

PMLeeCol PEmails

From: Linda Tello
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2008 3:54 PM
To: Nolan, Mark C
Subject: FW: 080506-NRC in the News.doc
Attachments: 080506-NRC in the News.doc

Chris,

It's in the attached.

Linda

From: Andrew Kugler
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2008 9:50 AM
To: Michael Masnik; Mallecia Hood; Linda Tello
Subject: 080506-NRC in the News.doc

Articles from "In the News".

Linda - in yours the newspaper says the Lee project is on hold. I suspect this is a misprint - but you should confirm with Duke.

Andy

Hearing Identifier: Lee_COL_Public_EX
Email Number: 49

Mail Envelope Properties (Linda.Tello@nrc.gov20080507155400)

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Sent Date: 5/7/2008 3:54:11 PM
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From: Linda Tello

Created By: Linda.Tello@nrc.gov

Recipients:
"Nolan, Mark C" <mcnolan@duke-energy.com>
Tracking Status: None

Post Office:

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION NEWS SUMMARY

TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2008 9:30 AM EDT

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NRC NEWS:

Chairman Klein Discusses Challenges Facing New Reactor Builds. [Platts](#) (5/5, Hiruo) reports, "Japan Steel Works, the only company in the world that produces heavy steel forgings for nuclear reactor vessels, has a three-year waiting list, Dale Klein, chairman of the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission, said last week at the University of Texas at San Antonio. The line for those forgings is long and is getting longer, reflecting new interest in nuclear power, he said. Klein, whose May 1 speech at the North American Energy Summit was released" Monday "by NRC, said he

believes other manufacturers will eventually revive the capabilities they once had to manufacture those components." Chairman Klein "said he believes it is 'significant' that there is a line for heavy forgings in the first place. Companies standing in line 'have done extremely careful calculations to determine if the wait is worthwhile. Evidently, they have decided it is,' Klein said. 'Money for new nuclear reactors is being invested, contracts are being signed, and license applications are being submitted,' he said."

NRC To Join Citizen Forum For Residents Living Near Braidwood, Dresden Plants. The

[Joliet \(IL\) Herald News](#) (5/5, Smith) reports, "The Citizen Information Network will host a special forum for folks living around the Braidwood and Dresden nuclear power stations. 'The goal is to give the average citizen a chance to meet with the regulators and ask questions,' said Joe Cosgrove, director of the Godley Park District." The Herald News adds, "The evening starts out with an opportunity to visit with panel members from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, the Union of Concerned Scientists, the Institute for Energy and Environmental Research and Paul Gunther of Beyond Nuclear and ask questions on a one-to-one basis." The discussion "on concerns for those living around nuclear power plants begins at 6:30 pm and includes statements and presentations by the panel members."

NRC, FEMA Conduct Emergency Response Exercise At LaSalle Plant. The [LaSalle \(IL\) News Tribune](#) (5/5, Caulfield) reports, "If Exelon's nuclear power plant in La Salle County has a radiological discharge, area emergency responders and plant officials will be ready, according to a recent emergency exercise." FEMA and the NRC "conducted an emergency response exercise April 30 to test local emergency and Exelon officials on their response to a mock radiological release at the plant. 'They continue to demonstrate they can provide for the health and safety of people within that 10-mile zone,' said Gary Naskrent, Technological Hazards Program specialist for FEMA." The News Tribune adds, "Each area for the off-site portion of the test was met, meaning there were no deficiencies, Naskrent said."

NRC Agrees To Extend Comment Period For New Reactors At Bellefonte Site. The [Nashville Tennessean](#) (5/6, Paine) reports, "Anyone wanting to intervene in the Tennessee Valley Authority's efforts to license a nuclear plant about 20 miles south of the Tennessee border in Scottsboro, Ala., has a little extra time. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission granted the request of an environmental advocacy group for an extension, giving the public until early June." TVA "requested the license last fall from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for what could be two new nuclear units at the" partially completed Bellefonte plant site due south of Winchester, Tenn. The Bellefonte Efficiency and Sustainability Team, "filed a motion claiming that the TVA license application was incomplete, particularly in regard to the seismic design of the proposed nuclear plants."

