

December 13, 1990

For: The Commissioners
From: James L. Blaha, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 7, 1990

A summary of key events is included as a convenience to those Commissioners who may prefer a condensed version of this report.

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*No input this week.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT

WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 7, 1990

Three Mile Island Unit 2

On Saturday, December 1, 1990, the evaporator system used to dispose of the Accident Generated Water (AGW) at TMI-2 was shut down when an operator noticed excessive noise emanating from the vapor compressor. At the time of shutdown the evaporation system had processed 10,000 gallons of water to a recycle storage tank. Vaporization and atmospheric discharge of the slightly tritiated water was to have begun after 15,000 gallons had been processed and the process parameters reverified.

The vapor compressor has been partially disassembled. A representative from Rootes, the compressor vendor, is on site and part of the disassembly, evaluation, and repair team. All 14 bolts on the shaft coupling which transmits power from the motor to the compressor lobes failed. The cause of this failure probably lies in the compressor lobes or shaft, which have not been disassembled yet. Based on current information the NRC staff expects evaporation of the AGW to be postponed for a minimum of two weeks.

High-Level Waste Meeting on Performance Assessment

Staff from the Division of High-Level Waste Management (HLWM) met with representatives from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), its contractors, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the State of Nevada at Sandia National Laboratory, on November 27-29, 1990. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss implementation of the EPA standard and ongoing performance assessment work being conducted. Also in attendance at the meeting were staff from the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste, and the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses.

EPA gave a presentation on the work it had done in the area of iterative performance assessment. EPA indicated that it was placing a contract with the Conservation Foundation to investigate the possibility of a negotiated rule-making process for the revision to its standard.

DOE discussed its ongoing performance assessment calculation exercises (PACE) to develop its own iterative performance assessment capability, and to begin integrating the contractors involved in its performance assessment effort. DOE indicated it may have a total system iterative performance assessment complete by the summer of 1991.

Federal Employees With Disabilities Honored

Reggie Mitchell of the Office of Personnel was one of 13 Federal employees honored at the 22nd Annual Presidential Awards Ceremony for Outstanding Federal Employees with Disabilities on December 5 sponsored by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. Mrs. Marilyn Quayle was special guest for the event that honored the outstanding accomplishments of these employees both on the job and in the community.

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 7, 1990

Palisades

The Palisades conversion from a Provisional Operating License to a Full Term Operating License was discussed at the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) subcommittee on December 5, 1990, followed by the full committee review on December 6.

The Steam Generator Replacement Project (SGRP) is approximately five days ahead of schedule, and continues approximately 70 man-rem below projected dose. Minor weld repair work, and the subsequent weld examinations, have been satisfactorily completed on the "A" steam generator hot leg nozzle. The containment liner plate weld rework has been replaced twice, and weld examinations (RT) are being conducted this week.

The concrete pour, to close the temporary containment access opening, will follow successful weld examinations of the liner plate.

All major steam generator piping connections (main steam, feedwater, and auxiliary feedwater) have been welded in place and are undergoing final weld certifications. Other significant work scheduled this week includes video inspections of the internal surfaces of the steam generator channel heads and hot and cold leg nozzles.

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Standard Technical Specifications

On December 7, 1990, the Technical Specifications Branch, NRR, will brief ACRS on the new Standard Technical Specifications which are nearing completion. The briefing will discuss the development of the new Standard Technical Specifications and the improvements which have been made with respect to the existing technical specifications.

On December 12, 1990, the Technical Specifications Branch will brief CRGR. The first briefing will be similar to that given to ACRS and will serve as the basis for future more detailed briefings to CRGR.

The new Standard Technical Specifications are in the final stages of development. They will be given to the industry for comment. The industry (NUMARC and the owners groups) will then have 30 working days to identify issues on which they disagree with the staff. After resolution of these items and approval by CRGR, the new Standard Technical Specifications will be issued and conversions to these technical specifications can begin.

RESTART SCHEDULE
12/07/90

<u>PLANT</u>	<u>SHUTDOWN</u>	<u>COMMISSION BRIEFING</u>	<u>PLANT RESTART</u>
BROWNS FERRY 2	9/15/84C	3/91	3/91*

*Commission decision prior to restart authorization.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 7, 1990

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Installation of Surveillance Equipment

The IAEA has a program to replace the twin Minolta camera system which has served as the Agency's principal surveillance system for many years. The Modular Integrated Video System (MIVS), developed under the U.S. Support Program to the IAEA, is the current focus of the replacement program. To date 100 MIVS units have been purchased and additional orders are planned. The replacement program is to be completed by the end of 1994. The Technical Support Coordinating Committee, of which the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is one of four voting members, has authorized funding to facilitate the development, manufacture and deployment of the MIVS as well as ongoing efforts to develop a tape review system. The latter is essential in view of the large number of frames that inspectors will need to review for events of potential safeguards significance.

Meeting with Public Service Company of Colorado

On November 29, 1990, Transportation Branch staff met with representatives of Public Service Company of Colorado to discuss future shipment of stored canisters for the storage and shipment of irradiated Fort St. Vrain fuel. An amendment to an existing irradiated fuel cask certificate of compliance would be required for shipment of stored fuel canisters.

Babcock & Wilcox - Pennsylvania Operations

On December 4, 1990, staff of the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards met with representatives of Babcock & Wilcox - Pennsylvania Nuclear Service Operations, to discuss planning for the decommissioning of Babcock & Wilcox's Apollo, PA site.

