning Funding Status Reports for Nuclear Power Reactors
Memoranda		
1. M071114	11/28/07	SRM-Meeting with Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste and Materials

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to the President, Congress, Government Accountability Office, Office of Management and Budget, dated November 15, 2007, submits the NRC's FY 2007 Performance and Accountability Report.

2. Letter to Admiral James Ellis, USN (Ret.), Institute of Nuclear Power Operations, dated November 13, 2007, provides an invitation to participate in NRC's 20th Annual Regulatory Information Conference.

3. Letter to Congress dated November 9, 2007, responds to letter concerning security at the Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), Subcommittee Meeting on Safety Research Program, notice of meeting (December 18, 2007).

2. ACRS, Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Reliability and Probabilistic Risk Assessment, notice of meeting (December 19, 2007).

3. Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste and Materials (ACNW&M), notice of 185th meeting (December 17 to 19, 2007).

4. Expanded Definition of Byproduct Material; Notification of Waiver Termination, RIN 3150-AH84, 10 CFR Chapter 1.

5. ACNW&M, Meeting on Planning and Procedures (December 17, 2007).

6. Final rule, Occupational Dose Records, Labeling Containers, and the Total Effective Dose Equivalent, 10 CFR Parts 19, 20, and 50, RIN 3150 – AH40.

Region II (RII)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 30, 2007

Inspector Counterpart Meeting

On November 29, 2007, the Inspector Counterpart Meeting was held in the RII Office. The Deputy Executive Director for Reactor and Preparedness Programs, OEDO; the Deputy Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation; and the Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards met with the RII staff to discuss Agency issues during the meeting.

Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 30, 2007

Commissioner Lyons visit to South Texas Project and RIV office

On November 28 and 29, 2007, Commissioner Lyons visited the South Texas Project facility, the Unit 3 and 4 offices in Bay City, Texas, and the RIV office. The Commissioner toured the plant and met with South Texas Project management, RIV staff, and local public officials. While visiting the RIV offices, the Commissioner made a presentation to the RIV staff during the resident inspector counterpart meeting.

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 30, 2007

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 39					
OCA Contact	Date & Place	Time	Committee	Subject	Witnesses
Sahm	12/05/07 406 Dirksen	TBD	Senate Environment and Public Works (Senators Boxer / Inhofe)	Markup of S 2191 – America's Climate Security Act	• N/A
Shane / Dacus	02/28/08 TBD	TBD	Senate Environment and Public Works, Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety (Senators Carper / Voinovich)	Oversight Hearing on New Reactors	• Commission will be invited