FPL To Raise Rates To Cover Turkey Point New Reactor Preconstruction Costs. The [Miami Herald](#)

(5/6, Dorschner) reports electric bills for South Florida ratepayers are likely to "increase about \$2.50 a month next year to start paying for two nuclear power plants that Florida Power & Light hopes to put in service in 10 or 12 years." The Herald adds FPL "says it plans to spend \$105 million this year in preconstruction costs for the new units, which will be built at Turkey Point in South Dade, even though it still lacks regulatory approval from several state and federal agencies. 'We believe these reactors are safe, reliable and cost effective,' said FPL spokesman Mayco Villafaña of the decision to pick the new Westinghouse AP1000 pressurized water reactors. 'And they've already been certified by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.' FPL and Westinghouse are starting negotiations for a contract, he added." Villafaña said "getting further approvals for the plants would be 'an enormous undertaking and has regulatory challenges,' but FPL decided it needed to keep charging ahead before approvals 'to preserve the nuclear option.' At the moment, he said, a Japanese steel plant is the only place forging complex steel components for new nuclear plants, and FPL is spending money now to reserve production time at that plant."

The [South Florida Sun-Sentinel](#) (5/6, Patel) reports, "Florida Power & Light Co. is proposing passing about \$259 million in costs next year to customers for expanding two South Florida nuclear plants. That means FPL customers who use about 1,000 kilowatt-hours of energy per month and spend about \$102.49 a month would see an increase of about \$2.51 on their monthly bills in 2009, FPL spokesman Mayco Villafana said." Florida's Public Service Commission "approved FPL's plans to build two nuclear plants at Turkey Point near Miami, which could cost anywhere from \$12 billion to \$24 billion. Last year, regulators approved a \$1.5 billion expansion of four nuclear generators, two at Turkey Point and two in St. Lucie County."

EnergySolutions Wants Court To Decide Extent Of Interstate Compact's Powers. The [Deseret Morning News](#) (5/6, Speckman) reports, "EnergySolutions filed a lawsuit after business hours Monday in US District Court, asking a judge to decide whether the Northwest Interstate Compact on Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management has authority over whether the company's Clive facility should be allowed to store materials coming from Italy." The filing "seeks only a declaratory judgment action and is not asking for damages." The News notes a comment from EnergySolutions spokesman John Ward, who said, "There has been a lot of misinformation quoted in association with this part of the project," and added, "A lot of people don't have a good understanding of what's involved here." EnergySolutions will meet with compact members Thursday on the proposal "to import 20,000 tons of waste from old

nuclear reactors in Italy for processing and recycling in Tennessee. The leftovers after processing, about 1,600 tons of Class A radioactive waste, are planned for disposal in Utah.” The News adds, “EnergySolutions’ lawsuit seeks a declaratory judgment to agree with company CEO Steve Creamer’s claim that the NRC has the ‘scientific and technical expertise to evaluate import license applications pursuant to the regulatory criteria.”

Compact To Meet Thursday. The [Salt Lake Tribune](#) (5/6, Fahys) reports, “EnergySolutions has gone to court to protect its plan to import low-level nuclear waste from Italy. The Salt Lake City nuclear waste services company filed a lawsuit Monday asking the US District Court in Utah to rule that a regional organization, the Northwest Interstate Compact on Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management, has no authority over its Utah disposal site.” The Tribune adds the “eight member states of the compact are to” meet Thursday in Boise and “consider whether to give explicit approval for the importation of foreign waste to the EnergySolutions disposal facility in Tooele County. But because of a vow made last month by Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman Jr., Utah is set to use its deciding vote to block the Italy waste.” The Tribune adds, “Under federal law, Utah is a member of the Northwest Compact. The compact is part of a nationwide system that appoints regional authorities to decide what kinds of waste are permitted in and out of its boundaries and from where the waste can come.”

In its press release on the subject, [EnergySolutions](#) (5/5) said, “The Northwest Compact is a regional entity comprised of eight States, including Utah. EnergySolutions contends that, because Clive is a private commercial facility rather than a regional facility licensed and operated under the Northwest Compact, the Compact’s authority is limited to matters pertaining to its own regional low-level waste disposal facility located in Richland, Washington. EnergySolutions also announced that it has offered to self-impose a limit on international material equal to 5 percent of the remaining capacity at its Clive disposal facility.” EnergySolutions CEO Steve “Creamer noted that international shipments of radioactive material occur every day, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has authorized similar recycling and disposal projects in the past.”

