



NUDACS
UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

Mr. Jim Sugarman
Staff Researcher
Multinational Monitor
P.O. Box 19405
Washington, DC 20036

JAN 5 - 1990

IN RESPONSE REFER
TO FOIA-89-425

Dear Mr. Sugarman:

This is in regard to your letter dated September 29, 1989, in which you requested "information on all foreign nuclear power plant accidents that have been reported to or discovered by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission from the year 1979 to the present," particularly "information about the severity of the accidents, the economic costs of the accidents, and the dates of the accidents."

The NRC has experienced difficulty in attempting to process your request due to our doubt about the intended scope of your request regarding "accidents." Although in a telephone conversation with Ms. Carol Ann Reed on October 13, 1989, you clarified the use of the word "accidents" to include "incidents", we still experienced difficulty in attempting to process your request because the NRC does not compile information as requested. For your information and assistance in this matter, we are providing the following comments about the nature of the information provided to the NRC by foreign governments about foreign nuclear power plants.

The NRC received a great deal of data regarding the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, which occurred in April 1986, which was the subject of two NRC NUREG reports, Report of the Accident at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Station, NUREG 1250, Rev. 1, dated December 1986; and Implications of the Accident at Chernobyl for Safety Regulation of Commercial Nuclear Power Plants in the United States, NUREG 1251, Vols. 1 and 2, dated April 1989, which are available for purchase from the following organizations:

Government Printing Office
Superintendent of Documents
P.O. Box 37082
Washington, DC 20013-7982

National Technical Information Service
Springfield, VA 22161

The NRC Public Document Room (PDR), located at 2120 L Street, NW, Washington, DC, contains other documents which concern, directly or indirectly, the Chernobyl accident, including information in the file on U.S. nuclear reactor safety cooperation with the USSR. We are enclosing a list of FOIA requests pertaining to the Chernobyl accident for which we processed a voluminous amount of records, copies of which are in the PDR.

There are, of course, many reports on the accident at the Chernobyl plant in the open literature, including publications of the International Atomic Energy

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Agency (IAEA) such as IAEA's recently issued Medical Aspects of the Chernobyl Accident: Proceedings of an All-Union Conference Organized by the USSR Ministry of Health and the All-Union Scientific Center of Radiation Medicine, USSR Academy of Medical Sciences, and held in Kiev, 11-13 May 1988, IAEA-TECDOC-516, printed July 1988. Such documents may be obtained, as microfiche copies, from the INIS Clearinghouse, IAEA, Wagramerstrasse 5, P.O. Box 100, A-1400 Vienna, Austria.

Aside from the April 1986 accident at the Chernobyl plant, there have been no foreign nuclear power plant accidents or incidents which have received such extensive individual attention from NRC. However, foreign reactor operational experience is of interest to NRC, and NRC staff sometimes refers to foreign events, although usually not by name or country, when issuing Information Notices and Bulletins to U.S. reactor operators to call attention to or require action on potential design, quality control, procedural, or other problems. In addition, the staff may produce case studies and reports of incident investigations which may discuss or refer to foreign experience. A list of certain pertinent Information Notices, Bulletins, case studies and reports is enclosed. These documents are publicly available in the PDR.

NRC's International Programs office formally receives reports on events from foreign governments (1) through the Nuclear Energy Agency in the form of Incident Reporting System (IRS) reports and (2) under bilateral agreements. Please note that such foreign government reports submitted as proprietary information are exempt from disclosure under FOIA Exemption 4 (5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4)) and would be withheld from disclosure if they were subject to your request. The NRC staff does not compile statistics on the events or on accidents or incidents that might be included among these reports. Further, the NRC does not assess events in the country of origin, has no regulatory interest in information such as economic costs in the country of origin, and therefore does not compile requested data on severity and economic costs.

A few countries routinely send to NRC operational reports which carry no restrictions regarding distribution to third parties. Enclosed is a list of reports of that type, which may be of interest to you, and the reports are being placed in the PDR in file folder FOIA-89-425.

The staff noted that in light of the Chernobyl accident and public concerns regarding nuclear energy matters, many countries have been reviewing their policies and practices to consider how they may inform the public and news media promptly and accurately of anything unusual occurring at their nuclear power plants. Some countries have been issuing public announcements about incidents at their nuclear power plants and have been experimenting with "severity" or "gravity" scales in an attempt to characterize the significance of these incidents. Enclosed is a list of some recent announcements and the announcements are being placed in the PDR in file folder FOIA-89-425.

