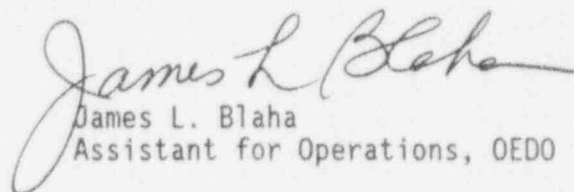


March 4, 1994

For: The Commissioners
From: James L. Blaha, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 25, 1994

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Enclosure</u>
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*No input this week.


James L. Blaha
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 1994

Tour of National Institute of Standards and Technology Test Reactor

On February 23, 1994, four Indonesian assignees visited the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) test reactor and the cold neutron beam facility. Three of the Indonesian assignees are with NRR and the other is with RES; they are on a one year assignment which includes rotations within NRR and the taking of courses at the Technical Training Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The three NRR assignees are Bintoro Aji, Taruniyati Handayani and Dahlia Sinaga. The RES assignee is R. Alamsyah. All assignees are with the Indonesian National Atomic Energy Agency, which is both a developmental and a regulatory body. It is expected that the regulatory body will be separated and these assignees will probably be with the regulatory body. Indonesia is considering building two advanced nuclear power reactors. Indonesia presently has a 30 MW test reactor and two other research reactors with thermal power ratings of 1 MW and 100 KW.

The 20 MW NIST test reactor and cold neutron beam facility is one of the major research reactor facilities in the country. Activities include - neutron scattering and diffraction, neutron radiography, trace analysis and depth profiling, neutron standards development, fundamental neutron physics, long-term irradiations and isotope production. The Deputy Chief of the Reactor Radiation Division, Tawfik Raby, described the design of the reactor. The NIST visit included a tour of the reactor area and the cold neutron facility.

Limerick Generating Station, Units 1 and 2

Unit 1 is in a refueling outage that started on February 4, 1994. The outage is scheduled for 42 days. Unit 2 is operating at 100% power.

The staff has issued three amendments requested by the licensee for implementation during the current Unit 1 refueling outage. These amendments address the following topics:

- * Provides for an expanded power to flow operation domain resulting from the proposed implementation of ARTS/MELLA. The submittal contained a safety evaluation by GE that followed a general approach used by other plants.
- * Grants a one-time extension of the current maximum interval for the Containment Integrated Leakage Rate Test (CILRT). This extension will prevent performing one more CILRT than required.
- * Decreased the frequency of the drywell-to-suppression chamber bypass leak test to coincide with the CILRT interval, and require an additional test to measure vacuum breaker leakage area for those outages for which the drywell-to-suppression chamber bypass test is not scheduled.

The implementation of the expanded power to flow operation domain is required before implementation of the power uprate amendment, is currently under review. The implementation of the other two amendments will reduce the current Unit 1 refueling outage by about 4 days.

Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 3 - Steam Generator Tube Plug Summary

During the recently completed Oconee Unit 3 refueling outage, 14 steam generator tube plugs were found to have dislodged and an additional 14 plugs had indications of leaking. The plugs were of the rolled type, installed by B&W Nuclear Technologies (BWNT). A review of video records of the plug installation process revealed that all of the loose and missing plugs had been installed during one shift by one specific crew. The video record also led BWNT to conclude that the plug roll tool had malfunctioned, without the crew detecting the malfunction. Because of the generic implications of this problem, the NRC requested BWNT to identify each of the sites where this process had been used to install SG tube plugs. The NRC and BWNT alerted each of the 11 identified plants and requested the B&W Owners Group (BWOOG) to meet with the NRC to discuss the safety implications of this issue and the corrective actions taken.

A meeting was held on February 10, 1994, with representatives of the BWOOG, BWNT, and the effected sites. BWNT described the plug installation process performed prior to the problem identified at Oconee. The problem was determined to be a malfunction of the roll tool combined with the operator's failure to detect the malfunction. Corrective action by BWNT included modification of the installation tool, modified training for the technicians, and increased quality control to include independent verification of adequate torque indications.

BWNT provided the results of a safety analysis of the consequences of loose plugs in the reactor coolant system. The analysis included probability of multiple tube failures, impact on RCS pressure boundary, flow blockage through the fuel and binding of the control elements. In each case, the analysis showed that the probability of occurrence was extremely small or there were no detrimental effects of the occurrence.

BWNT's review of nearly 6,000 video records of plug installations at the 11 plants confirmed three other improper installations (in addition to the 35 found at Oconee Unit 3). There were also a small number of installations for which video records were not located or were not usable. All improperly installed plugs will be replaced. BWNT has recommended actions to individual licensees for those plugs for which there were indeterminate and missing records. BWNT will forward nonconformance reports to these licensees.

The NRC concluded that the BWNT corrective actions were adequate to provide reasonable assurance that future plug installations would be done properly. In addition, the review of previous records indicated that there was a low likelihood of additional loose plugs as a result of the BWNT installation process.