Babcock & Wilcox (B&W) - Naval Nuclear Fuel Division (NNFD)

A representative of the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards accompanied Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) representatives on a site visit to NNFD. SAIC is conducting the environmental review for the pending license renewal. The site tour consisted of the water management systems, site runoff, waste treatment systems, and waste storage areas. Discussions were held regarding the additional information that is needed to complete the environmental review. A meeting was also held with the Campbell County Zoning Administrator.

On December 5, 1990, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff from the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Office of the General Counsel, and Region II met with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) staff from Region III, National Enforcement Investigations Center, and Headquarters to discuss issues concerning the ponds and landfills at B&W. EPA informed the NRC of its recent inspection results at B&W and updated NRC on its legal action against B&W. NRC staff discussed its actions regarding its October 17, 1990, Notice of Violation.

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DOE discussed its ongoing performance assessment calculation exercises (PACE) to develop its own iterative performance assessment capability, and to begin integrating the contractors involved in its performance assessment effort. DOE indicated it may have a total system iterative performance assessment complete by the summer of 1991.

Notification to Michigan Licensees

Low-Level Waste Management (LLWM) staff has issued an information notice to all Michigan licensees informing them of the denial of access to the existing low-level waste disposal facilities and providing information on available guidance regarding storage of LLW.

Chemetron

On December 5, 1990, representatives from the Division of Low-Level Waste Management and Decommissioning, the Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, and NRC Region III met with representatives from Chemetron Corporation to discuss issues related to decommissioning of their Harvard Avenue and Bert Avenue sites located in Newburgh Heights, Ohio. Chemetron Corporation recently submitted to NRC a proposed characterization and remediation schedule for both sites that differed from previously proposed schedules. Based on the review of the revised schedule and discussions with the licensee during this meeting, NRC staff plans to provide comments to Chemetron Corporation that emphasize timely and effective site remediation.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 7, 1990

Differing Professional View

On November 29, 1990, a member of the RES staff in a memo to the Director of Nuclear Regulatory Research expressed a Differing Professional View (DPV) concerning the technical issue of steam explosions as it relates to early containment failure and its treatment in NUREG-1150. The DPV recommended that the ACRS memo to Chairman Carr, dated November 15, 1990, which raised "several concerns regarding NUREG-1150 among them one concerning ex-vessel steam explosions" be incorporated into the final NUREG-1150 report. The Differing Professional View was resolved successfully by agreeing to include the ACRS memo in the final version of NUREG-1150.

Recently Issued Publication

Draft Regulatory Guide DG-1009, "Standard Format and Content of Technical Information for Applications to Renew Nuclear Power Plant Operating Licenses," December 1990. Comments requested by March 8, 1991.

Publication to be Issued in the Near Future

Title: Draft Regulatory Guide DG-3007, "Fire Protection for Fuel Cycle Facilities"

Description: This guide is being developed to provide guidance on fire protection methods acceptable to the NRC staff for fuel cycle facilities.

Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 7, 1990

Incident Response

On December 4, IRB provided a tour and briefing of the Operations Center to students from Montgomery Blair High School.

On December 6, Chief, IRB and staff and IRM met with INEL to discuss the draft statement of work on the Emergency Telecommunications System upgrade.

On December 6, Chief, IRB and staff provided refresher training for Emergency Officers. A second session is scheduled for December 10.

Diagnostic Evaluation and Incident Investigation Branch

During the period December 3 to 7, the Oyster Creek Diagnostic Evaluation Team completed the third week of onsite evaluation activities. On December 7, the team manager conducted a brief informal exit meeting with licensee management on the results of the third week of evaluation. The team will return to headquarters on December 10 to complete the evaluation and begin preparation of the team's final report.

Technical Training Center

The Chief, Specialized Technical Training Staff, TTC, participated in a meeting on December 4 to plan training on the new 10 CFR Part 20. Other participants included NRR, NMSS, RES, OP and GPA. Initial training will include briefings for NRC technical personnel and workshops for NRC and Agreement State radiation protection personnel. RES, NRR and NMSS will provide personnel to present the workshops and draft workshop materials; the TTC will coordinate presentation of the workshops and edit workshop materials.

Preliminary Notification

PNO-I-90-98A, Albert Einstein Medical Center, NY, NY., TELE THERAPY MISADMINISTRATIONS.

PNO-I-90-102A, Medical Center of Central Massachusetts/Memorial (Worcester Memorial Hospital), 119 Belmont Street, Worcester, Massachusetts 01605, License No. 20-02452-03, POSSIBLE FIRE IN A TELE THERAPY MACHINE--UPDATE.

PNO-II-90-72, Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc., Erwin, TN, Docket No. 70-143, INADVERTENT TRANSFER OF URANIUM-235.

PNO-II-90-73, Carolina Power & Light Company, Brunswick Unit 1, Docket No. 50-325, Southport, North Carolina, FIRE IN BRUNSWICK UNIT 1 DRYWELL.

PNO-II-90-74, Carolina Power & Light Company, Shearon Harris, Docket No. 50-400, New Hill, North Carolina, NO SUBJECT.

PNO-III-90-80, Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co., Parmly at Center Road, Perry, OH, Docket No. 50-440, NEWS MEDIA INTEREST IN RELAY FAILURES.

