

INFORMATION REPORT

December 13, 2011

SECY-11-0171

For: The Commissioners

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

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 2, 2011

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Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 2, 2011

Headquarters Audiovisual (AV) - Video Conferencing Services (VTC) Multimedia Support Services

On November 29, 2011, as the result of an 8(a) non-competitive solicitation, a hybrid firm fixed price/labor hour contract (NRC-HQ-12-C-10-0001) was awarded to 3 Links Technology, Inc. of Silver Spring, Maryland. This is a short-term contract which will provide the NRC with VTC, AV, and photographic services, both onsite at NRC and at NRC events in the Washington metropolitan area. The period of performance is December 1, 2011, to November 30, 2012, for VTC Services and March 1, 2012, to November 30, 2012, for AV and photography services. There is a six-month option period that covers all services from December 1, 2011, to May 30, 2012. The total estimated cost is \$3,525,108, inclusive of the option.

December 2, 2011

ENCLOSURE A

Office of Human Resources (HR)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending December 2, 2011

Arrivals		
Georgetown, Rachael	BRANCH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	R-II
Zepeda, Latisha	CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR	OI
Retirements		
Huth, Virginia	DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF CONTRACTS	ADM
Johnson, Deborah	MANAGEMENT ANALYST	NRR
Johnson, Dennis	SENIOR PROGRAM ANALYST (BUDGET)	OIS
Pell, George	PROPERTY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT	ADM
Perch, Elizabeth	MANAGEMENT ANALYST	NRR
Riner, Joyce	PROGRAM ANALYST	HR
Rogers, Walter	SENIOR REACTOR ANALYST	R-II
Saltos, Nicholas	SENIOR RELIABILITY AND RISK ANALYST	NRO
Scott, Betty	RECORDS MANAGEMENT TECHNICIAN	OIS
Smith, Mary	ACTING BRANCH CHIEF	NRR
Tinkler, Charles	SR ADV SEV ACC PHEN, CODE DEV & ANALY	RES
Tobe, Celestia	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	NRR
Departures		
Barrett, Amy	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	R-II
Braden, Michael	GENERAL ENGINEER (NSPDP)	NRO
Erb, Delson	SR REACTOR TECHNOLOGY INSTRUCTOR	HR

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 2, 2011

Semi-Annual Freedom of Information Act Training

On December 1, 2011, staff from the Information and Records Services Division, OIS, presented Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) training to headquarters and regional staff. The training covered FOIA processes and procedures, FOIA exemptions including the recent Supreme Court decision pertaining to Exemption 2, reports, discretionary releases, and the "foreseeable harm" standard. Thirteen staff took the course, including representatives from Regions I, II, and III who participated via video teleconference.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of November 25, 2011, through December 1, 2011:

Soil Sample Readings and Produced Sample Test Results for area between Cemetery Road and Center Street, north from Smiley Road to the town of Braidwood, Illinois	FOIA/PA-2012-0070
Communication between the Department of State and the American Embassy in Tokyo, Japan March 18, 2011 - March 25, 2011, regarding Potassium Iodide medicine to US Citizens	CON-2012-0001
Contract for Copy and Printing Services, GS25F0007L	FOIA/PA-2012-0071
Records re: Carmine S. Bellino	FOIA/PA-2012-0072

CON = Consultation requests from other agencies: a DOJ requirement to track consultations separately from FOIA/PA requests.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 2, 2011

Meeting with the Department of Energy (DOE)/National Nuclear Safety Administration (NNSA),
and the Nuclear Materials Management and Safeguards System (NMMSS) Operator

On Tuesday November 29, 2011, the Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards (FCSS) staff participated in a meeting with staff from DOE/NNSA and the NMMSS operator to discuss the transfer of the routine Agreement for Cooperation nuclear material tracking activities from DOE staff to the NMMSS operator. Since 1978, the implementation of all Agreement for Cooperation activities has been performed by DOE/NNSA staff located at the Forrestal Building. The DOE/NNSA has proposed that nuclear tracking activities be transferred to the NMMSS operator, since NMMSS has the source information needed for completing the activities. One additional NMMSS staff person will be required to handle these activities and the cost for the additional NMMSS staff is expected to be assumed by DOE/NNSA. FCSS staff will provide assistance to DOE/NNSA and NMMSS to minimize the impact of this change on the NRC licensed community.

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 2, 2011

Nuclear Energy Agency Meeting in Paris, France

From November 21-23, 2011, staff participated in the first Cable Aging Data And Knowledge (CADAK) Project Review Group (PRG) meeting in Nuclear Energy Agency headquarters in Paris, France. The objectives of the CADAK PRG are to: (1) establish the technical basis for assessing the qualified life of electrical cables in light of the uncertainties identified following the initial qualification testing; (2) estimate the remaining qualified lifetime of cables and available margins; and (3) update and benchmark data of various cable condition monitoring techniques used in nuclear power plants adopted by various countries. The staff plans to use insights gained from this project to update the regulatory guide for cable condition monitoring. This project is expected to be completed in 2014.