If you wish to contact foreign groups directly to request available information, we have enclosed two lists of contacts. The first is a list of organizations which are involved in reporting and working with power reactor

incident information from their countries. This list covers Canada, Japan and the nuclear power countries of Western Europe, including the United Kingdom. The second list expands the list of countries and contacts to include the USSR, countries of Eastern Europe, Third World countries, and South Africa. Neither list includes Taiwan. The organization to contact in Taiwan is the Atomic Energy Council; 67 Lane 144; Keelung Road, Section 4; Taipei 107; Taiwan.

For your assistance, the staff also noted that you may wish to conduct research in the publicly available sources noted below.

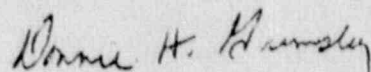
DOE Energy available from Dialog - Enclosed is some literature concerning this information retrieval system.

NEXIS available from Mead Data Central

Also, the IAEA publishes some reports and has a worldwide on-line computerized bibliography known as the International Nuclear Information System (INIS). You may wish to contact the IAEA at the address listed above for additional information about access to IAEA reports. Access to INIS is available through the DOE Energy Information retrieval system.

We hope the above information is of assistance to you. If you have any questions regarding this letter, you may telephone Ms. Reed at 492-4262. If we do not hear from you within 20 days of the date of this letter, we will assume we have satisfied your interest at this time and will close our file on your request. You may, of course, submit a new request at any time in the future. If, after you have reviewed the information provided, you decide you wish specific NRC records, please submit another FOIA request specifically describing the records in which you are interested.

Sincerely,



Donnie H. Grimsley, Director
Division of Freedom of Information
and Publications Services
Office of Administration

Enclosures: As stated

PREVIOUS FOIA REQUEST CONCERNING
CHERNOBYL

FOIA NUMBER

86-335

86-336

86-346

86-517

86-548

86-586

86-763

87-153

	<u>Date</u>	<u>IE Information Notice Numbers</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u># Pages</u>
1.	10/07/83	83-66	Fatality at Argentine Critical Facility (Acc. No. 8308300752)	3
2.	05/25/84	83-66, Supl. 1	Fatality at Argentine Critical Facility (Acc. #8405240317)	8
3.	05/09/85	85-36	Malfunction of a Dry-Storage, Panoramic, Gamma Exposure Irradiator (Acc. #8505070529)	3
4.	07/16/85	85-57	Lost Iridium-192 Source Resulting in the Death of Eight Persons in Morocco (Acc. #8507120312)	3
5.	05/02/86	86-32	Request for Collection of Licensee Radioactivity Measurements Attributed to the Chernobyl Nuclear Plant Accident (Acc. #8605020492)	10
6.	06/06/86	86-32, Supl. 1	Request for Collection of Licensee Radioactivity Measurements Attributed to the Chernobyl Nuclear Plant Accident (Acc. #8606040003)	3
7.	05/06/86	86-33	Information for Licensee Regarding the Chernobyl Nuclear Plant Accident (Acc. #8605060559)	1
8.	09/01/88	88-71	Possible Environmental Effect of the Reentry of Cosmos 1900 and Request for Collection of Licensee Radioactivity Measurements Attributed to that Event (Acc. #8808260492)	4
9.	02/24/89	89-20	Weld Failures in a Pump of Byron-Jackson Design (Acc. #8902170112)	3
10.	09/29/89	89-69	Loss of Thermal Margin Caused by Channel Box Bow (Acc. #8909250252)	4

NUREG-0090
ISSUE

ITEM

Vol. 5, No. 2

Appendix C, Item 3: Control Rod Drive Tube Support Pin Failures

Vol. 6, No. 3

A0 83-5: Large Diameter Pipe Cracking in Boiling Water Reactors (BWRs)

Vol. 10, No. 4

Appendix C, Item 2: Reactor Coolant Pump Shaft Cracking at Palo Verde

Vol. 11, No. 1

Appendix C, Item 2: Rapid Power Oscillations Leading to Automatic Reactor Scram at LaSalle Unit 2

Vol. 11, No. 3

Appendix B, Item A0 88-3: Cracked Pipe Weld in Safety Injection System at Farley Unit 2

Vol. 11, No. 3

Appendix C, Item 1: Thinning of Incore Neutron Monitoring System Thimble Tubes in Westinghouse Designed Pressurized Water Reactors

<u>AEOD Report Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>NRC DCS Accession Number</u>
E209	Generator Rotor Retaining Ring as a Potential Missile	8203170050
T608	Hydrogen Fire and Failure of Detection System	8703300445
E805	Potential LOCA Due to Energized Uncovered Pressurizer Heaters	8810030347
E807	Pump Damage Due to Low Flow Cavitation	8810250191
T809	Blocked Thimble Tubes/Stuck Incore Detector	8807050550
S803	AEOD Concerns Regarding Power Oscillation Event at LaSalle 2	8806170076

