INFORMATION REPORT

August 26, 2011 SECY-11-0121

For: The Commissioners

From: Nader L. Mamish
Assistant for Operations
Office of the Executive Director for Operations

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING AUGUST 19, 2011

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Secretary	G

/RA/

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Contact:
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DATE	08/26/11	08/26/11

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 19, 2011

American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code Meetings in Boston

During the week of August 8, 2011, staff attended the ASME Section III and Section XI meetings held in Boston, Massachusetts. The primary topic of interest during this meeting was Code Case (N-755) on the use of Polyethylene material for underground service water piping that ASME developed about three years ago. The staff didn't endorse Revision 1 of this Code Case and indicated that it would not endorse Revision 2 either due to a variety of technical concerns that remained unresolved from Revision 1.

Acceptance of License Renewal Application (LRA) for Limerick Generating Station

On August 12, 2011, staff completed the acceptance review of the LRA for Limerick Generating Station, Units 1 and 2 (Limerick). The staff determined that the application contains sufficient information for docketing. On June 22, 2011, the staff received the LRA from Exelon Generation Company, LLC, requesting the extension of the operating license for an additional 20 years beyond the current 40-year term. Limerick, Units 1 and 2, are boiling-water reactors designed by General Electric with current operating licenses that expire at midnight on October 26, 2024, for Unit 1, and June 22, 2029, for Unit 2. The staff plans to hold public information sessions at Limerick, Pennsylvania, on September 22, 2011, to describe the license renewal process and to accept scoping comments for the environmental review. Acceptance of the LRA, which is published in the *Federal Register*, begins a 60-day opportunity for members of the public to file a request for hearing and/or petition to intervene.

Public Meeting with General Electric Hitachi (GEH)

On August 15, 2011, the staff participated in a public meeting where GEH discussed its plans to produce radioactive medical isotope Molybdenum-99 in operating commercial boiling-water reactors. GEH and its client licensee addressed NRC staff comments and concerns as GEH provided technical content, conceptual designs, and licensing schedules for this project.

Meeting with U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)

On August 16, 2011, staff met with personnel from the DOT PHMSA to discuss DOT regulations and guidance associated with the use of guided wave ultrasonic testing techniques to monitor buried piping in gas and hazardous material applications. PHMSA provided a summary of their 18-point guideline to guided wave inspection. Also reviewed were limitations of the guided wave techniques and the experience base that PHMSA has with its use. Guided wave inspection has recently been used in nondestructive examinations of buried piping at nuclear facilities, and licensees are considering further expansion of its use.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 19, 2011

Public Meeting on Design Features

On August 17, 2011, NMSS staff met with representatives from the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), fuel cycle licensees, and applicants to discuss their proposed approach on the use of bounding assumptions and design features for risk assessment in integrated safety analyses. During the meeting, NMSS staff discussed the proposed approach and asked questions to better understand the industry's proposal. After much discussion, NMSS staff indicated that they will evaluate the information submitted by the industry and NEI, along with the meeting discussions, to establish the appropriate path forward. No regulatory commitments were made during the meeting. Meeting slides are available in the NRC's Agency-wide Documents Access and Management System at Accession Number ML112280625.

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 19, 2011

Technical Assistance in Support of Licensing Activities

On August 15, 2011, as a result of a noncompetitive acquisition, a cost-plus-fixed-fee type contract (NRC-HQ-11-C-03-0058) was awarded to Southwest Research Institute of San Antonio, Texas, to provide technical assistance in support of probabilistic risk assessment, fire protection, and accident dose assessments licensing activities related to nuclear reactor regulation. The period of performance is August 15, 2011, through September 28, 2012, with three 1-year option periods. The total value of the contract is $983,228.00, inclusive of all options.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 19, 2011

Nuclear Information and Records Management Conference

From August 15-17, 2011, the Deputy Executive Director for Corporate Support (DEDCM) from the Office of Executive Director for Operations, and staff from OIS and the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR) participated in the 2011 Nuclear Information and Records Management Association Conference. The DEDCM made the keynote speech at the 35th anniversary function. The speech covered current topics at NRC including new licensing, responding to Fukushima, and information management challenges. NSIR staff discussed the NRC incident response program and the NRC actions following the Fukushima event. OIS staff made presentations on NRC's records modernization activities. Presentations attended by staff covered topics such as the use of SharePoint to manage records, capturing knowledge management in documents, document control fundamentals, e-discovery and document management, plus other records management topics.

Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) Working Group Meeting

On August 18, 2011, staff from the Information and Records Services Division, the Office of General Counsel, and the Office of Commission Appellate Adjudication attended a CUI Working Group meeting at the Office of the CUI Executive Agent (EA). This was the second of weekly meetings to take place until early October 2011, during which agencies will work to standardize for common use across the Federal government the numerous proposed CUI categories and sub-categories that the EA received from agencies in May 2011. At this meeting, the EA briefly discussed the revisions to the two categories ("Patent" and "Copyright") discussed at the meeting on August 11, 2011. Subsequent discussion centered on the authorities in law, regulation, and government-wide use for the many subcategories that fall under the "Legal" category. The EA will use the discussions and subsequent email input from agencies to further standardize and refine the "Legal" category and subcategories. The next meeting, on August 24, 2011, will address the "Privacy" category and subcategories.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of August 12, 2011, through August 18, 2011:

Records on named individual	FOIA/PA-2011-0322
Nuclear Fuel Services, Erwin, Tennessee, records regarding licensing and indemnification agreements executed between 1965 and 1990	FOIA/PA-2011-0321
Adam Hasher, former Florida State Representative, any correspondence to and from NRC, January 1, 2002, to December 31, 2010; correspondence on behalf of Majority Leader and Deputy Majority Leader for the Florida House of Representatives	FOIA/PA-2011-0320