Accident Management

By letter dated February 16, 1994, NRC responded to a NUMARC proposal to undertake a binding industry initiative on accident management in lieu of an NRC generic letter on this subject. The letter indicates general support for the proposed content and wording of the industry initiative, and for related industry activities on severe accident training. The letter also discusses areas in which the proposed industry initiative and the PWR Severe Accident Management Guideline (SAMG) documents could be improved. The industry initiative is expected to be brought to a vote by the NUMARC board of directors in early March.

Issuance of an NRC Bulletin and an Information Notice

On Friday, February 18, 1994, the NRC issued Bulletin 93-02, Supplement 1, "Debris Plugging of Emergency Core Cooling Suction Strainers." The bulletin was addressed to PWR licensees for information and BWR licensees for action. The bulletin informed licensees of new information related to the creation of debris due to high energy jets impinging on thermal insulation from pipe breaks or stuck open valves and the transport of the debris to the suppression pools with the discharged coolant. The debris, perhaps combined with other particulate matter in the suppression pool (such as corrosion products), could deposit on the ECCS pump suction strainers and inhibit flow to the pumps.

The bulletin requested BWR licensees to make their operators aware of this effect to assure that their procedures are adequate to enable operators to prevent, mitigate or delay the loss of ECCS pumps due to this potential common cause failure mechanism. BWR licensees were requested to inform the staff 60 days after the date of the bulletin whether they intend to take the requested actions and to describe the specific actions they plan to take. The bulletin also suggested some specific steps that might be considered. The bulletin gives BWR licensees 90 days to implement the requested actions. A confirmation that the actions were taken and a description of the actions is required 30 days after implementation of the actions.

The actions requested by the bulletin are interim actions until the issue is finally resolved. The staff considers the interim actions to be adequate based on the low probability of an initiating event while further studies are performed.

NRC Information Notice 94-14, "Failure to Implement Requirements for Biennial Medical Examinations and Notification to the NRC of Changes in Licensed Operator Medical Conditions," was issued February 24, 1994.

This notice alerts addressees of the requirements for licensed reactor operators to be examined by a physician every two years and for facility licensees to notify the NRC of changes in a licensed operator's medical condition that could cause the operator to fail to meet the medical requirements of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 55, "Operator's Licenses."

Public Meeting to Discuss Maintenance Rule Questions

Members of the Performance and Quality Evaluation Branch, (RPEB) held a public meeting at OWFN with representatives from NUMARC to discuss questions that were submitted to NUMARC during the two workshops held in August 1993 on the Maintenance Rule implementation guidelines. On February 17 & 18, 1994, Richard Correia, Charles Petrone and Thomas Foley, RPEB, reviewed NUMARC's proposed responses to 447 questions on the NUMARC "Industry Guidelines for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants." Based on the discussions held during the meetings, NUMARC plans to revise several responses, submit the package to the NRC for review and comment and then publish the package to the industry.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 1994

Inspection of Siemens Power Corporation

A routine Material Control and Accounting inspection (#70-1257/94-201) was conducted at Siemens Power Corporation in Richland, Washington, during the week of February 14, 1994. Following the inspection, a detailed tour of the facility's conversion area was conducted on February 18, 1994.

Standing Advisory Group for Safeguards Implementation Preparatory Meeting:
February 14-17, 1994

The U.S. member of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Standing Advisory Group for Safeguards Implementation (SAGSI), participated in a preparatory meeting held in Sigtuna, Sweden. The primary focus of the discussions were on matters relating to strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of IAEA safeguards. SAGSI's role in this area is, in general, to monitor IAEA Secretariat activities and to offer advice concerning the conduct of the evaluations and the implementation of the results. A report of the meeting has been distributed to counterparts in the Department of State, the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the Department of Energy.

NMSS Staff Participation in Meeting with Russian Officials

NMSS staff participated in the Material Control and Accounting and Physical Protection Subgroup of the Safe and Secure Dismantlement Program Technical Working Group meeting held February 14-18, 1994, with Russian nuclear officials in Moscow, Russia. U.S. objectives for development of a national regulatory program and the inclusion of significant facilities as models were not met. Staff is currently evaluating options on how to proceed to broaden Russian support.

Site Decommissioning Management Plan - Chemetron Site

On February 23, 1994, Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff met with representatives of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), Ohio Department of Health (ODH), and Chemetron to discuss OEPA processes for resolving solid waste concerns at Chemetron's Bert Avenue site in Newburgh Heights, Ohio. OEPA staff recommended a site closure process for the review of solid waste disposal issues. This process would include capping the entire site to provide protection for all the solid wastes at the site, not just those associated with radioactive material. OEPA and ODH staff also stated that they preferred that NRC's review process involve a license amendment approach.

Meeting With The Department of Transportation

On February 22, 1994, representatives of the Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety met with Department of Transportation (DOT) offices

responsible for enforcement, standards development, and safety. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the proper marking, labelling, and vehicle placarding requirements for radioactive materials packages which are enclosed in convenience overpacks. As a result of the meeting discussions, DOT intends to move forward with a proposed rulemaking that will clarify acceptable protocol and alter current industry practice. DOT estimated the proposed rule would be placed in the Federal Register in six months.