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OPERATIONAL REPORTS

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1.	Report on Safety Related Occurrences and Reactor Trips, SKi, Statens Karnkraftinspektion, Swedish Nuclear Power Inspectorate, January 1 - June 30, 1987 (86 pages)
2.	Report on Safety Related Occurrences and Reactor Trips, SKi, Statens Karnkraftinspektion, Swedish Nuclear Power Inspectorate, July 1 - December 31, 1987 (96 pages)
3.	Kvartalsrapport, SKi, Statens Karnkraftinspektion, Tredje Kvartalet 1987 (44 pages)
4.	Translation of document 3 (46 pages)
5.	Kvartalsrapport, SKi, Statens Karnkraftinspektion, Fjarde Kvartalet 1987 (38 pages)
6.	Translation of document 5 (38 pages)
7.	Kvartalsrapport, SKi, Statens Karnkraftinspektion, Forsta Kvartalet 1988 (25 pages)
8.	Translation of document 7 (29 pages)
9.	Kvartalsrapport, SKi, Statens Karnkraftinspektion, Tredje Kvartalet 1988 (30 pages)
10.	Translation of document 9 (40 pages)
11.	Text of Press Release, Materials Unaccounted For - 1983 (3 pages)
12.	Health & Safety Commission, Advisory Committee on the Safety on Nuclear Installations dated November 24, 1987 (3 pages)
13.	Health & Safety Executive, BNFL Sellafield - Use Reports on Safety Improvements since the Audit dated December 14, 1987 (2 pages)

OPERATIONAL REPORTS

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
14.	Health & Safety Executive, Statement of Nuclear Incidents dated January 29, 1988 (3 pages)
15.	Health & Safety Executive, Statement of Nuclear Incidents dated March 29, 1988 (5 pages)
16.	Health & Safety Executive, Berkeley Nuclear Power Station Long Term Safety Review dated April 13, 1988 (4 pages)
17.	Health & Safety Executive, Statement of Nuclear Incidents dated September 28, 1988 (6 pages)
18.	Health & Safety Executive, Statement of Nuclear Incidents dated February 15, 1989 (6 pages)
19.	Health & Safety Executive, Statement of Nuclear Incidents dated May 10, 1989 (4 pages)
20.	STUK-B-YTO 43, Operation of Finnish Nuclear Power Plants, Quarterly Report, First Quarter 1987 (21 pages)
21.	STUK-B-YTO 46, Operation of Finnish Nuclear Power Plants, Quarterly Report, Second Quarter 1987 (29 pages)
22.	STUK-B-YTO 48, Operation of Finnish Nuclear Power Plants, Quarterly Report, Third Quarter 1987 (25 pages)
23.	STUK-B-YTO 51, Operation of Finnish Nuclear Power Plants, Quarterly Report, Fourth Quarter 1987 and the Annual Summary (25 pages)
24.	STUK-B-YTO 52, Operation of Finnish Nuclear Power Plants, Quarterly Report, First Quarter 1988 (23 pages)

OPERATIONAL REPORTS

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
25.	STUK-B-YTO 54, Operation of Finnish Nuclear Power Plants, Quarterly Report, Second Quarter 1988 (23 pages)
26.	STUK-B-YTO 56, Operation of Finnish Nuclear Power Plants, Quarterly Report, Third Quarter 1988 (24 pages)
27.	STUK-B-YTO 58, Operation of Finnish Nuclear Power Plants, Quarterly Report, Fourth Quarter 1988 and the Annual Summary (30 pages)

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ANNOUNCEMENTSNUMBERDESCRIPTIONFRANCE

1. Press Release - Anomaly Affecting the Safety Valves of the Gravelines-1 Reactor, 8/18/89 (2 pages)
2. Bulletin - Sur La Surete Desinstallations Nucleaires (19 pages)