PNO-III-90-81, Westinghouse Environment and Geotechnical Services, Inc., 3109 Spring Forest Road, Raleigh, NC 27658, 11785 Highway Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio, License No. 32-21183-01, STOLEN MOISTURE-DENSITY GAUGE.

PNO-IV-90-42A, Tumbleweed X-Ray Company, Greenwood, Arkansas, License: 03-23185-01, Docket: 030-28741, REPORT OF OVEREXPOSURE TO RADIOGRAPHER (UPDATE).

Office of Governmental and Public Affairs
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 7, 1990

Radiographer Certification Meeting

Carlton Kammerer, Director, State Programs, and Vandy Miller, Assistant Director, State Agreements Program, participated in a meeting on radiographer certification with representatives from the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. (CRCPD), the State of Texas, the American Society for Nondestructive Testing, Inc. (ASNT) and the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards on December 4, 1990 in Columbus, Ohio. The objectives of the meeting were to: review agreements made at the April 1989 meeting before the Commission; exchange views of the implementation of the ASNT Radiation Safety Certification Program; discuss a process for exchange of information between the regulatory agencies and ASNT; to review the process for States to participate in the certification process; and to discuss means of regulatory oversight of the elements of the ASNT program.

Rhode Island Radiation Control Program Review Visit

John McGrath, Region I State Agreements Officer, conducted a review visit of the Rhode Island Radiation Control Program on December 4-5, 1990 in Providence, Rhode Island. The purpose of a review visit is to assess the status of the State's program and to assist the State in preparing for a routine review.

CRCPD H-6 Committee Meeting

Dennis Sollenberger, State Programs, participated in the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. (CRCPD) H-6 Committee on Training and Communications meeting on December 4-6, 1990 in Tallahassee, Florida. Mr. Sollenberger participated as an NRC resource person to the committee.

Pilgrim Task Force

Robert Trojanowski, Region II State Liaison Officer, participated in Pilgrim Task Force meetings on December 4-7, 1990 in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

National Association of Attorneys General Adopts BRC Resolution

The National Association of Attorneys General adopted a resolution which opposes the NRC's BRC policy at its Winter Meeting on December 4-7, 1990 in Williamsburg, Virginia. The resolution, which was sponsored by New York Attorney General Robert Abrams, opposes any NRC policy or rulemaking which would limit State authority to regulate practices which are exempted from regulation by the NRC under its BRC Policy; urges the NRC to utilize appropriate rulemaking procedures, including notice and comment, and to perform adequate environmental and health assessments before setting any policy which has or may have such significant impacts on the public health welfare and the environment as the BRC Policy; urges Congress to adopt legislation to explicitly preserve all State authority to establish more stringent regulation

of practices designated BRC by the federal government; and authorizes its Executive Director and General Counsel to convey the resolution to the Administration, Congress, NRC, EPA and other interested associations.

Argentina/Brazil Cooperation

On November 30 the Director of International Programs assisted Chairman Carr in Buenos Aires in his signing of a new arrangement for cooperation in exchange of nuclear safety information on certain facilities between NRC and the Argentine National Atomic Energy Commission. Earlier in the week, on a visit to Brazil, the Chairman held discussions with Brazilian officials on revitalizing NRC's arrangement for cooperation in nuclear safety, which dates back to 1976. The Brazilians indicated they would write NRC about their interest in cooperating in areas such as waste management, emergency planning and regulation of research and test reactors, and about their interest in receiving certain computer codes used for nuclear safety calculations.

Discussions were also held in both countries with senior governmental officials regarding the signing on November 28th of an agreement between Argentina and Brazil regarding application of bilateral and comprehensive IAEA safeguards to their nuclear programs and adherence to the Treat of Tlatelolco, which bans nuclear weapons in Latin America. President Bush visited both countries the following week.

Foreign Documents

On Thursday, members of GPA/IP, ADM and IRM met to review procedures and plans for the collection, announcement, translation, distribution and storage of foreign documents. Attention will be given to establishing a flow path for the increasing number of Soviet documents that the NRC is receiving.

Foreign Visitors

On Friday, December 7, Dr. Glen Riley from the Australian office of The Supervising Scientist for the Alligator Rivers Region and Dr. John Harries, Counsellor (Nuclear) from the Embassy of Australia met with Dan Gillen and Ted Johnson from NMSS/LLOB to discuss U.S. regulation of uranium mill tailings.

On Tuesday, December 11, Mr. Yasuyuki Kashimoto, a senior engineer at Shikoku Electric Power Corporation's Ikata nuclear power plant, met with technical staff from NRR, RES, and NMSS for discussions on 10 CFR Part 20, radiation exposure reduction, radiation monitoring and radioactive waste reduction. Mr. Kashimoto discussed his company's position on these topics and answered questions from the NRC staff.

Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 7, 1990

National Disclosure Policy

The Division of Security has been asked to participate in a Working Group on formulating National Disclosure Policy. Such policy would be applicable to the transfer of (or allowing access to) U.S. classified information by foreign governments and international organizations. The Working Group will hold its first meeting on December 10, 1990 at the Pentagon. This group falls under the Information Security Committee, Advisory Group for Security Countermeasures, which is a part of a newly formed National Advisory Group for Counter-intelligence and Security Countermeasures chaired by the Director of Central Intelligence.

Drug Testing Program

On December 6, 1990, NRC conducted the first series of random drug testing which included bargaining unit employees who are in testing designated positions.