NRC Generic Fundamentals Examination Results for Vermont Yankee NPS, June 8, 2011, including final answer key, grading results for facility, copies of individual exam answer sheets for each employee, and NRC comments.	FOIA/PA-2011-0319
Office of the Inspector General closed investigations, C08018, C08014, C08041, C08012	FOIA/PA-2011-0318

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 19, 2011

Arrivals		
Rodgers, Felecia	Information Technology Specialist	RII
Retirements		
Hunter, James	Budget/Financial Analyst Team Leader	RII
Departures		
Eastman, David	Student Engineer	RES
Faucher, James	Student Information Technology (IT) Specialist	RIV
Fitz, Jonah	Student Management Analyst	ACRS
Garcia, Karla	Student Contract Assistant (CO-OP)	ACRS
Hall, Katherine	Student Clerk	FSME
Hansing, Nicholas	Student Engineer	RIII
Hiser, Diana	Student Engineer (CO-OP)	NRR
Izadjoo, Julia	Management Analyst	NRO
Jackson, Blake	Student Engineer (Summer)	RII
Lemay, Matthew	General Engineer	RIII
Martin, Sierra	Student Clerk	OIP
Pruett, Timothy	IT Specialist (INET)	OIS

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 19, 2011

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following:

The Commission's Staff Requirements Memorandum on the Japan Task Force recommendations, as well as the Task Force's presentation to the Advisory Committee an Reactor Safeguards.

Legal challenges filed by 25 public interest groups against the NRC claiming the agency is legally required to slow down reactor licensing and relicensing to address the recommendations of the Fukushima task force.

Other Public Affairs Items:

OPA supported public meetings on South Texas Project and Nuclear Fuel Services, as well as the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards meeting at Headquarters on the Japan Task Force.

Press Releases Issued	
Headquarters:	
11-147	NRC Announces Opportunity for Hearing on Application to Renew Operating Licenses for Limerick Nuclear Power Plant (8/15)
11-148	NRC Issues License for the Lost Creek in Situ Uranium Recovery Project in Wyoming (8/17)
11-149	NRC Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Revisions to Low-Level Radioactive Waste Reduction Policy Statement (8/17)
11-150	NRC Issues Final Safety Evaluation Report for Virgil C. Summer New Reactors Application (8/18)
11-151	Commission Seeks Prompt Action on Japan Task Force Recommendations (8/19)
Regions:	
II-11-044	NRC Schedules Public Meeting for August 24 to Discuss Watts Bar Unit 2 Construction Project (8/15)
III-11-029	NRC Begins Special Inspection at Palisades Nuclear Power Plant (8/15)
II-11-045	NRC Begins Special Inspection at Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant (8/16)
II-11-046	NRC Schedules Meeting in Hartsville to Discuss Robinson Nuclear Power Plant (8/17)
III-11-030	NRC Cites Prairie Island Unit 1 Nuclear Plant for an Issue Involving Battery Chargers (8/17)

II-11-047	NRC Issues Confirmatory Order to USEC'S Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (8/18)
III-11-031	NRC Issues $15,000 Fine and Confirmatory Order to Professional Service Industries, Inc. (8/18)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 19, 2011

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SRM on SECY-11-0019	08/15/2011	Senior Management Review of Overall Regulatory Approach to Groundwater Protection
2. Commission Voting Record on SECY-11-0019	08/15/2011	(Same)
3. SRM on SECY-11-0093	08/19/2011	Near-Term Report and Recommendations for Agency Actions Following the Events in Japan
4. Commission Voting Record on SECY-11-0093	08/19/2011	(Same)
5. SECY-11-0108	08/05/2011	Regulation of Chemical Security
6. SECY-11-0106	08/04/2011	Final Rule: U.S. Advanced Boiling-Water Reactor Aircraft Impact Design Certification Amendment (RIN 3150-AI84)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-11-0111	08/12/2011	Staff Progress in Resolving Issues Associated with Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Senators James Inhofe and Barbara Boxer, dated August 12, 2011, responds to letter relating to the regulatory safety comparisons with that of Japan.

2. Letter to Congressman Bobby Rush, dated August 11, 2011, responds to letter regarding events at Dresden Nuclear Power Station.

3. Letter to Congressman Edward Markey, dated August 11, 2011, responds to letter regarding NRC actions being taken in response to the recent events in Japan.

4. Letter to Senator Dianne Feinstein, dated August 10, 2011, responds to request that the NRC begin examining seismic and tsunami hazards, operational issues, plant security etc. within the scope of the relicensing process.

5. Letter to Congressman Edward Markey, dated August 10, 2011, responds to letter relating to the May 10, 2011, event at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant.

Federal Register Notices

1. Exelon Generation Company, LLC; PSEG Nuclear, LLC; Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station, Unit 3; Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for a Hearing and Order Imposing Procedures for Document Access to Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information.

2. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), notice of the 586th meeting (09/08-09/10/2011).

3. Reed College, Facility License No. R-112; Notice of Acceptance for Docketing and Opportunity to Provide Comments and/or Request a Hearing and Order Imposing Procedures for Access to Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information.

4. ACRS, Subcommittee Meeting on Regulatory Policies and Practices, notice of meeting (09/07/2011, p.m.).

5. ACRS, Subcommittee Meeting on Digital Instrumentation and Control Systems, notice of meeting (09/07/2011, a.m.).

6. ACRS, Subcommittee Meeting on Planning and Procedures, notice of meeting (09/07/2011, p.m.).

7. NRC Application for a License to Export Heavy Water.