JAPAN

3. Press Release Information - Causes and Countermeasures of the Manual Trip of Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station Unit No. 5 of Tokyo Electric Power Co., 3/30/89 (2 pages)
4. Press Release Information - Trouble Found During Periodical Inspection of Sendai Nuclear Power Station Unit #2 of Kyushu Electric Power Co., 3/24/89 (3 pages)
5. Press Release Information - Manual Shutdown of Shimane Nuclear Power Station of Chugoku Electric power Co., 4/19/89 (1 page)
6. Press Release Information - Manual Shutdown of Ohi Power Station Unit 1 of Kansai Electric Power Co., 4/13/89 (5 pages)
7. Press Release Information - Failure of Recirculation Pump of Fukushima Daini Nuclear Power Station Unit No. 3 of Tokyo Electric Power Co., 3/17/89 (1 page)
8. Press Release Information - Cause and Countermeasure of the Trouble Discovered During Periodic Inspection of Sendai Nuclear Power Station of Kyushu Electric Power Co., 4/19/89 (2 pages)
9. Press Release Information - Cause and Countermeasure of the Trouble Discovered During the Periodic Inspection of Hamaoka Nuclear power Station, Chubu Electric power Co., 4/24/89 (6 pages)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
10.	Press Release Information - Cause and Countermeasure of the Manual Shutdown at Ohi Nuclear Power Station, Kansai Electric Power Co., 4/25/89 (3 pages)
11.	Press Release Information - Event Found During the Periodic Inspection of Genkai NPS Unit 2 of Kyushu Electric power Co., 4/27/89 (2 pages)
12.	Press Release Information - Manual Shutdown of Fukushima Daini NPS Unit 4 of Tokyo Electric power Co. 4/28/89 (2 pages)
13.	Press Release Information - Cause and Countermeasure of the Manual Shutdown at Fukushima Daini NPS Unit 4 of Tokyo Electric power Co., 5/1/89 (4 pages)
14.	Press Release Information - Cause and Countermeasure of the Manual Shutdown at Fukushima Daini NPS Unit 4 of Tokyo Electric Power Co., 5/1/89 (2 pages)
15.	Press Release Information - Cause and Countermeasure of the Manual Shutdown at Shimane NPS Unit 2 of Chugoku Electric Power Co., 5/10/89 (1 page)
16.	Press Release Information - Manual Shutdown at Fukushima Daini NPS Unit 2 of Tokyo Electric Power Co., 6/5/89 (2 pages)
17.	Press Release Information - Event Found During the Periodical Inspection of Ikata NPS Unit 2 of Shikoku Electric Power Co., 6/13/89 (1 page)
18.	Press Release Information - On the Failure of Component Found During the Periodical Inspection of Ikata Power Station Unit No. 1 of the Shikoku Electric Power Co., 6/13/89 (2 pages)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
19.	Press Release Information - Manual Shutdown and Countermeasure at Fukushima Daini NPS Unit 2 of Tokyo Electric Power Co., 6/20/89 (2 pages)
20.	Press Release Information - Event Found During the Periodical Inspection of Mihama NPS Unit 2 of Kansai Electric Power Co., 6/22/89 (2 pages)
21.	Press Release Information - "Evaluation Scale" for Incidents and Failures in Nuclear Power Plants, 6/26/89 (4 pages)
22.	Automatic Shutdown in Tsuruga Nuclear Power Station Unit 2 of Japan Atomic Power Co., 6/28/89 (3 pages)
23.	Press Release Information - Cause and Countermeasure of Automatic Shutdown in Tsuruga Nuclear Power Station Unit 2 of Japan Atomic power Co., 6/30/89 (2 pages)
24.	Press Release Information - Event Found During Plant Outage (Intermediate Shutdown) of Fukushima Daini NPS Unit 2 of Tokyo Electric Power Co., 6/29/89 (2 pages)
25.	Press Release Information - Event Found During the Periodical Inspection of Fukushima Daiichi NPS Unit 2 of Tokyo Electric Power Co., 7/3/89 (2 pages)
26.	Press Release Information - Cause and Countermeasure of Event Found during Plant Outage (Intermediate Shutdown) of Fukushima Daini NPS Unit 2 of Tokyo Electric Power Co., 7/10/89 (2 pages)
27.	Press Release Information - Damage of Recirculation Pump of Fukushima Daini Nuclear Power Station Unit 3 of Tokyo Electric Power Company (Status of Investigation), 8/11/89 (1 page)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
28.	Press Release Information - Power Decrease at Unit 1 of Onagava NPS of Tohoku Electric Power Co., 8/26/89 (2 pages)
29.	Press Release Information - Manual Shutdown at Shimane Nuclear Power Station Unit 2 of Chugoku Electric Power Co., 9/6/89 (2 pages)
30.	Press Release Information - Power Descending at Tokai NPS of Japan Atomic Power Co., 9/11/89 (1 page)
31.	Press Release Information - Countermeasure Taken After the Power Descending at Tokai NPS of Japan Atomic Power Co., 9/12/89 (1 page)
32.	Press Release Information - Power decrease at Unit 1 of Onagava NPS of Tohoku Electric Power Co., 8/28/89 (2 pages)
33.	Press Release Information - Manual Shutdown at Shimane Nuclear Power Station Unit 1 of Chugoku Electric power Co., 9/6/89 (2 pages)
34.	Press Release Information - Countermeasure Taken for the Trouble Found During Periodical Inspection at Fukushima Daiich NPS Unit 1 of Tokyo Electric Power Co., 9/18/89 (2 pages)
35.	Press Release Information - Trouble Discovered During Periodic Inspection at Fukushima Daiichi Unit 2 of Tokyo EP Co., 9/18/89 (2 pages)
36.	Press Release Information - Manual Shutdown at Hamaoka NPS Unit 3 of Chubu Electric power Co., 9/19/89 (2 pages)
37.	Press Release Information - Application of the Vent Severity Evaluation Scale of Incidents and Failures of Nuclear Power Stations, 9/26/89 (3 pages)