Significant FOIA Requests Received by the NRC for 5-Day Period
November 30 - December 6, 1990

Request for a copy of the SF98/98a, Notice of Intention to Make a Service Contract and Response to Notice and Attachment A in response to solicitation No. RS-IRM-91-183. (Jan Moloney, I.T.S. Corporation, FOIA-90-540)

Request for a copy of the Source List for solicitation NO. RS-IRM-91-183. (Jan Moloney, I.T.S. Corporation, FOIA-90-541)

Request for a listing of records subject to five categories of records of terrorist activities. (Gregory Scholten, FOIA-90-542)

Request for records pertaining to the renovation of a named NRC employee's office. (Jim Lynch, Jack Anderson, and Dale Van Atta, FOIA-90-543)

Request for a copy of NRC Translation 2062P of the Chinese document entitled, "Reportable Event Reports for Maanshan Nuclear Power Plant." (Colleen Amoruso, NUS Corporation, FOIA-90-544)

Request for information regarding investigations conducted at Precision Materials Corporation, Mine Hill, New Jersey. (James Wilson, Hudson Environmental Services, Inc., FOIA-90-545)

Request for the company address, telephone number and unit price information of the incumbent contractor and the bidders list for solicitation No. RS-IRM-91-183. (Michael O'Heeron, DUCOM, Inc., FOIA-90-548)

Office of Information Resources Management
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 7, 1990

1. New Form for Requesting Microcomputers Upgrades and Software

The Office of Information Resources Management (IRM) has designed NRC Form 530, "Request for Microcomputer or Network System Upgrade and Software," for use in requesting microcomputer systems upgrades or software. The form will be available in Headquarters' supply rooms after January 15, 1991.

2. Software Quality Assurance (SQA) Seminar

The Office of Information Resources Management has made arrangements for an SQA Seminar to be held on January 9, 1991 in OWFN 10B11. The guest speaker will be Peter Barletto from Niagara Mohawk Corporation. Mr. Barletto is the present Chairman of the Nuclear Utilities Software Management Group, a consortium of nuclear utilities who are working together to improve software quality.

3. New EXSIS Software Installed

The Office of Information Resources Management has installed the most recent release of the EXSIS software on both the central computer and on individual workstations. Improvements in this release include slightly faster response time and the ability to update the data base while users are logged on the system. The latter feature will facilitate loading of data, including event and inspection data.

Office of Personnel
Items of Interest
Week of December 7, 1990

Federal Employees With Disabilities Honored

Reggie Mitchell of the Office of Personnel was one of 13 Federal employees honored at the 22nd Annual Presidential Awards Ceremony for Outstanding Federal Employees with Disabilities on December 5 sponsored by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. Mrs. Marilyn Quayle was special guest for the event that honored the outstanding accomplishments of these employees both on the job and in the community.

Recruitment Initiatives Assessed

Results of recruitment initiatives continue to show individuals are interested in employment with NRC.

New Mexico State University, November 16: F. Elizondo (OP), S. Bajwa (NRR), R. Wilson (NMSS), and D. Collins (Region 11) interviewed 30 applicants with 7 of those being recommended for further interviews.

American Geophysical Union Conference, San Francisco, December 3-8: F. Elizondo (OP) and Mark Thaggard (NMSS) interviewed 23 applicants with 11 being recommended for further interviews.

Arrivals

BERGMAN, Thomas	Project Engineer (PFT)	NRR
DEERING, Joseph	Consultant	OP
McBREARTY, Michael	Mechanical Engineer (PFT)	NRR
SMITH, Wanda	Office Resident Assistant (OPFT)	RIII
ZOTTO, Rosantonia	Clerk-Typist (PFT)	AEOD

Departures

None.

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization and Civil Rights
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 7, 1990

Federal Women's Program

November 27-30, 1990, Era Marshall, the Federal Women's Program Manager, visited North Carolina A&T University and North Carolina State University. The purpose of these visits was to assist the NRC's affirmative recruitment initiative through enhanced lines of communication with the academic community concerning career opportunities within the NRC and to establish a conduit for the employment of women and minority engineers and physical scientists graduates.

During her visit at North Carolina A&T University, she met with faculty members and discussed the NRC's EEO hiring objectives, employment opportunities and benefits. Meetings were also held with the Presidents of The Society of Black Engineers and The Society of Women Engineers. Further, she attended the monthly meeting of The Society of Women Engineers and spoke to the attendees about employment opportunities in the NRC. Several women expressed interest in co-op and part time employment. Efforts are underway to take advantage of their interest.

The Dean of the School of Engineering expressed interest in the prospects of North Carolina A&T conducting research via a grant with NRC. He requested information on how to get involved in our grant and research programs.

While visiting North Carolina State, Ms. Marshall visited the student placement center to discuss employment opportunities with NRC. Discussions were held with the President of The Society of Women Engineers, the Faculty Advisor, and the Coordinator of Minority Affairs.