Interaction on State of Nevada Test Interference Concerns About Yucca Mountain Pneumatic Data Collection

On January 26-27, 1994, a Division of High-Level Waste Management staff member participated in a meeting with representatives of the Department of Energy (DOE), the State of Nevada, and Nye County, Nevada on the characterization of air movement through Yucca Mountain. The discussion centered on the State of Nevada's concern that barriers to gas flow may exist within Yucca Mountain; and, construction of the Exploratory Studies Facility will prevent adequate characterization of these barriers. The State is concerned that if barriers to gas flow exist, a hot repository may not be able to dry out the mountain. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff is currently investigating the importance of these types of barriers to site performance and the adequacy of the DOE program to characterize them.

As support for the need to collect ambient data to characterize such barriers, the State of Nevada has suggested that the definition of ground water in 10 CFR Part 60 applies to all liquid, including vapor/gaseous water below the land surface. Therefore, NRC groundwater travel time regulations apply to liquid and gaseous movement of water. Meeting participants were informed by the NRC, that it is the NRC staff's technical opinion the definition of ground water applies to liquid and not to gas. The audience was advised that gaseous release of radionuclides must be considered to address the EPA high level waste standard and is specifically addressed in 10 CFR Part 60 §122(c)(24). However, NRC staff will consider the State's views on this matter in the staff's current activities on groundwater travel time.

Review of 40 CFR Part 194 Working Draft: Compliance Criteria for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)

On January 28, 1994, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a draft of its compliance criteria for the WIPP, which the Nuclear Regulatory Commission was asked to review and comment. The Division of High Level Waste Management (HLWM) staff focussed its review on those issues of greatest potential relevance to NRC licensing activities. The EPA solicited specific comment on 1) the extent to which it is appropriate to rely on passive institutional controls, 2) quality assurance standards and guidelines and their appropriateness for EPA's compliance determination for WIPP, and 3) the appropriate statistical measures for evaluation of compliance with 40 CFR Part 191. Informal staff responses and comments were developed consistent with previous Commission policy on these issues. The HLWM staff expressed concern with EPA's approach to compliance measures, and especially with EPA's specification a priori of a required number of Complementary Cumulative Distribution Functions as a basis for a compliance determination. NRC staff

comments, transmitted to EPA on February 22, 1994, also addressed the use of expert elicitation, future state assumptions, the incorporation by EPA of NRC documents, and the potential impact of required monitoring on the waste isolation capability of a repository. EPA is seeking informal comment on its working draft before it is presented to the agency for approval or proposed in the Federal Register. NRC will have an opportunity to provide formal comment when the compliance criteria are published for comment later this year.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 1994

Public Meetings on License Renewal Environmental Rulemaking (10 CFR Part 51)

The staff has completed a series of three regional public meetings held to discuss options for addressing certain concerns raised by a number of Agreement States in public comments on the proposed amendments to 10 CFR Part 51 (September 17, 1991; 56 FR 47016), which would establish new requirements for the environmental review of applications to renew operating licenses for nuclear power plants. Specifically, the States believe that the treatment of need for generating capacity and alternative energy sources in the proposed rule conflict with the traditional authority of the States to regulate electric utilities with respect to questions of need, reliability, cost, and other non-safety aspects of nuclear power generation.

The public meetings were held on February 9, 1994, in Rockville, MD; on February 15, 1994, in Rosemont, IL; and on February 17, 1994, in Chicopee, MA. The meetings were well attended by representatives of State agencies, Federal agencies, utilities, other industry organizations, and citizen organizations. Panel members represented seven States (IL, MA, MI, MN, NY, WI and VT) and an additional three States (OH, MD and NH) participated as observers. Panelists represented three public interest organizations and another three public interest organizations were represented by speakers from the floor. Two panelists from the Nuclear Management Resources Council (NUMARC) participated in each meeting.

In addition to the options presented by the staff in a discussion paper mailed 4 weeks prior to the first meeting, the States and NUMARC presented several additional options for discussion. The States generally would prefer that NRC not address need for generating capacity and alternative energy sources in environmental reviews, but they acknowledge that NRC is subject to certain constraints in fulfilling its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). There appears to be agreement among the States that if NRC must address these two topics then a clear statement of the responsibility of NRC relative to the States should be included in the final rule, that the two topics should be reviewed for each license renewal application on a site specific basis, and that when available the NRC should use the reviews and determinations conducted by the States and not duplicate the effort. The public comment period for the staff discussion paper and workshops closes on March 4, 1994. In early June the staff expects to present to the Commission the options considered and recommend an option for inclusion in the final rule.

Hydrogen Combustion Test

On February 16, 1994, the fifth in a series of tests, HIT-5, at Sandia National Laboratories was conducted investigating glow plug igniter initiated combustion of hydrogen-air-steam mixtures. The tests performed in the Surtsey vessel (60m³) are specifically designed to address ignition of mixtures that are initially inerted by high steam concentrations (>63%), but which are rendered flammable by the condensation of steam as a result of simulated

containment spray operation. The test indicated that, with igniters, the most severe conditions which could arbitrarily be postulated to exist, but only on a local basis, still do not result in flame acceleration or detonation, but rather produce a slow deflagration.

Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 1994

Diagnostic Evaluation and Incident Investigation Branch (DEIIB)

Preparations continued for a Diagnostic Evaluation of the Palisades Nuclear Plant. A team meeting was held from February 22-25, 1994 to provide DET process training, including briefings from OGC, RES, NRR, Region III management, and the Senior Resident Inspector assigned to the Palisades Nuclear Plant. Reference material was reviewed to effectively plan for the onsite period starting on March 14, 1994. Site specific training was also provided to the DET by a Palisades staff member to expedite the badging process. On February 25, 1994, the Team Manager and Director, Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data, met with the EDO to review the DET Plan and team composition for EDO approval.

Performance Demonstration of the Information Management System for the new Headquarters Operations Center

On February 22, HFSI, the contractor responsible for the design and construction of the information management systems within the new Operations Center, held a full performance demonstration at their offices in McLean, VA. The demonstration included the Response Computer System which will be used within the new center and the Voice, Data, and Video functional areas. The demonstrations provided the Incident Response Branch members a first-hand observation of the new techniques and tools that will be available at TWFN. Equipment will begin to be installed in the new center within the next few weeks; installation should be completed by mid-April, after which the 30-day formal acceptance testing program will begin. Under the current schedule, the new center will be available for training by early May, with a turnover scheduled for May 27. Once accepted by the NRC, all event response activities, as well as the NRC's Operations Officer functions, will be conducted from TWFN.

Preliminary Notifications

- a. PNO-II-94-007, Carolina Power & Light Co. (Robinson 2), Shutdown of H.B. Robinson Unit
- b. PNO-II-94-008, Agreement State Licensee, Missing Iridium-192 Radiography Device
- c. PNO-II-94-008A, Agreement State Licensee, Recovered Missing Iridium-192 Radiography Device
- d. PNO-II-94-009, Bhate Engineering Corp., Stolen Portable Gauge
- e. PNO-III-94-10A, Detroit Edison Co. (Fermi 2), News Media Interest in Release of Slightly Contaminated Water (Update)

- f. PNO-III-94-11, Consumers Power Company (Palisades Nuclear Power Plant), Shutdown of Repair Leaking Check Valve
- g. PNO-IV-94-004A, Houston Lighting & Power Co. (South Texas 1), Lifting of Confirmatory Action Letter at South Texas Project, Unit 1 - Update
- h. PNO-I-9414, Defense Nuclear Agency, Damaged Discharge Pipe to the Sanitary Sewer

Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 1994

U.S. Enrichment Corporation (USEC)

Representatives of the Division of Security attended a meeting with USEC and DOE Oak Ridge security personnel on February 23, 1994 at USEC's headquarters office in Bethesda, MD. The meeting agenda included a review of NRC's future security oversight responsibilities with respect to gaseous diffusion plants.

National Industrial Security Program Policy Advisory Committee (NISPPAC) Meeting

The NISPPAC was established by E.O. 12829, "National Industrial Security Program," as an advisory committee to the Director, Information Security Oversight Office. The NISPPAC is composed of government and industry security personnel. On February 24, 1994, Division of Security representatives attended the second NISPPAC meeting which was held at the National Archives at College Park, MD. During this open meeting, the committee members considered: (1) the NISPPAC bylaws; (2) the status of the new E.O. on classified information; (3) the status of the NISP Operating Manual; and (4) NISP and NISPOM training.

U.S Department of Energy; Receipt of a Petition for Rulemaking

A notice of receipt of a petition for rulemaking submitted by the U.S Department of Energy (PRM-71-11) was published in the Federal Register on February 18, 1994 (59 FR 8143). The petitioner requests that the NRC amend its regulations governing packaging and transportation of radioactive materials to specifically exempt canisters containing vitrified high-level waste from the specified double containment requirement. The comment closing date for this petition is May 4, 1994.

Radon Testing

GSA has awarded a contract to Aerosol Monitoring, Testing and Analysis, Inc., to perform radon testing at OWFN. The test canisters will be placed on the P-1, P-2 and P-3 levels on February 24, 1994. The canisters will remain in the building for 90 days. Test results will be made available to NRC by June 17, 1994.

Significant FOIA Requests Received by the NRC For Period of February 18 - February 24, 1994

Request for records relating to Kerr-McGee's facility at Cushing, Oklahoma. (John Marble of Huckaby, Fleming, Frailey, Chaffin & Darrah, FOIA-94-83)

Request for records relating to radiation testing on humans pursuant to contracts issued by the Defense Nuclear Agency or its predecessor, the Defense Atomic Support Agency, to the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine and/or Cincinnati General Hospital between 1960 and 1971. (David Thompson of White, Getgey & Meyer Co., L.P.A., FOIA-94-84)

Request for copies of NRC's response to OMB Circular A-11, Parts 43A, 43B, 43C, 43D and 43E and publicly available records which address long range IRM planning. (James Kerrigan, Colmar, FOIA-94-85)