Duke’s Plans For New Reactor In SC Said To Be On Hold From Water Concerns. Fox affiliate, [WHNS-TV](#) Greenville, SC (5/5, 8:34amET) broadcast, “Plans to build a nuclear power plant near Gaffney are on hold because of water issues. The facility would be Duke Energy’s first nuclear power plant in nearly 20 years -- its first not built on a large reservoir. The company reportedly plans to draw about 50-million gallons of water per day from the

Broad River. Opponents of the plant say the river can’t sustain that.”

Whistleblower Says Seabrook Plant Has Too Few Feedwater Pumps In Case Of Emergency.

[New Hampshire Public Radio](#) (5/2, Wood) reported last Friday on former Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant chemist Mark Gillespie’s claims “that he was forced out of his job for reporting an alleged problem with the plant’s emergency water pumps.” Gillespie, “says that he reported deficiencies in the plant’s emergency feedwater system to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,” but says the plant “doesn’t have enough auxiliary feedwater pumps to cool the reactor in case of a shutdown.” NHPR added, “Seabrook Plant spokesman Alan Griffith says that he won’t respond to Gillespie’s specific allegation, But he points out that the plant and all of its systems are designed and certified by the NRC to withstand earthquakes, fires and other disasters. ... And says Griffith, Gillespie has a history of reporting allegations of safety deficiencies at the plant.”

Montague Town Leaders Vote To Shutter Vermont Yankee.

The [Greenfield \(MA\) Recorder](#) (5/5, Albertini) reports, “Town meeting members want to see the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant in Vernon, Vt. closed. By a majority vote on Saturday, town meeting members approved a petitioned article opposing the relicensing and calling for the decommissioning of the plant, development and implementation of strategies for the full re-employment of displaced workers and for efforts to replace the electricity fueled by nuclear power with a combination of energy efficiency and conservation and using renewable energy sources.” The Recorder says, “Town meetings in 14 other area towns are deciding on similar articles. ... Speaking against the motion, town meeting member Barry Lavigne said he’d like to see more nuclear power. Supporting the motion isn’t a question of supporting nuclear power, but rather of whether it’s a good idea to let the plant stay open longer than its life expectancy, said town meeting member Pam Hanold.”

Nuclear Industry Drawing New Supporters From Labor Unions Ranks.

The [National Journal](#) (5/3, Kosterlitz) reported, “As it plots a comeback in the United States, the nuclear power industry is cultivating a critical ally: organized labor. The reasons are both practical and political. The industry’s plan to build dozens of power plants requires thousands of workers, many of them with special skills that have become scarce during a more than 20-year hiatus in major construction. Good relations with unions could pave the way to steady labor supplies, smooth relations with workers, and more training programs to provide skilled labor.” Additionally, and perhaps “more important, the

industry could use labor's clout with Democrats to help ensure support in Congress—and in a White House that could soon be home to a Democrat—for the substantial federal backing needed to help get plant construction rolling again.” The Journal adds in “January, according to lobby disclosure filings,” the NEI “bolstered its already substantial K Street bench by hiring the new team of Michael Mathis and Chuck Harple,” who were, until recently, “the government affairs director and the political director for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.” The Journal adds the “allure of nuclear power for labor is the massive number of jobs—as many as 71,300 during peak construction—that the industry says would be needed to build the 31 reactors on the drawing board.”

URS Official Says New SC Nuclear Energy HQ Well-Positioned To Lead Renaissance. The [Rock Hill \(SC\) Herald](#) (5/6, O'Daniel) reports, “The URS Nuclear Center is positioned to be at the heart of a ‘nuclear renaissance’ over the next decade, company officials said Monday. And one Palmetto State lawmaker pledged to fight for pro-nuclear energy policies in Washington during a dedication ceremony at the company's new office in northern Lancaster County. ‘We have the history, we have the willpower, we have the programs and, in South Carolina, we have the talent base for a nuclear renaissance,’ said Tom Zarges, URS Washington Division president,” who added the US has “aging plants, and we have a growing demand for energy. ... What we offer today is the most advanced nuclear energy technology.’ The Nuclear Center, part of URS Washington Division, a company that designs, engineers and services commercial nuclear power plants, announced this spring its plans to locate its engineering and development headquarters in Indian Land.” The Herald adds, “A company spokeswoman said about 100 workers will be in the office by the end of the year, and up to 400 mostly engineering jobs will be housed in the building eventually. Worldwide, URS employs 56,000 people in three divisions in more than 30 countries.”