Office of Enforcement
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 7, 1990

Significant Enforcement Actions

1. A Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalty in the amount of \$2,500 was issued on December 5, 1990, to Albert Einstein Medical Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The action was based on two examples of licensed material being stored in an unrestricted area that was neither secured against unauthorized removal nor under constant surveillance and immediate control of the licensee. The door to the hot laboratory containing millicurie quantities of licensed material was not locked or attended and a package containing licensed material was left in the hallway outside of the nuclear medicine hot laboratory. The violation is of significant concern as the leaving of packages containing licensed material in the nuclear medicine hallway appeared to be a standard practice rather than an isolated occurrence. The escalation and mitigation factors in the Enforcement Policy were considered and on balance no adjustment to the base civil penalty was warranted. (EN 90-107)
2. A Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalty in the amount of \$12,500 was issued on December 5, 1990 to Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (Calvert Cliffs). The action was based on a security shift supervisor suspending metal detector searches because of malfunctioning equipment and allowing employees to enter the protected area during a 15 minute period without either pat-down or hand held metal detector searches. At least four other security officers on duty at the time, who should have known the supervisor made an improper decision, did not take action to prevent, correct, or even report this obvious violation. While the penalty was escalated 25% for corrective action, this was offset by 100% mitigation for good past performance in the area of security. (EN 90-108)
3. A Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalty in the amount of \$50,000 was issued on December 7, 1990 to New York Power Authority (Indian Point 3). The action was based on the failure of the Reactor Operator at the controls and the Senior Reactor Operator assigned to the control room to remain attentive to their licensed duties on September 14, 1990, as observed by the Senior Resident Inspector (SRI) during a backshift tour. No escalation was applied due to the short duration of the violation, as evidenced by log entries several minutes prior to the SRI's observations. No mitigation was deemed warranted due to the initial limited scope of the licensee's corrective action and the time taken to revise procedures to provide guidance on attentiveness. (EN 90-109)
4. An Order Modifying License (Effective Immediately) was issued on December 4, 1990 to Tumbleweed X-Ray Company, Greenwood, Arkansas. The Order modifies the license to prohibit a radiographer and an assistant radiographer from engaging in any NRC-licensed activities on behalf of the

licensee, pending further authorization by the NRC. This action was taken in response to an incident that occurred on November 12, 1990 in Burns Flat, Oklahoma, in which the assistant radiographer apparently received a serious overexposure to his right hand. The assistant radiographer is currently hospitalized. Preliminary results of an inspection indicate that the assistant radiographer failed to perform a radiation survey to confirm that the source had returned to the shielded position before approaching the source and the radiographer failed to supervise the assistant radiographer. The inspection is continuing and additional violations may be identified. (EN 90-110)

Civil Penalty Paid

Syncor International Corporation, Chatsworth, California, paid the civil penalty in the amount of \$12,500. The action was based on a violation involving two incidents in which licensed material in an unrestricted area was neither secured against unauthorized removal nor under constant surveillance and immediate control of the licensee. (EA 90-144)

Office of Consolidation
Items of Interest
We Ending December 7, 1990

Second Building Status

In a telephone communication between GSA and WFN on December 4, the developer agreed to provide a written counter-proposal to the Government's offer of November 29. Although the proposal was expected at GSA on December 7, it was not received by close of business.

DECEMBER 7, 1990

ENCLOSURE M

Region I
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 7, 1990

1. Calvert Cliffs Unit 1

Leaks were observed from cracks in seal welds on two of the four safety injection tanks of Calvert Cliffs Unit 1. The licensee is in process of investigating the nature and root cause of the cracks since the unit shut down on Friday.

The welds are the seal welds at the screwed in pipe connection at the top of the safety injection tanks. The piping supports the relief valves, all four of which were replaced recently. The new relief valves are heavier and taller than the original valves.

The seal welds of three tanks were inspected and two have shown circumferential cracks at the 1 inch pipe side weld toe of 120° and 150°. The third tank seal weld had no sign of cracking or leakage. Cracks were located using PT. The fourth tank will be inspected after necessary scaffolding is put into place.

An engineering investigation is under way using licensee and Bechtel resources. Sample of failed weld fracture surface has been examined with microscope by engineering and shows impact loading or environmental effects as root causes. Specimen will be sent to Fort Smallwood Research Division for close examination of fracture surface. Bechtel is performing stress analysis.

Leakage was found via low oxygen concentration readings.

2. Combustion Engineering Incorporated, Windsor, Connecticut

The licensee conducted an emergency preparedness drill on the evening of December 3, 1990. The drill scenario consisted of a "fire" in a transport vehicle loaded with shipping packages containing radioactive material that was parked near the north wall of the nuclear fuel fabrication facility. Local fire companies were summoned to the site to fight the "fire". The licensee activated its onsite emergency organization to respond and assist in firefighting. Licensee response actions, observed by Region I personnel, were prompt and included good onsite information flow. Notifications were made to the State of Connecticut and to the NRC. Although the scenario did not include protective actions for employees in other on-site facilities, the drill demonstrated that the licensee's actions were adequate to protect the health and safety of nuclear fuel fabrication facility personnel and the general public.

3. Nine Mile Point

On November 30, 1990, Niagara Mohawk briefed the NRC Restart Assessment Panel on the test results and self-assessment results from the final plateau (full power operations) of the Nine Mile Point Unit 1 power ascension

test program. The panel had no objections to Niagara Mohawk commencing routine full power operation. The briefing completed the second step of CAL 88-17, Supplement 1 (July 27, 1990). The only remaining action from the CAL is for Niagara Mohawk to issue a written report on the power ascension test program and to subsequently have a management meeting with the panel.

DECEMBER 7, 1990

ENCLOSURE N

Region II
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 7, 1990

1. Executive Conference Attendance

On December 3 - 5, the Regional Administrator attended the Executive Conference of Self-Assessment for Self-Assurance sponsored by the American Nuclear Society being held at the Hyatt Regency in La Jolla, California.