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<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
38.	Press Release Information - Cause of and Countermeasure for Manual Shutdown of Shimane NPS Unit 2, Chugoku Electric Power Co., 9/28/89 (2 pages)
39.	Press Release Information - On the Trouble of Component Found During the Periodical Inspection of Hamaoka NPS Unit 2 of Chubu Electric Power Co., 10/2/89 (2 pages)
40.	Press Release Information - On the Trouble of Component Found During the Periodical Inspection of Hamaoka NPS Unit 2 of Chubu Electric Power Co., 10/4/89 (3 pages)
41.	Press Release Information - Manual Shutdown at Hamaoka NPS Unit 3 of Chubu Electric Power Co. 10/3/89 (3 pages)
42.	Press Release Information - Event Found During the Periodical Inspection of Ohi NPS Unit 1 of Kansai Electric Power Co., 10/5/89 (1 page)
43.	Press Release Information - Event Found During the Periodical Inspection of Takahama NPS Unit 1 of Kansai Electric Power Co., 10/5/89 (2 pages)
44.	Press Release Information - Application of the Event Severity Evaluation Scale for Incidents and Failures of Nuclear Power Stations, 10/17/89 (4 pages)
45.	Press Release Information - Event Found During Periodical Inspection of Genkai NPS Unit 2 of Kyushu Electric Power Co., 10/20/89 (1 page)
46.	Press Release Information - Event Found During the Periodical Inspection of Mihama NPS Unit 2 of Kansai Electric Power Co., 10/25/89 (2 pages)

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<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
47.	Press Release Information - Application of the Vent severity Evaluation Scale for Incident and Failures of Nuclear Power Stations, 11/9/89 (1 page)
48.	Press Release Information - Cause and Countermeasure of Power Reduction at Unit 2 of Onagawa NPS of Tohoku Electric Power Co., 11/10/89 (3 pages)
49.	Press Release Information - Power Reduction at Tokai NPS of Japan Atomic Power Co., 11/9/89 (2 pages)
50.	Press Release Information - Event Found During the Periodical Inspection of Ohi NPS Unit 2 of Kansai Electric power Co., 11/14/89 (2 pages)
51.	Press Release Information - Cause and Countermeasure of Trouble Found During Periodical Inspection of Genkai NPS Unit 2 of Kyushu Electric Power Co., 11/15/89 (2 pages)
52.	Press Release Information - Power Decrease at Tokai NPS of Japan Power Co., 11/22/89 (3 pages)
53.	Press Release Information - Event Found During the periodical Inspection of Takahama NPS Unit 3 of Kansai Electric Power Co., 11/29/89 (2 pages)
54.	Press Release Information - Injury at Tokai Daini NPS of Japan Atomic Power Co., 12/11/89 (1 page)
55.	Press Release Information - Trouble Discovered During Periodic Inspection of Takahama Power Station No. 3 of Kansai Electric Power Co., 12/15/89 (2 pages)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

56. Press Release Information - Application of the Event Severity Evaluation Scale for Incidents and Failures of Nuclear Power Stations, 12/20/89 (5 pages)

SPAIN

57. Press Release from CSN on the Fire in Vandellos I Nuclear Power Plant, 10/26/89 (5 pages)

USSR

58. USSR State Committee for Supervision of the Safety of Work in Atomic Energy, Information and Commentary, Appendix to Information Bulletin, 4/89 (16 pages)

59. USSR State Committee for Supervision of the Safety of Work in Atomic Energy, Information and Commentary, Appendix to Information Bulletin, 5/89 (16 pages)

60. USSR State Committee on Inspection of Safe Work in Nuclear Power Engineering, Information and Commentaries, Appendix to Information Bulletin, 7/89 (12 pages)