INFORMATION REPORT

November 7, 2008 SECY-08-0175

For: The Commissioners

From: Vonna L. Ordaz
Assistant for Operations
Office of the Executive Director for Operations

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2008

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*No input this week.

/RA Tamara E. Bloomer Acting For/

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Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
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11/07/08	11/07/08

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WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2008

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

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*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 31, 2008

Public Meeting on Materials Reliability Program-169, Weld Overlay on Alloy 82/182 Dissimilar Metal Butt Welds

On October 23, 2008, the staff met with the industry to discuss the status of the industry's progress on the qualification of the ultrasonic examination of the optimized weld overlay. The weld overlay (full structural or optimized) is a method to repair or mitigate Alloy 82/182 dissimilar metal butt welds which are susceptible to primary water stress corrosion cracking in primary water reactors. The industry stated that the non-destructive evaluation qualification for optimized weld overlay is scheduled to be completed by end of 2008.

Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant License Renewal Pre-Hearing Conference

On October 29, 2008, the staff supported an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) pre-hearing conference on the contentions filed by the Prairie Island Indian Community concerning the Northern States Power Company's license renewal application for the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant. Approximately 30 people attended the meetings, including Northern States Power Company representatives (the applicant), and members of the Prairie Island Indian Community. The ASLB provided its opening remarks, focused on issues specific to the 11 contentions, issues specific to the motion to strike, and provided its closing remarks.

Office of New Reactors (NRO)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 31, 2008

Acceptance of the Exelon Nuclear Texas Holdings, LLC Combined License Application (COLA) for Two Reactors in Victoria County, Texas

On October 30, 2008, the staff informed Exelon Nuclear Texas Holdings, LLC that it had completed the acceptance review for the Victoria County Station Combined License (COL) application and the application has been accepted for docketing. This application is for a two unit economic simplified boiling water reactor in Victoria County, Texas. The staff plans to develop and issue a four phase schedule in early January for this subsequent COL. Development of this schedule will require approximately 60 days instead of the usual 30 days. The schedule will accommodate additional time for several safety tasks and the environmental review, to allow submittal of additional information by the applicant. The technical review of the COL application is scheduled to begin on November 3, 2008. The application is available in ADAMS (cover letter ML082540469), and on the public web site along with supplemental information provided by the applicant (http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/col/victoria.html).

Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 31, 2008

Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes Meeting Held

On October 27-28, 2008, the Advisory Committee on Medical Uses of Isotopes met at NRC Headquarters to discuss among other items, subcommittee reports on cesium chloride; the proposed rule on medical use of radioactive material for permanent implants; and options to comply with requirements for fingerprinting workers with access to radioactive materials.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 31, 2008

Meeting with the National Coordination Office (NCO) for Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD), Executive Office of Science and Technology Policy

On October 28, 2008, staff met with the senior leadership of the NCO for NITRD to learn about NCO-coordinated, cross-agency, NRC-relevant research activities concerning safety critical digital instrumentation and control software and systems, cyber security, human-computer interaction, and complex networks.

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 31, 2008

State of Nevada; Denial of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-2-14)

On October 22, 2008, the NRC published a notice (73 FR 62931) denying a petition for rulemaking submitted by the State of Nevada. The petition requested that NRC modify its regulation regarding issues specified for review in a notice of hearing for the Department of Energy application for a high-level waste (HLW) repository construction authorization at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. NRC denied the petition because it is inconsistent with current NRC rules and inconsistent with the Commission's intent when it established regulations requiring an opportunity for a hearing for all docketed HLW repository construction applications.

Protection of Safeguards Information (SGI); Final Rule (10 CFR Parts 2, 30, 40, 50, 52, 60, 63, 70, 71, 72, 73, 76, and 150, RIN 3150-AH57)

On October 24, 2008, the NRC published a final rule (73 FR 63545) amending its regulations for the protection of SGI to protect it from inadvertent release and unauthorized disclosure which might compromise the security of nuclear facilities and materials. The amendments modify the requirements for the protection of SGI with respect to persons, information, and materials subject to the regulations, as well as those that are not. The amendments reflect Commission Orders issued to licensees authorized to possess and transfer items containing certain quantities of radioactive material, amendments to the Atomic Energy Act (AEA) in the Energy Policy Act of 2005, and are within the scope of Commission authority under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended. Licensees and other persons subject to these regulations are required to implement these requirements, including any changes to security plans under these regulations, by February 23, 2009.

List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: NAC-UMS Revision 5 (AI48 - Part 72)

On October 27, 2008, the NRC published a direct final rule (73 FR 63621) that amends the NAC International, Inc., NAC-UMS Universal Storage System listing within the List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks (Amendment 5). This amendment includes a number of specific changes to the certificate of compliance for this cask system. The direct final rule becomes effective January 12, 2009.

On October 27, 2008, the NRC published the companion proposed rule (73 FR 63655) to this direct final rule. The comment period closes November 26, 2008.

Contract Award for ADAMS Software Services

On October 23, 2008, as a result of a competitive, negotiated acquisition, an Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity Task Ordering type contract, NRC-33-09-342, was awarded to International Business Machines Corporation of Bethesda, Maryland, for Agency-wide Documents Access and Management System Software Services. This contract provides support services for the

FileNet document management software suite of products. The contract contains provisions for issuance of both firm-fixed price and time and material type task orders. The contract includes a base period of October 23, 2008 - October 16, 2009, and two 1-year option periods. The total value of the contract, including all options, is $2,861,468.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 31, 2008

Association of Records Managers and Administrators Conference

From October 20 to 23, 2008, staff attended the annual conference and exposition of the Association of Records Managers and Administrators in Las Vegas, Nevada. This year's expo floor showcased the latest products and services by over 200 of the top industry vendors including Oracle, IBM, and Google. Educational sessions attended included Blogging for the Enterprise, Strategic Alignment and Records and Information Management, Managing Active Electronic Records, Taxonomy Development, Developing an Information Management Program Model, as well as the U.S. Federal Government Day hosted by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). More than 4600 professionals attended from the fields of records management, information technology, corporate counsel, health care, business administration, government, archives and more.

Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Public Users Group Semi-Annual Meeting

On October 29, 2008, staff participated in the semiannual meeting of the ADAMS Public User Group. There were 11 external attendees from organizations such as Westinghouse, Strategic Teaming and Resource Sharing (STARS), the State of Tennessee, Bechtel, HFC Controls, the Nuclear Energy Institute, Winston and Strawn, and General Electric Wilmington. Staff answered a number of questions submitted earlier through the ADAMS User Group distribution list and also presented an update on the Enterprise Content Management program. Questions addressed included status of the Citrix server change, problems in viewing the full list of documents retrieved in an ADAMS search, system "timing out" during a search, and plans for the future of ADAMS. A copy of the questions and answers will be stored in ADAMS and made publically available through the NRC public web site.

Federal Records Center (FRC) Program Forum

On October 29, 2008, staff attended the FRC Program Forum and the Bimonthly Records and Information Discussion Group (BRIDG) meeting hosted by the NARA in Washington, DC. The steep growth of NARA records holdings and the deployment of NARA's Archives and Records Centers Information System (ARCIS) were discussed at the FRC Forum. At the BRIDG meeting, NARA provided updates on the status of the Electronic Records Archive project, which, when fully deployed, will automate the submittal and approval of retention schedules and the transfer and subsequent preservation of Federal records.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of October 24, 2008 through October 30, 2008:

Indian Point Unit 2, Individual Plant Examination of External Events submittals, documents from December 1, 1995, to December 31, 2003, from the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research to the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation	FOIA/PA-2009-0022

Radioactive materials license for Jayor Corp., 11011 Torreyana Road, San Diego, CA 92121, 1982 through 1992	FOIA/PA-2009-0023
Metabolism of W185 in the Rat, by Ballou, J.E., Hanford Atomic Products Operation, USAEC, Richland, Washington, 1960, Report no. HW-64112	FOIA/PA-2009-0024
List of Office of the Inspector General investigations closed during January 1, 2007, to present	FOIA/PA-2009-0025

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 31, 2008

Retirements		
HARRIS, JOYCE	SECRETARY (OA)	NRR
KIRKWOOD, ANTHONY	HEALTH PHYSICIST	FSME
USOVA, GEORGE	TRAINING & ASSESSMENT SPECIALIST	NRR
Departures		
DICK, GEORGE	SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER	NRO
LANDIS, KERRY	CONSULTANT	RII
SLAGGIE, E LEO	CONSULTANT	OGC

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 31, 2008

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following:

The Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel decision to dismiss the contention before it as part of the proceedings of the Pilgrim nuclear plant's license renewal application in Massachusetts

An unusual event declared, at Quad Cities nuclear plant in Illinois, due to an explosion at an outbuilding where there were no injuries and did not impact plant operation

An alert declared at the Susquehanna nuclear power plant, Unit 2 in Pennsylvania, after higher-than-allowable nitrogen levels were detected in a room housing the plant's residual heat removal system

Other Public Affairs Items:

OPA supported Chairman Klein's visit to the University of Pittsburgh and his interview with the media

OPA participated in a scheduled emergency preparedness exercise with Grand Gulf nuclear power plant in Missouri

OPA assisted staff and handled media inquires at the Prairie Island license renewal hearing in Minnesota

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
08-196	River Bend Application for New Reactor Available on NRC Web Site (10/29)
08-197	Bell Bend Application for New Reactor Available on NRC Web Site (10/29)
08-198	NRC Accepts Application for New Reactors at Victoria County Site (10/31)
Regions:	
I-08-058	NRC Monitoring Alert at Susquehanna 2 Nuclear (10/27)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 31, 2008

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Information Papers		
1. SECY-08-0159	10/24/08	Weekly Information Report – Week Ending October 17, 2008

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congressman Bart Gordon, dated October 22, 2008, responds to letter requesting NRC deny the license application from EnergySolutions, inc. to import 20,000 tons of radioactive waste from Italy.

2. Letter to Governor Donald Carcieri, Rhode Island, dated October 21, 2008, concerns designation of a State Liaison Officer to act as the State of Rhode Island's liaison to the NRC.

Region II (RII)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 31, 2008

Regional Administrator Attends International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) Lessons Learned Meetings

On October 27-31, 2008, the Regional Administrator attended various IAEA IRRS lessons learned meetings in Paris, France and Vienna, Austria. On November 1-5, he will also attend a Spanish Nuclear Safety Council workshop for IRRS lessons learned in Sevilla, Spain.

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation Visits Bellefonte and Browns Ferry

On October 30-31, 2008, the Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, accompanied by the Deputy Regional Administrator for Construction, visited the Bellefonte and Browns Ferry nuclear power plants in Alabama.

Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 31, 2008

Meeting with Omaha Public Power District

On October 27, 2008, the staff met with representatives of Omaha Public Power District in the Region IV office to discuss performance at Fort Calhoun Station, the actions taken to address a crosscutting issue associated with procedures and work instructions, and the status of the station performance improvement plan. The public meeting was held at the request of the NRC.