Crystal River Unit 3 Extended Power Uprate Acceptance

By application dated June 15, 2011, the licensee requested a 15.5% extended power uprate (EPU) for Crystal River Unit 3. Subsequently, the staff identified several information needs in order to accept the application, and via seven supplemental letters issued in July through October 2011, the licensee provided the supplemental information. By letter dated November 21, 2011, the NRC informed the licensee that the application provides technical information in sufficient detail to enable the staff to proceed with the detailed technical review.

NRC's standard review time for an EPU is 12 months after NRC's acceptance of the application. However, NRC's November 21, 2011, letter states that review of the Crystal River, Unit 3, EPU will require additional time because: (1) this is a first-of-a-kind application for a Babcock and Wilcox nuclear steam supply system plant; and (2) the application includes crediting a new safety-related fast cool-down system to assist the emergency core cooling system during a small-break loss-of-coolant accident, which requires substantial review by the staff. Therefore, the NRC's letter states that it anticipates that it will require more than one year, and possibly up to two years, from the date of the acceptance letter to complete its review.

NRC's letter also states that the licensee indicated that EPU implementation will occur following completion of Crystal River, Unit 3, containment repair activities and that the licensee is still developing the repair plan. Given these schedule uncertainties, the NRC's letter states that the staff may defer portions of its review activities until the licensee finalizes the containment repair plan and implementation schedule and that it will update its overall review schedule accordingly.

Pre-licensing Meetings with South Texas Project (STP) Nuclear Operating Company

On December 1, 2011, representatives of the STP Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) and staff met to discuss the licensee's proposed risk-informed approach for resolving Generic Safety Issue No. 191 (GSI-191), "Assessment of Debris Accumulation on Pressurized-Water Reactor (PWR) Sump Performance," regarding South Texas Project, Units 1 and 2. This is the eighth pre-licensing meeting where the licensee has discussed its proposed use of the criteria in Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.174, "An Approach for Using Probabilistic Risk Assessment in Risk-Informed Decisions on Plant-Specific Changes to the Licensing Basis," to resolve GSI-191 for STP. The primary topic for discussion was the result of initial quantification for in-vessel effects.

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 2, 2011

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following:

The issuance of two NRC special inspection reports for the Palisades nuclear power plant (Michigan): the first regarding a repeat coupling failure on a service water pipe; and the second regarding an electrical problem that caused a complicated scram, loss of half of the control room indicators, and faulty actuations of certain safety systems.

An NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board ruling that denied a post-Fukushima contention filed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts regarding a spent fuel pool analysis at the Pilgrim nuclear power plant (Massachusetts).

A hearing request filed by the National Resources Defense Council (NRDC) regarding the Limerick nuclear power plant (Pennsylvania) license renewal application.

The restart date of the Pilgrim nuclear power plant (Massachusetts) that had shut down recently due to a feedwater valve that was leaking and could not be isolated.

The status of the NRC's review of cracks in the shield of the Davis Besse nuclear power plant (Ohio) reactor building and possible restart dates.

NRC's November 21, 2011, inspection report on a June incident at USEC's Lead Cascade facility in Piketon (Ohio) in which a few centrifuge machines crashed related to a power outage.

Other Public Affairs Items:

OPA posted the blogs:

- NRC and the nuclear industry to continue dialogue on Japan Task Force recommendations.
- The Near-Term Task Force Report – Readable for All?

Press Releases Issued	
Headquarters:	
11-218	NRC Approves Rule Enhancing Background Check Requirements for Staff at Research Reactors (12/01/2011)
11-217	NRC Seeks Public Comment on Implementation of Reactor Oversight Process (11/29/2011)
11-216	NRC to Discuss Implementing Recommendations of Near-Term Japan Task Force December 1, 2011, in Rockville, Maryland. (11/29/2011)
Regions:	
III-11-035	NRC Concludes Davis-Besse Nuclear Plant Safe to Restart and Issues Confirmatory Action Letter (12/02/2011)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 2, 2011

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Information Papers		
1. SECY-11-0159	11/10/2011	Status of the Decommissioning Program - 2011 Annual Report
Memoranda		
1. M111129B	12/01/2011	Staff Requirements - Meeting with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congressman Edward J. Markey, dated November 21, 2011, responds to letter regarding strengthened safety and emergency response requirements to address extreme weather events on U.S. nuclear power plants.
2. Letter to Congress and U.S. Government Accountability Office, dated November 21, 2011, provides NRC's FY 2011 Performance and Accountability Report.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, Revised Meeting of the Subcommittee on Materials, Metallurgy and Reactor Fuels, notice of meeting (12/15/2011).
2. Applications and Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses Involving Proposed No Significant Hazards Considerations and Containing Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information.
3. 10 CFR Part 50 [Docket No. PRM-50-94] Petition for Rulemaking submitted by Sherwood Martinelli (PRM-50-94; NRC-2010-0004).
4. 10 CFR Part 73 [Docket Nos. PRM-73-15; NRC-2011-0251] Installation of Radiation Alarms for Rooms Housing Neutron Sources.