2. Commission Visits

On December 5, Commissioner Remick, accompanied by the Deputy Regional Administrator, toured the Tennessee Valley Authority's Bellefonte facility.

On December 6, Commissioner Remick, accompanied by the Deputy Regional Administrator, toured the Tennessee Valley Authority's Browns Ferry facility.

3. Robinson Remedial Exercise

Robinson conducted a remedial off hours exercise during the early morning of December 5, 1990. The drill was limited in scope to redemonstrate those exercise objectives not met during a June 1990 exercise. The exercise was fully successful.

4. Carolina Power & Light Company - Brunswick

On December 3, 1990, at 4:29 a.m., Brunswick Unit 1 declared an Unusual Event due to a fire in the area around the drywell personnel entry hatch. The unit was in a shutdown condition with the reactor completely defueled. The fire involved numerous temporary electrical cables that had been run through the personnel entry hatch in support of the recirculation pipe replacement. The fire lasted approximately 30 minutes. There were no injuries. Offsite fire fighting assistance was not required. The licensee is conducting an investigation of the event. There has been local news media interest.

5. Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc.

On November 30, 1990, the licensee reported discovery of 395 grams of uranium-235 in a batch of waste processed through the licensee's NFS Erwin, Tennessee facility waste water treatment system. The 395 grams exceeded the licensee's administrative criticality safety limit of 350 grams. Region II and NMSS dispatched a special inspection team to the site on December 1, 1990. Region II issued a Confirmatory Action Letter to the licensee on November 30, 1990 documenting licensee's agreement to halt transfer of uranium in waste until the event is investigated and the result reviewed with the NRC. The NRC special inspection team will be completing its investigation of the inadvertent transfer of uranium-235 event, reported to the NRC on November 30, 1990. The Director, Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards is at the licensee's facility to review

the NRC team findings and to attend the exit meeting with the licensee. The licensee has drafted a report of its investigation of the event and plans to deliver the report and its findings to the NRC at the site on December 7, 1990.

DECEMBER 7, 1990

ENCLOSURE N

Region III
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 7, 1990

1. Northern States Power

On December 6, 1990, Dr. Carl J. Paperiello, Deputy Regional Administrator, and selected regional staff conducted an enforcement conference to discuss an apparent safeguards violation which occurred at their corporate office. The licensee reported that a safe containing significant safeguards information was left open and unattended over a weekend. The Region is now considering the appropriate enforcement action.

2. Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station

At 9:30 a.m., December 7, 1990, Dr. Carl Paperiello, Deputy Regional Administrator, and other NRC staff members met with Commonwealth Edison Company representatives in the regional office to conduct an Enforcement Conference related to the Quad Cities Unit 2 scram on October 27, 1990. A separate enforcement meeting on the same topic was conducted with the shift operating crew in the afternoon of December 7, 1990.

3. Prairie Island Nuclear Plant

A routine periodic management meeting was held on December 6, 1990, in the regional office. The agenda topics included recent licensee organizational changes, the Configuration Management Program, problems with attention to detail, and concerns involving Technical Specification interpretations. Dr. Carl Paperiello, Deputy Regional Administrator, and Mr. Hubert J. Miller, Director, Division of Reactor Projects were the senior NRC representatives present. Several other NRC staff members were also in attendance.

4. Wisconsin Public Service Corporation

On December 5, 1990, Mr. T. O. Martin, Director, Division of Reactor Safety, and others of his staff met with Mr. Ken Evers, Manager, Nuclear Power, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, and others of his staff to discuss the licensee's response to NRC concerns regarding the Kewaunee requalification program. Topics included licensee staffing and organization and test item development.

Region IV
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 7, 1990

1. Sequoyah Fuels Corporation Unusual Event

On November 28, 1990, Sequoyah Fuels Corporation (SFC) informed Region IV of the circumstances surrounding an Unusual Event that had been declared at 2025 the night before. The #3 denitrator experienced a packing failure, releasing approximately 400 pounds (about 12 gallons) UO_2 in the building. Material spread to the #2 denitrator and to the floor below. A worker passing near the area noticed the leak and immediately notified the control room, whereby the denitrator was shut down according to procedure. Licensee personnel donned respiratory protection and immediately began cleanup efforts. Approximately four hours later, after cleanup efforts were well underway and after the packing had been replaced, the denitrator was started back up.

The highest air sample indicated approximately 13 MPC. Initial bioassay results indicated two individuals exceeded the licensee's action level of 20 micrograms per liter (ug/l), with the highest result being 44 ug/l. The licensee is continuing their special bioassay program to more fully characterize the individuals' intake. The spill appears to have been contained within the building, however, the licensee is continuing their evaluation. The licensee believes that the packing had not been properly installed, and did not believe this event to be reportable. However, the licensee promptly informed the NRC, demonstrating continued improvement in communications with the NRC regarding plant events.

2. Report of Overexposure to Radiographer (Update)

The NRC Region IV inspector interviewed the assistant radiographer and the radiographer involved in the November 12, 1990, radiography incident. The incident occurred in Oklahoma and caused an overexposure to the assistant's right hand. Further information gathered by the Region IV inspector indicated that the stand holding the guide tube fell after the source was cranked for only 2 or 3 turns. Although, the assistant radiographer stated that he cranked the source back into the device before repositioning the stand, it now appears likely that the assistant may have become confused and cranked the source out instead of in. The assistant stated that he thought the source was cranked back into the camera because his alarming personnel dosimeter stopped alarming. It is believed that the alarming personnel dosimeter malfunctioned and that the source was actually near the end of the 7-foot long guide tube where the assistant placed his thumb, index, and middle fingers to correctly position the tip of the guide tube. The assistant had failed to make a survey to confirm the location of the source before repositioning the stand and guide tube.

