

INFORMATION REPORT

FEBRUARY 12, 2021

SECY-21-0015

FOR: The Commissioners

FROM: Catherine Haney
Assistant for Operations
Office of the Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT – WEEK ENDING
JANUARY 29, 2021

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 Signed by Haney, Cathy
on 02/12/21

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SUBJECT: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT – WEEK ENDING JANUARY 29, 2021,
DATED FEBRUARY 12, 2021

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ADAMS Accession No: ML21039A345

OFFICE	OEDO	OEDO/AO
NAME	SMroz	CHaney
DATE	02/08/2021	02/12/2021

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Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer (OCHCO)
Items of Interest
Week Ending JANUARY 29, 2021

ARRIVALS		
DEMETER, ASHLEY	REACTOR ENGINEER	R-III
DYKE, BRIAN	OPERATIONS ENGINEER	R-I
HANN, PATRICK	HEALTH PHYSICIST	R-I
HARRISON-LITTLE, ELEANOR	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	RES
LEE, JOHNATHAN	REACTOR INSPECTOR	R-IV
MUNEERUDDIN, ARSALAN	REACTOR ENGINEER	R-III
WHITAKER, SCHEERA	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	NMSS
WILLIAMS, TIA	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	RES
RETIREMENTS		
CASE, MICHAEL J	DIRECTOR DIV OF SYSTEMS ANALYSIS	RES
MATHEW, ROY K	SENIOR ELECTRICAL ENGINEER	NRR
DEPARTURES		
NONE		

**Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO)
Items of Interest
Week Ending JANUARY 29, 2021**

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests and Appeals
Received During the Period of January 25 – January 29

Tracking Number	Requester's Name	Requester's Organization	Request Description as submitted by requester	Received Date
2021-000089	Ron Hartke	Ardent Technologies Inc.	Historical Performance Work Statement (PWS)/Statement of Work (SOW) for existing contract - NRCHQ4017C0002, and for existing contract, who is currently assigned: PM (program manager), COR (Contracting Organization Representative), POC (point of contact), CO (contract officer), and CS (contract specialist)	01/27/2021
2021-000090	Juan P. Morillo	Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP	Documents and communications relating to Facebook and WhatsApp, from January 1, 2018 to present, as described	01/27/2021

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending JANUARY 29, 2021

NRC Hosted Public Meeting on Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors

On January 21, 2021, the NRC staff held a public meeting with the Nuclear Energy Institute's Licensed Operator Focus group and members of the industry to discuss draft NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 12 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML20329A326). The meeting was attended by over 100 participants from several licensee training organizations and members of the public. The NRC staff will consider the feedback received during this meeting while finalizing the revision to NUREG-1021. The draft NUREG-1021 was published in the *Federal Register* ([85 FR 77280](#)). Comments are requested by February 16, 2021.

NRC Issued Final Revision to Branch Technical Position 7-19, "Guidance for Evaluation of Defense in Depth and Diversity to Address Common-Cause Failure Due to Latent Design Defects in Digital Safety Systems"

On January 26, 2021, the NRC staff issued Revision 8 of the Branch Technical Position (BTP) 7-19, "Guidance for Evaluation of Defense in Depth and Diversity to Address Common-Cause Failure Due to Latent Design Defects in Digital Safety Systems," (ADAMS Accession No. ML20339A647). BTP 7-19 applies to requests for license amendments to licensed nuclear power plants and applications for construction permits, operating licenses, combined licenses, design certifications, standard design approvals, and manufacturing licenses. BTP 7-19, Revision 8 provides the guidance necessary for the NRC staff to evaluate an applicant's diversity and defense-in-depth assessment when identifying and addressing potential common-cause failures (CCFs) in a proposed digital I&C system and the potential effects of any unprevented CCFs on plant safety. The issuance of this guidance is an important milestone to address the issue of CCF in digital I&C systems with consideration of system safety significance. BTP 7-19, Revision 8 was published in the *Federal Register* ([86 FR 7577](#)) on January 29, 2021.

NRC Hosted Public Meeting on Reactor Oversight Process Topics

On January 27, 2021, the staff held a public meeting with the industry's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Task Force and members of the public to discuss the status of several ROP topics. The topics discussed during the public meeting included:

- Performance indicators and frequently asked questions (ADAMS Accession Nos. ML21021A090, ML21021A114, ML21021A283, and ML21013A554);
- Lessons learned and best practices on reactor oversight during the COVID-19 pandemic (ADAMS Accession No. ML21022A200);
- Inspection Procedure 37060, "10 CFR 50.69 Risk-Informed Categorization and Treatment of Structures, Systems, And Components Inspection" (ADAMS Accession No. ML20345A122);

- Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50.55(a) pressure-operated valves (ADAMS Accession No. ML21022A154);
- Nuclear Energy Institute's Whitepaper, "Counting of DEP Opportunities from an Actual Emergency Following a Retraction of the Emergency Declaration" (ADAMS Accession No. ML19339H435); and
- Independent spent fuel storage installation enhancement updates.