Nuclear Industry Executives To Talk Policy In Chicago This Week. In a piece for [Stockhouse.com](#) (5/6), Luke Brocki, who manages the uranium news site U3O8.biz, writes the “week could be pivotal for the nuclear industry,” as “hundreds of nuclear executives will flock to Chicago to gab policy at the Nuclear Energy Institute's 55th annual Nuclear Energy Assembly.” Chicago “will host the three-day forum May 5 to 7. This year it's all about energizing the world's low-carbon future. Talks of the industry's record performances at existing power plants are expected to be flanked by discussions of plans for new nuclear plants across the United States.” Brocki says

according to the NEI “the first four to eight new US reactors are expected to start operating come about 2016. Nuclear proponents hope this new generation of reactors will help feed a country increasingly hungry for power—projections estimate a 30 percent increase in US electricity demand between now and 2030.” The NRC “has received license applications for 15 potential reactors, and more applications are expected to come in through 2008.”

Debate Over Future Of Nuclear Weapons May Affect Plans For Kansas City Facility. The [Kansas City Star](#) (5/6, Collison) reports, “A \$500 million plan to replace the nuclear weapons plant at the Bannister Federal Complex has thrust Kansas City into the national debate on the future of such armaments. Development proposals were received last month by the federal agency in charge of building a new 1.4 million-square-foot facility for Honeywell Federal Manufacturing & Technologies.” The facility “would continue Kansas City's role in a national nuclear weapons manufacturing network dating to the dawn of the Cold War. ... ‘The existing facility is now 65 years old and is becoming increasingly expensive to operate and maintain,’ said Mark Holecek, deputy site manager for the [NNSA]. ‘Also, it's about three times larger than is needed to meet current and anticipated demands of the nuclear weapons stockpile.’ That's where the national policy debate comes into play. Just what those demands for nuclear weapons will be in the 21st century remains an open question.” The Star adds, “Critics say it makes no sense to build a costly new plant when the requirements of the US nuclear arsenal remain unclear.”

Illness Forces Withdrawal Of Attorney Representing Nevada In Yucca Case. The [Las Vegas Sun](#) (5/6, Manning) reports, “The lead attorney representing Nevada in its fight against a nuclear repository at Yucca Mountain has departed because of illness, said Bob Loux, director of the state Agency for Nuclear Projects. Attorney Joe Egan has battled stomach cancer for more than two years. He is continuing in an advisory role but Martin G. Malsch, a 30-year veteran of nuclear law and former acting general counsel of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, became lead licensing counsel last week.” The Sun adds, “Egan's firm, Egan, Fitzpatrick & Malsch, was hired in 2001 by Nevada to represent it before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in licensing proceedings for the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository.”

Molasses Injected Into Hanford Soil Shows Promising Results. The [Tri-City Herald \(WA\)](#) (5/5, Cary) reports, “Molasses injected into the soil at Hanford last fall is nourishing bacteria and may be a recipe for success in cleaning up the ground water. It's too soon to call the test of

the cleanup technology a success, but it is showing promising initial results.” DOE “is investigating several ways to clean up chromium that was spilled or dumped near Hanford reactors when they were producing plutonium for the nation's nuclear weapons programs.”

DOE To Test Oak Ridge Sirens. [The Oak Ridger](#) (5/6) reports DOE’s “Public Warning Siren System will be tested Wednesday in the areas surrounding the Department’s Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR). The sirens will be tested between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. ... The sirens are located near DOE’s East Tennessee Technology Park, Y-12 National Security Complex, and Oak Ridge National Laboratory.”