The Region IV inspector will continue his investigation of the incident to include an inspection of pertinent records and equipment at the licensee's facility in Greenwood, Arkansas.

3. URFO and Power Resources, Inc. Meeting

At their request, Power Resources, Inc., met on December 5, 1990, with the Director and selected staff of the Uranium Recovery Field Office to discuss the licensee's request for a license amendment to change his organization. The requested change for the Radiation Safety Program staff, has been questioned by the NRC since the qualifications of the Radiation Safety Officer and Technician do not appear to meet NRC criteria. Power Resources operates the Highland uranium in-situ facility near Casper, Wyoming.

4. Meeting with Wolf Creek Generating Station

A management meeting with representatives of Wolf Creek was held in the Region IV offices on December 6, 1990. The purpose of the meeting was to review the results of the licensee's root cause analysis and proposed corrective actions following the determination that the requalification program was unsatisfactory. The meeting was attended by Region IV management, the NRR PM and an OLB representative, the CEO for Wolf Creek Nuclear Generating Corporation and members of his staff.

5. Meeting with Utility Emergency Planning Users Group

Members of the DRSS staff were invited to meet on December 5, 1990, with the Region IV Utility Emergency Planning Users Group in Arlington, Texas, to discuss topics related to emergency planning and response.

6. Enforcement Conference with Western Stress, Inc.

An enforcement conference was held December 7, 1990, with Western Stress, Inc., at the Region IV Office in Arlington, Texas, to review the findings of a special inspection conducted October 5 and 6, 1990, by the Region I office. The main areas of concern for this conference were (1) the failure of a radiographer to survey a radiographic exposure device after each exposure which resulted in radiation doses in excess of regulatory requirements and (2) the failure of the radiographer to wear radiation dosimeters.

Region V
Items of Interest
Week Ending December 7, 1990

1. Resident Inspectors Meeting

Region V is conducting a Resident Inspectors Meeting December 4 through December 7.

ITEMS ADDRESSED BY THE COMMISSION - WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 10, 1990

- A. STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING ON PROGRESS OF RESEARCH IN THE AREA OF ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT, 10:00 A.M., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1990, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE) - SECY to James M. Taylor, EDO dated 12/6/90

The Commission was briefed by the NRC staff on the progress of research in the area of organization and management. The Commission requested that future periodic progress briefings include progress discussions or views by AEOD and NRR on the benefits and applications of the research that they foresee.

The staff should keep the Commission informed of problems which interfere with or delay research work or cause the expenditure of excessive personnel resources. Specifically concerning the problem of site access for field testing, the Chairman offered to intercede with utility management when deemed desirable by the staff. The staff should inform the Commission of the nature of industry interest and participation in these programs.

In the future, when results become apparent to the industry, the staff should consider inviting participating utilities, industry representatives, and other involved parties to present their views in this matter before the Commission.

Some of the Commissioners noted that a few of the NUREGs were not sufficiently readable. The staff should review future documents for organization and readability.

The Commission urged the staff to focus the research on regulatory use and the reduction of personnel errors, and to frequently review the comments provided by the Nuclear Safety Research Review Committee as a source of guidance.

NRR MEETING NOTICES

December 7, 1990

<u>DATE/TIME</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>	<u>APPLICANT/ ATTENDEES</u>	<u>NRR CONTACT</u>
12/17/90 1:00-3:00	50-341	One White Flint North Room 16B-11	Meeting with Detroit Edison for monthly management meeting.	NRC/DE	J. Stang
12/17/90 1:00-4:00	50-336	One White Flint North Room 13B-9	Meeting with Northeast Utilities to support the preparation for vender inspection of B&W Canada facilities.	NRC/NEU	G. Vissing
12/18/90 8:00-2:00	None	One White Flint North Room 2F-17	Meeting with EPRI to discuss recent NRC/EPRI research activities related to Bulletin 88-08.		B. Mozafari
12/18/90 9:00	50-458	One White Flint Room 1F-22	Meeting with Gulf States Utilities to discuss detailed data and physics and transient reports.	NRC/GS	C. Abbate
12/19/90 9:00-12:00	50-202 50-305	One White Flint North Room 14B-11	Meeting with Northern States Power Co. to resolve the concerns of Bulletin 88-08.	NRC/NSPC	D. DiIanni

* Copies of summaries of these meetings will be made publicly available and placed in the respective docket file(s) in the NRC and local public document rooms.

A listing of these meeting notices can be obtained by calling 492-7424.