Request for records relating to the MQS Inspection facility at Solon, Ohio. (Kevin Crock, ATC/Diagnostic Environmental Inc., FOIA-94-87)

Request for information on applications for nuclear pharmacy licenses in the past six months within a 60 mile radius of Joplin, Missouri. (Melissa Christopher, Pyramid Diagnostic Services Inc., FOIA-94-88)

Request for a copy of the NRC report regarding licensees that may have conducted radiation research on humans and a list of institutions with licenses that permitted experimentation with human subjects over the 1944-1975 time period. (Kathleen Markie, University of Missouri System, FOIA-94-89)

Request for information on the Trinity Project or the Manhattan Project. (Joel Williams, FOIA-94-90)

Request for the minutes of the Senior Management Meeting held on January 11-13, 1994. (Laura Armstrong of Winston & Strawn, FOIA-94-92)

Office of Information Resources Management
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 1994

Agency "Rightsizing" - Planning Contract Awarded

A task order was awarded to Ogden Government Services through the General Services Administration's National Capital Region contract to assist the Systems Development Integration Branch in planning for the expanded use of client/server technology and to develop a specific strategy for "rightsizing" existing systems from a timeshared mainframe computer platform to fully utilize the desktop capability of networked personal computers.

Two White Flint North

The IBM 9370 minicomputer systems that support the Vote Tracking System and Licensing Management System have been moved from One White Flint North to Two White Flint North (TWFN). These are the first systems to be placed in operation in the new TWFN computer room.

Office of Personnel
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 1994

In-House Lunchtime Seminar on Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD)

On February 14, 1994, the NRC Health Unit, in conjunction with the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, sponsored a lunchtime seminar on SAD. Dr. Norman Rosenthal of the National Institute of Mental Health gave a slide presentation on the disorder, which is characterized by recurrent episodes of depression during certain months of the year. Symptoms include insomnia, carbohydrate craving, weight gain, and lethargy. Dr. Rosenthal discussed scientific studies which have shown that bright, fluorescent light can reverse the winter depressive symptoms of SAD.

Arrivals

PAPPAS, Cynthia	SECRETARY (OPFT)	OP
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Retirements

CLARK, Diana	SR. CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR (PFT)	ADM
DEHN, Daniel	AUDIO VISUAL OFFICER (PFT)	ADM

Departures

BURRIS, Stephen	SR. RESIDENT INSPECTOR (PFT)	RII
SEELEY, Carolyn	OFFICE RESIDENT ASSISTANT (PFT)	RII

Office of Enforcement
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 1994

Significant Enforcement Actions

By EN 93-115 dated November 22, 1993, the Commission was notified of the intent of OE to issue a Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalty (Notice) in the amount of \$3,750 to Michigan Technological University (Licensee). The action was based on a program breakdown involving 13 violations identified during a routine inspection on August 26 through September 27, 1993. The Licensee responded to the Notice in a letter dated December 17, 1993. In its response, the Licensee admitted ten violations, denied one violation in part, and denied two violations. Further, the Licensee requested that the proposed civil penalty be mitigated in its entirety, or at least 50 percent of the base civil penalty. After careful consideration of the Licensee's response, the staff has concluded that the violations did occur as set forth in the Notice and the civil penalty amount was appropriately assessed. Accordingly, an Order Imposing Civil Penalty in the amount of \$3,750 was issued February 22, 1994. (EN 93-115A)

A Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalty in the amount of \$50,000 was issued on February 24, 1994 to Duquesne Light Company. This action was based on a violation which involved the failure to implement adequate design controls when replacing the electro-mechanical relays in the emergency diesel generator (EDG) load sequencers with microprocessor based relays. The deficient relays experienced a common mode failure identified during surveillance testing. The common mode failure of the relays in both EDGs, during a LOCA coincident with a loss of offsite power, could have prevented the EDGs from automatically energizing the safety-related loads, thus significantly reducing the licensee's ability to automatically mitigate the consequences of the accident. (EN 94-015)

Civil Penalty Paid

H. C. Nutting Company, Detroit, Michigan paid the civil penalty in the amount of \$250. The action was based on a violation associated with an event of June 7, 1991, in which a nuclear moisture density gauge was left unattended and was run over by a scraper. The violation involved the failure of the authorized user to keep licensed material under constant surveillance. (EA 93-308)

Office of Consolidation
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 1994

Second Building Status

During the week, Transwall product was delivered to Floor 10 and Haworth system furniture was delivered to Floor 8. Communications cabling to workstations is about 70 percent complete on Floor 6 and Haworth workstations are about 40 percent complete on Floor 7. Floor 5 is completed except for moveable furniture and file and library shelving which was ordered on February 25, 1994. Floor 4 is completed except for moveable furniture and pending changes to original plans for some areas. Carpentry, plumbing and electrical work and setting of terrazzo floors is continuing in the auditorium complex.

At the weekly progress meeting on February 23, 1994, the Plaza design team briefed Employee Welfare and Recreation Association officers on the employee store plan and finishes. The design team also presented alternative design ideas for wall treatments in the cafeteria.