DHS: Study Finds Hospitals Lack Capacity To Respond To Terrorist Attack. [USA Today](#) (5/6, 3A, Hall, 2.28M) reports a study released Monday by the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform has found that trauma centers in hospitals “in seven major cities do not have the capacity to handle even a modest terrorist attack.” Lawmakers examined “hospitals’ ability to deal with a sudden influx of victims in the five cities considered at highest risk for terrorist attack and in the two cities hosting this summer’s political conventions.” Rep. Henry Waxman, the committee chairman said that if a terrorist attack had occurred on the date of the survey, “the consequences would have been catastrophic. The emergency care systems were stretched to the breaking point and had no capacity to respond to a surge of victims.” USA Today notes that DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff and Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt will testify Wednesday “on the implications for national preparedness.”

[CQ Politics](#) (5/5) reported Waxman said Monday that new Medicaid regulations from the Bush administration, which would cut federal funding to public and teaching hospitals, would hurt the emergency rooms and trauma centers that would respond to a ‘mass casualty event’ like a terrorist attack. He said if Health and Human Services Secretary Michael O. Leavitt issued the regulations without considering the impact on terrorism preparedness, “that would be a shocking and inexplicable breach of his responsibilities.” However, “Republicans accused Waxman of attempting to politicize the issue, arguing that Medicaid payments to hospitals are only a small factor one way or the other in emergency room crowding. ‘I am particularly concerned that a partisan, amateur survey was done to justify and politicize today’s hearing,’ said Rep. Darrell Issa , R-Calif.”

The [Washington Post](#) (5/6, A4, Hsu, Sheridan, 723K) reports, “Rep. Christopher Shays (Conn.), the senior Republican on the panel, said he agreed that changes are needed to the administration’s Medicaid plan but cautioned that making them would not create adequate hospital ‘surge capacity’ by itself. ‘Stabilizing Medicaid payment policies

alone won’t guarantee readiness against bombs or epidemics any more than the annual cost-of-living raises assure people they’re safe against inflation or a recession,’ he said.” The study’s findings were questioned by hospital officials and Republican aides who “said the statistics are misleading because emergency room space and inpatient beds would be cleared in an actual emergency.”

The only major network to cover the study during its evening broadcast, [ABC World News](#) (5/5, story 9, 0:25, Gibson, 8.78M) reported that the “dire findings” show that “emergency care systems would be stretched to the breaking point and have no capacity to respond to a surge of victims. The situation found to be especially bad in Washington DC and in Los Angeles.” On its web site [ABC News](#) (5/6, Wolf) provides more details, reporting, “Some Republicans on the committee questioned the veracity of the survey prepared by the staff on the committee.” Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., “called it ‘amateur.’” This morning “Waxman will have tough questions for” Chertoff and Leavitt, “who Waxman said today cannot even provide documentation that they officially considered the effect the Medicaid cuts will have on disaster preparedness.”

FEDERAL DIARY: Officials Unsure Whether Number Of Contracting Officers Is Sufficient.

The [Washington Post’s](#) (5/6, D4, Barr) “Federal Diary” column reports, “The number of contracting officers in the government increased to 28,434 in 2007, up 6.8 percent since the Bush administration began, officials said yesterday. But how many contracting officers the government actually needs has not been determined, despite efforts by” OPM and OMB “over the past two years to develop plans for hiring and training contracting officers and specialists.” The Post adds, “Members of Congress have been concerned that the government has not done enough planning to get a handle on staffing and training needs of employees. Spending on contracts has surged since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and the start of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, to more than \$400 billion a year. As the numbers have increased, some agencies have found it difficult to manage their contracts to avert fraud and abuse.”

INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR NEWS:

British Energy Brings Hinkley Point, Hunterston Reactors Back Online. [Dow Jones](#)

[Newswires](#) (5/6, Herrero-Martinez) reports, “UK nuclear power plant operator British Energy PLC said Tuesday it brought two of its nuclear units back online over the weekend. ‘Hinkley Point came back on line on Saturday and Hunterston was brought back Sunday,’ a spokeswoman for the company said. The 640 megawatt Hunterston unit 7 reactor was offline

to allow for the completion of a boiler inspection, while the 662 megawatt Hinkley Point B unit 7 reactor was offline for maintenance.”

Nuclear Weapons Abolitionists Would Unravel America’s Strategic Deterrent, Analysts Say.