December 7, 1990

<u>DATE/TIME</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>	<u>APPLICANT ATTENDEES</u>	<u>NRR CONTACT</u>
01/09/91 8:30-12:00	None None	One White Flint North Room 8B-11	Meeting with BWROG on BWR Thermal HYDRAULIC STABILITY.	NRC/GE/BWROG/ORNL	H. Richings
01/10/91 9:00-12:00	None	One White Flint North Room 10B-13	Meeting with GE to discuss fuel failure status.	NRC/GE	S. WU
01/22/91 01/23/91 01/24/91 8:30-5:00	None	One White Flint North Room 6B-11(Tues.& Thurs.) 2F-21(Wed.)	Meeting with NUMARC to discuss the resolution of NRC staff comments on the Industry Reports for BWR Reactor Pressure Vessel & BWR Reactor Vessel Internals.	NRC/NUMARC	R. Parkhill, Sr.
01/23/91 9:00-4:00	50-336	One White Flint North Room 2F-17	Meeting with Northeast Utilities to discuss the Millstone 2 Steam Generator Replacement program.	NRC/NFU	G. Vissing

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December 7, 1990

NMSS Meeting Notices

Division of Safeguards and Transportation

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Attendees/ Applicant</u>	<u>NRC Contact</u>
12/12 9:00-11:30		OWFN 1F-22	BR-100 Spent Fuel Ship. Cask, Thermal Analysis	NRC DOE B&W	C. Withee
01/16/91 9:00-11:30		OWFN	BR-100 Spent Fuel Ship. Cask, Crit. & Shield.	NRC DOE B&W	C. Withee

Division of High-Level Waste Management

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Attendees/ Applicant</u>	<u>NRC Contact</u>
12/13		OWFN 6B-11	To discuss and schedule interactions between NRC and DOE	NRC DOE State of Nevada Affected Local Governments	J. Holonich
12/18		OWFN 6B-11	Briefing by DOE Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management	NRC DOE	J. Holonich

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ENCLOSURE 0

Division of Low-Level Waste Management and Decommissioning

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Attendees/ Applicant</u>	<u>NRC Contact</u>
12/11		Germantown, MD	To participate in DOE/ NRC management meeting	NRC DOE	D. Gillen
12/12		Rockville, MD	To participate in DOE/ NRC Workshop on Alter- native Concentration Limits in UMTRA Program	NRC DOE	S. Wastler
1/8		St. Louis, MO	To attend TCC Meeting	NRC	J. Surmeier
1/21-25		Raleigh, NC	To Participate in the Health Physics Society Meeting	NRC	J. Greeves
1/23-25		San Diego, CA	To Attend and Participate in the LLW Forum Meeting	NRC	P. Lohaus

Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Attendees/ Applicant</u>	<u>NRC Contact</u>
12/17-18 3:00 p.m.	72-10	St. Paul, MN	To attend Minnesota Environmental Quality Board public meeting on Prairie Island ISFSI	NRC RIII	F. Sturz

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ENCLOSURE 0

DECEMBER 7, 1990

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>RES Meeting Notices</u> <u>Purpose</u>	<u>Attendees/ Applicant</u>	<u>NRC Contact</u>
			<u>Division of Regulatory Applications</u>		
12/15/90		American College of Radiology Reston, VA	Continuation of 11/19/90 meeting: roundtable discussion with medical associations on the rule- making for quality assurance in the medical use of byproduct material and the draft regulatory guide.		J. Telford 492-3796

ENCLOSURE 0

December 6, 1990

RIT MEETING NOTICE

<u>DATE/TIME</u>	<u>DOCKET NUMBER</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>ATTENDEES/ PURPOSE</u>	<u>APPLICANT</u>	<u>NRC CONTACT</u>
12/10/90 p.m.		Richmond, VA	Presentation of Certificates to newly licensed operators at Virginia Power	Regional Administrator, Licensee management, and operators	Ebnetter
12/18/90 10:00 a.m.		Waynesboro, GA	SALP Presentation - Vogtle	Regional Administrator, Regional and NRR staff, Licensee	Ebnetter
12/19/90 10:00 a.m.		Southport, NC	SALP Presentation - Brunswick	Regional Administrator, Regional and NRR staff,	Ebnetter
12/20/90		Baxley, GA	Com. Rogers at Hatch Plant for site familiarization visit	Commissioner, Tech. Asst. and Deputy RA	Milhoan

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Region III Meeting Notices

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Attendees Applicant</u>	<u>NRC Contact</u>
12/17/90	50-341	Headquarters	Detroit Edison Company, Fermi - Routine	Licensee, NRR, Director, Division of Reactor Projects, and selected members of RIII Staff	Miller
12/18/90	30-29567	St. Louis, Missouri	American Radiolabeled Chemicals - Management Meeting	Licensee, Regional Administrator and selected members of RIII staff	Norelius
12/20/90	50-373 50-374	Site	Commonwealth Edison Company, LaSalle - Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance	Licensee, Deputy Regional Administrator and selected members RIII staff	Miller

ENCLOSURE 0

Region IV Meeting Notice

December 7, 1990

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Attendees/ Applicant</u>	<u>NRC Contact</u>
12/10/90 2:00		OWFN	Discuss possible business ventures ANC's Gas Hill Uranium Mill site.	ANC & NUKEM, URFO, LLWMD, OGC	E.Hawkins
12/11/90 All day		Germantown, MD	NRC-DOE Title I management meeting to discuss problems and schedules involving NRC review of Title I casework.	NRC, DOE-Albuquerque	R.Hall
12/13/90 2:00	50-498; 50-499	RIV Office	Discuss operational improvement program.	HL&P Mgmt.	A.Howell

December 7, 1990

Region V Meeting Notice

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Attendees/ Applicant</u>	<u>NRC Contact</u>
1/8-9/91		Region II	J. Martin attending Sr. management meeting in Region II	J. Martin	J. Martin

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ENCLOSURE 0