On February 24, 1994, the Director, Office of Consolidation, and DCPM staff of the Office of Administration met with Montgomery County Planning Board and Department of Transportation staff to discuss the White Flint North traffic mitigation plan, parking plans and planning for promoting public transit and car pool commuting.

On February 25, 1994, the NRC awarded a contract for the purchase and installation of metal shelving with wood trim for various file and library areas in TWFN.

Office of Policy Planning
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 1994

Strategic Planning

On February 23, 1994, the NRC's Steering Committee for Strategic Planning met to discuss strategic changes to the agency's Five-Year Plan goals, assumptions, and guidance. The Steering Committee's report is to be submitted to the EDO during March 1994.

Office of State Programs
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 1994

Availability of Documents

Maria Lopez-Otin, Federal Liaison, has obtained the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Annual Report to Congress (February 1994). The Board's report summarizes activities during the past year, assesses improvements in the safety of Department of Energy (DOE) defense nuclear facilities, and identifies remaining safety problems at DOE defense nuclear facilities.

Office of International Programs
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 1994

Visit of Andre-Claude Lacoste

On February 24 and 25, 1994, Mr. Andre-Claude Lacoste, Director, Directorate for the Safety of Nuclear Installations of France, met with the Commissioners, EDO and senior staff to discuss regulatory safety issues of mutual concern. These issues included safety assistance to the FSU and CEE, status of HLW activities, authorization for the re-start of Super Phoenix, the development of an International Safety Convention and U.S. plans for the inspection of vessel head penetrations.

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE

No. 53

OCA ASSIGNMENT	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Madden	03/01/94 366 DSOB	9:30	DOE	FY95 Budget for Offc of Civ Rad Waste Mgmt	Senators Johnston/Wallop Senate Energy & Natl Resources
Callahan	03/01/94 1324 LHOB	10:00	John Ahearne, OTA, GAO, States, NRDC	Fedl Nuclear Facilities Act	Reps. Lehman/Vucanovich Energy & Mineral Resources House Natural Resources
Gerke	03/02/94 2175 RHOB	9:30	Markup	H.R. 1280, Occup Safety & Health Act	Reps. Ford/Goodling House Education & Labor
Gerke	03/03/94 03/10/94 311 CHOB	10:00 2:00	TBA	Effect of FY95 Budget on Fedl Employees	Del. Norton/Rep. Morella Comp & Emp Benefits House Post Off & Civ Service
Callahan	03/08/94 1324 LHOB	10:00	*NRC (Comm), DOE, EPA, Defense Nucl Facil Safety Board	Fedl Nuclear Facilities Act	Reps. Lehman/Vucanovich Energy & Mineral Resources House Natural Resources
Keeling	03/09/94 2167 RHOB	10:00	*TVA, NRC (Staff)	TVA's Nuclear Program	Reps. Borski/Inhofe Investigations & Oversight House Publ Works & Transp Rep. Clement (D-TN)/TVA Caucus
Madden	03/09/94 406 DSOB	2:00	*NRC (Comm)	User Fee	Senators Lieberman/Simpson Nuclear Regulation Senate Env & Publ Works
Gerke	03/10/94 03/16/94	2:00	TBA	S. 1587, Streamlining of Fedl Acquisition Laws	Senators Nunn/Thurmond Senate Armed Services Senators Glenn/Roth Senate Governmental Affairs
Madden	03/14/94 2362 RHOB	10:00	DOE	NWTRB, Nuc Waste Negotiator, Nuclear Waste Disposal Fund	Reps. Bevill/Myers Energy & Water Development House Appropriations
Madden	03/17/94 2362 RHOB	10:00	*NRC (Comm)	NRC's FY95 Appropriation	Reps. Bevill/Myers Energy & Water Development House Appropriations

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS
ITEMS OF INTEREST
WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 25, 1994

FEBRUARY 25, 1994

ENCLOSURE 0

FEBRUARY 25, 1994

Madden	03/17/94 1324 LHOB	9:45	DOE	Interim Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel	Reps. Miller/Smith Oversight & Investigations Reps. Lehman/Vucanovich Energy & Mineral Resources House Natural Resources
Madden	Spring	TBA	NRC	NRC's FY95 Authorization	Senators Lieberman/Simpson Senate Env & Publ Works
Madden	Spring	TBA	Markup	S. 1165, S. 1162 (2.206 Judicial Review, NRC's Legis Pkg & Authorization	Senators Baucus/Chafee Senate Env & Publ Works
Combs	Spring Cheyenne Wyoming	TBA	NRC	Agreement State Program	Senators Lieberman/Simpson Clean Air & Nuc Regulation Senate Env & Public Works
Keeling	04/19/94 138 SDOB	2:30	Strobe Talbott	Approp--Aid to the Former Soviet Union	Senators Leahy/McConnell Foreign Operations Senate Appropriations
Callahan	05/03/94 366 DSOB	9:30	TBA	Idaho DOE Lab & Cancer Center	Senators Johnston/Wallop Senate Energy & Natl Resources

*A letter of invitation to this hearing has been received.