In a piece for the May 12, 2008 edition of the Weekly Standard (5/6) Henry Sokolski, executive director of the Nonproliferation Policy Education Center and Gary Schmitt, director of the program on advanced strategic studies at the American Enterprise Institute, write, “In January 2007 and again this year, the Wall Street Journal published an article on its influential opinion page calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons. What is most remarkable about these two articles is their joint bylines: Sam Nunn, William Perry, George Shultz, and Henry Kissinger.” Given “the authors’ reputations, their recommendations will be taken seriously and could well become points of departure for a fundamental change in US security policy when a new administration enters office next January.” The “ultimate goal, Nunn and company argue, is to reach a world in which nuclear weapons no longer exist. Short of that, in the interim, there should be as few of these weapons as is possible. Unless the measures they outline to reach that goal are adopted, they conclude, we will live in a far more dangerous world, in which nuclear proliferation is the norm and a policy of nuclear deterrence may no longer be viable.” The writers add, “Much of what they recommend in this area is already declared US and Russian policy. And what isn’t—for example, turning the existing nuclear testing and military fissile production moratoriums into legally binding treaties—is judged to be unverifiable not only by arms control skeptics, but by the State Department’s own Bureau of Verification, Compliance and Implementation.” In their “push for disarmament, Nunn and company appear to throw cold water on the future viability of nuclear deterrence.”

Turkey’s New Reactor Tender Drawing Numerous Prospective Bidders.

[Bloomberg News](#) (5/6, Bentley) reports, “Japan’s Hochtief is among four foreign companies to have obtained tender documents for Turkey’s first nuclear power plant, Aksam newspaper said. Other potential bidders include France’s Vinci SA, the world’s biggest construction company, Belgium’s Suez-Tractebel SA and Canada’s AECL, Aksam reported without saying where it got the information. Banks from the US, Israel and UK have also asked for information about the tender with a view to providing finance for construction of the 4,000 megawatt reactor in southern Turkey, the newspaper said.”

Report: US Envoy To Visit North Korea This Week.

The [AP](#) (5/6) reports the State Department’s top

Korean affairs specialist, Sung Kim, “plans to visit North Korea this week for further discussions on the country’s nuclear declaration, a South Korean news report said Monday.” The State Department, however, “said no travel plans were finalized” for Kim, “although officials would not rule out suggestions that he might leave for North Korea sometime this week.” Yonhap news agency, “quoting an unidentified high-level South Korean government official, reported that Kim was preparing to visit Pyongyang later in the week and that Washington would soon announce a detailed schedule.” The South Korean Foreign Ministry “said it could not confirm the report.” In Washington, State Department spokesman Tom Casey “played down speculation that any such trip would signal a breakthrough in efforts to get North Korea to declare its nuclear programs.”

US Officials In North Korea To Discuss Food Aid.

The [AP](#) (5/6) reports separately that “a team of US officials is in North Korea for discussions on providing food aid as the Asian nation faces significant shortages,” the State Department said Monday. The “interagency delegation of about five people will be in Pyongyang for an undetermined amount of time trying to reach agreement...over how to guarantee that US food can be distributed to North Koreans most in need,” the department said.

Iran: No Nuclear Inspections Unless Israel Also Allows Them.

The [AP](#) (5/6, Higgins) reports, “An Iranian envoy said Monday his government will not submit to extensive nuclear inspections while Israel stays outside the global treaty to curb the spread of atomic weapons.” Ambassador Ali Asghar Soltanieh told a meeting of the 190 countries that have signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, “Israel, with huge nuclear weapons activities, has not concluded” an agreement “or submitted its facilities to the IAEA’s safeguards, Soltanieh said.” The AP adds “Israel, which does not discuss whether it has atomic weapons, did not sign the nonproliferation treaty, which requires all signatories except the major powers to refrain from obtaining nuclear arms.”

Peres Says Nuclear-Armed Iran Would Be World’s “Nightmare.”

[AFP](#) (5/6) reports, “Israeli President Shimon Peres warned on Monday that if Iran becomes a nuclear power it will create a ‘nightmare’ for the whole world and not just the Jewish state. ‘Iran is a danger not only for Israel but also for the rest of the world,’ Peres told foreign journalists.” AFP adds, “Peres said that Israel, the Middle East’s sole if undeclared nuclear power, did not intend to carry out any military action against Iran, like that which it carried out in 1981 against the Osirak nuclear reactor in Saddam Hussein’s Iraq. ‘There will be no need for military action if the world community is united,’ he said.”

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