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Region I
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 1994

1. Beaver Valley Full-Participation Exercise

A full-participation emergency exercise was conducted at the Beaver Valley Power Station on February 15, 1994. The licensee effectively implemented the Emergency Plan and its implementing procedures, which met NRC requirements. Exercise strengths included Emergency Director command and control, excellent technical support in the Technical Support Center, and good liaison with State representatives in the Emergency Operations Facility. No exercise weaknesses were apparent.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the States of Ohio and West Virginia participated fully in the exercise. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) evaluated offsite activities, but their results are not yet available.

Region II
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 1994

1. Barnwell Low-Level Waste Disposal Facility

On February 22, 1994, representatives from both the Region and the Office of Nuclear Materials Management and Safeguards accompanied Ms. Ludmilla Bogdan, a senior level Ukrainian visitor to the Barnwell Low-Level Waste Disposal Facility, located in Snelling, South Carolina. In addition to touring the facility, Ms. Ludmilla observed the administrative aspects of the site, (e.g., receipt of shipments, logging, surveys, waste tracking, disposal methods). Ms. Bogdan is responsible for the oversight of waste disposal in the Ukraine.

2. Logan General Hospital

Region II inspected the licensee, which is located in Logan, West Virginia, on December 8 and 9, 1993. As a result of inspection findings, the Region issued a December 10, 1993 Confirmatory Action Letter, which documented licensee actions to 1) correct inadequately trained technologists, 2) problems with control of access to radioactive materials, and 3) inadequate oversight of the nuclear medicine radiation safety program. The NRC Office of Investigations has been conducting an investigation into some aspects of the NRC inspection findings. On February 18, 1994, the licensee removed the Chief Technologist, who was also the Radiation Safety Officer (RSO), from participation in NRC licensed activities at the hospital. On February 25, 1994, Region II issued a second Confirmatory Action Letter to the hospital, confirming licensee actions to replace the RSO, increase oversight of the program, and establish a program of independent audits of the nuclear medicine radiation safety program.

3. Carolina Power and Light Company

On February 24, 1994 Brunswick Unit 1, having completed its Power Ascension Program, was released by CP&L management from its final assessment hold point. Region II has resumed normal Resident Office coverage of operations.

Region III
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 1994

1. Fermi Nuclear Plant

On February 23, 1994, the licensee and local government officials held a public meeting in Monroe, Michigan, to review the planned release of slightly contaminated water (about 532,000 gallons) from the condensate storage tank (CST) at Fermi 2. The meeting was attended by approximately 400 people. The release had been postponed following a meeting between the licensee and local government representatives on February 16, 1994. Also participating in the meeting were NRC representatives from Region III, and Headquarters and State of Michigan personnel. Following the meeting, there was a protest held at the entrance to the Fermi plant in which two individuals were arrested.

The results of sampling of the CST--performed by NRC, licensee and the Michigan Department of Health--were presented at the meeting. These results indicated isotopic concentrations below the applicable 10 CFR Part 20 limits. On February 24, 1994, the NRC conducted split sampling and analysis of the water about to be released from the condensate storage tank. The sampling and analysis was observed by a member of the Canadian Environmental Ministry.

The licensee began the release during the evening of February 24, 1994. Region III sampled the tank contents, the discharge point to Lake Erie, and the Monroe water supply intake prior to and during the release. The Regional mobile laboratory was onsite for the analysis. Contamination was not detected in samples taken at the discharge.

3. Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant

On February 18, 1994, the Deputy Regional Administrator, the Director of the Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards and other members of the Region III staff participated in a plant tour and meeting at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant near Portsmouth, Ohio. The meeting was also attended by representatives from the U.S. Department of Energy, the United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) and Martin Marietta Utility Systems. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the proposed 10 CFR Part 76 and the certification process, including the roles and expectations of the NRC and USEC during the transition phase.

4. Shieldalloy Metallurgical Corporation

On February 22, 1994, the Deputy Regional Administrator, the Director of the Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards and other members of the Region III staff participated in a site tour and meeting at Shieldalloy Metallurgical Corporation's Cambridge, Ohio facility. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the licensee's decommissioning options and the status of its Chapter 11 reorganization.

Region V
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 1994

1. Palo Verde and San Onofre

On February 23 and 24, 1994, J. Callan, Region IV Regional Administrator, toured the Palo Verde and Diablo Canyon Nuclear Generating Stations. He conducted discussions with licensee management related to emergency planning and viewed the licensee's emergency response facilities.

NRR Meeting Notice

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Attendees/ Applicant</u>	<u>NRR Contact</u>
03/09/94 9:00-12:00	50-206	One White Flint North Room 8-B-11	Periodic meeting to discuss the status of the decommissioning plan for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 1.	NRR/SCECO	M. Webb (301) 504-1347
03/10/94 10:00-12:00	50-335 50-389 50-250 50-251	One White Flint North Room 12-B-11	To discuss the licensee's proposed approach to resolve Thermo-Lag issues for "outdoor" plants	NRR/FPI	J. Norris (301) 504-1483
03/10/94 10:00-12:00	50-335 50-389 50-250 50-251	One White Flint North Room 12-B-11	To discuss the licensee's proposed approach to resolve Thermo-Lag issues for "outdoor" plants.	NRR/FPI	J. Norris (301) 504-1483
03/14/94 10:30-12:30	NONE	One White Flint North Room 1-F-7/9	To discuss the status of evolutionary and advanced reactor reviews.	NRR/DOE/GE WESTINGHOUSE/ ABB-CE/ARC	S. Ninh (301) 504-1125

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February 18, 1994

NMSS Meeting Notices

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Attendees/ Applicant</u>	<u>NRC Contact</u>
3/10	408989	US NRC - OWE 11555 Rockville Room 6-B-13 Rockville, MD 20852	To meet w/Envirocare Representatives re: 1. Special Nuclear Material licensing; and 2. A proposed amendment to its 11e.(2) byproduct material license.	NRC Envirocare Staff	S. Wastler (301) 504-2582
3/14-18 All Day Sessions	N/A	US NRC/URFO Office 730 Simms Street Suite 100 Mining Congress Golden, CO 80401	To attend the Uranium Recovery Workshop	NRC Other Federal Agencies	M. Layton (301) 504-2584

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RES Meeting Notices

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Attendees/ Applicant</u>	<u>NRC Contact</u>
3/21-25/94	N/A	Paris, France	OECD/CSNI SESAM Meeting (accident management)	B.Sheron	B.Sheron
4/18-21/94	N/A	Pittsburgh, PA	ANS '94 Meeting	B.Sheron F.Eltawila	B.Sheron
5/28/94- 6/3/94	N/A	Pisa, Italy	1994 Thermal Hydraulic International Conference	B.Sheron F.Eltawila A.Baratta (Penn St.)	B.Sheron

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Region I Meeting Notices

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Attendees/ Applicant</u>	<u>NRC Contact</u>
03/07/94 10:00 a.m.	030-00582 Yale University	Region I	Management Meeting to discuss Organizational changes of the Licensee	Selected NRC Staff Members and Licensee	MShanbaky
03/07/94 1:00 p.m.	50-219	Forked River, New Jersey	SALP Management Meeting Dates covering 07/19/92 thru 12/11/93	Selected NRC Staff Members and Licensee	JRogge
03/08/94 1:30 p.m.	*030-02-470 Mountainside Hospital DATE & TIME CHANGE	Region I	Enforcement Conference to discuss Violations identified in 12/11/93 Inspection	Selected NRC Staff Members and Licensee	JJohansen
*There has been a time and date change to this meeting. From 03/04/94 at 10:30 a.m., it will be 03/08/94 at 1:30 p.m.					
03/09/94 10:00 a.m.	50-271	Vernon, VT	SALP Management Meeting Dates covering 08/02/92 thru 01/15/94	Selected NRC Staff Members and Licensee	EKelly

Region II Meeting Notice

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Attendees/ Applicant</u>	<u>NRC Contact</u>
03/02/94 10:00 a.m.		RII Office	Chairman Selin meeting in Region II Office	Chairman and Technical Asst.	Ebnetter
03/03/94 10:30 a.m.	50-259 50-260 50-296	RII Office	Enforcement Conference TVA - Browns Ferry	RA, RII Staff, and Licensee	Ebnetter
03/07/94 p.m.	50-327 50-328	Soddy-Daisy, TN	Presentation of Certs. to newly licensed opera- tors at TVA - Sequoyah	RA, RII Staff, Operators and TVA management	Ebnetter
03/10/94 10:00 a.m.	50-327 50-328	RII Office	Enforcement Conference TVA - Sequoyah	RA, RII Staff, and Licensee	Ebnetter
03/14/94 10:00 a.m.	50-261	RII Office	Enforcement Conference CP&L - Robinson	RA, RII Staff, and Licensee	Ebnetter
03/15/94 10:00 a.m.	50-250 50-251	RII Office	Self-Assessment Meeting FPL - Turkey Point	RA, RII Staff, and Licensee	Ebnetter
2:00 p.m.	Same	Same	Meeting on Plant Outage FPL - Turkey Point	Same	Same
03/16/94 10:00 a.m.	50-413 50-414	RII Office	Management Meeting DPC - Catawba	Acting DRA, RII Staff, and Licensee	Merschhoff
03/21/94 1:00 p.m.	50-369 50-370	RII Office	Enforcement Conference DPC - McGuire	RA, RII Staff, and Licensee	Ebnetter
03/29/94 10:00 a.m.	50-369 50-370	Huntersville, NC	SALP Presentation DPC - McGuire	RA, RII Staff, and Licensee	Ebnetter
1:00 p.m.		Huntersville, NC	Quarterly Press Conference	RA, RII Staff, and News Media	Ebnetter

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Region III Meeting Notice

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Attendees Applicant</u>	<u>NRC Contact</u>
3/17-3/18/94		Minneapolis, MN	Mayo Clinic Management Meeting	Deputy Regional Administrator Selected Staff	Axelson
3/23-3/25/94	50-373 50-373	Site	Commonwealth Edison Company - LaSalle Site Visit	Regional Administrator Selected Staff	Axelson

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