The next monthly public meeting between the staff and the ROP Task Force is scheduled for February 24, 2021.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending JANUARY 29, 2021

NRC Meeting with Navajo Nation President and Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency

On January 26, 2021, the NRC staff met with the Navajo Nation's President, Mr. Jonathan Nez, and the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency, to discuss their request to extend the comment period on NRC's Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the United Nuclear Corporation Church Rock Mill site. The NRC staff indicated that the comment period would be extended as requested until May 27, 2021 (90 days). The NRC staff and Navajo Nation both gave opening remarks and then NRC affirmed its commitment to continue to engage in respectful dialogue as well as its plan for engaging the local community amid the hardships of the public health emergency. The NRC plans to provide a formal response to President Nez's letter requesting the extension and plans to issue a notice in the *Federal Register*.

NRC Completed Safety Evaluation of Holtec HI-STORM 100 Amendment

On January 27, 2021, the NRC staff completed the safety evaluation of Certificate of Compliance No. 1014 for Holtec's HI-STORM 100 Amendment No. 15 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML20295A422). Holtec proposed 11 changes in this amendment including a new transfer cask, a new overpack, and allowance for canisters currently loaded under earlier amendments with different helium leak test requirements. The NRC staff performed its detailed technical review to ensure the system with the proposed changes will continue to ensure safety. With the completion of the technical review, the NRC staff has started the process for preparing the direct final rule and the accompanying proposed rule.

NRC Issued Determination on Disposal of Capsule Containing Radioactive Material

On January 27, 2021, the NRC staff issued its response (ADAMS Accession No. ML21011A218) to a request (ADAMS Accession No. ML21007A278) from Check-Cap Ltd. (Check-Cap) to determine whether a capsule containing radioactive material in sealed form (30 mCi of Os-101), proposed for internal colon-imaging, could be disposed as excreta into the sanitary sewerage system. The staff confirmed that 10 CFR 20.2003(b) does not apply to the disposal of the capsule; therefore, the capsule would not be considered excreta. In addition, the staff informed Check-Cap that given that the ultimate disposal responsibility should remain with Check-Cap, the capsule is not suitable for sanitary sewerage disposal. This decision is consistent with previous Commission decisions regarding 10 CFR 20.2003(b).

NRC Meeting with Representatives from the State of Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

On January 28, 2021, the NRC staff conducted a virtual orientation meeting with representatives from Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to discuss the path forward to becoming an Agreement State. This was the first meeting since the Governor of Connecticut submitted a letter of intent on December 10, 2020. After an overview by DEEP on their Radiation Control Program, the NRC provided presentations and answered DEEP questions on the Agreement process, the application contents, criteria used to evaluate the application, and discussed strategies used to streamline the application process. The state has indicated that they would like to complete the Agreement process by January 2025.

Alignment of Licensing Processes and Lessons Learned from New Reactor Licensing: Regulatory Basis; Request for Comment; 10 CFR Parts 2, 21, 26, 50, 51, 55, and 73 [NRC-2009-0196; RIN 3150-AI66]

On January 29, 2021, the NRC published a notice in the *Federal Register* ([86 FR 7513](#)) requesting comments on a regulatory basis to support a proposed rule that would amend the NRC's regulations for the licensing of new nuclear power reactors. The NRC's goals in amending these regulations would be to ensure consistency in new reactor licensing reviews, provide for an efficient new reactor licensing process, reduce the need for exemptions from existing regulations and license amendment requests, address other new reactor licensing issues deemed relevant by the NRC, and support the principles of good regulation, specifically openness, clarity, and reliability. The NRC plans to hold a public meeting to promote a full understanding of the rulemaking, discuss the regulatory basis, and facilitate public participation. Comments are requested by April 14, 2021.

Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending JANUARY 29, 2021

NRC Hosted Meeting on Force-on-Force Exercises during the Public Health Emergency

On January 26, 2021, the NRC staff held a Category 1 closed meeting with Dominion Energy to discuss the licensee's plan for conducting annually required licensee-conducted Force-on-Force exercises with safety measures to address the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. Specifically, Dominion representatives discussed their planned approach for maintaining personnel safety measures in several different environments while preserving exercise integrity. The NRC staff provided feedback that approaches described by the licensee generally aligned with the intent of RG 5.75, "Training and Qualification of Security Personnel at Nuclear Power Reactor Facilities" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML091690037).

NRC Meeting with Canadian and British Regulatory Counterparts on Reactor Security

On January 26, 2021, the NRC staff met with counterparts at the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission and the United Kingdom's Office for Nuclear Regulation to continue discussions on cooperation in the area of security for small modular reactors (SMRs) and advanced reactors. All three agencies agreed to continue discussions in the future and to explore holding a series of engagements on specific topics related to security and perhaps emergency preparedness for SMRs and advanced reactors.

NRC Presentation at Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Workshop

On January 26, 2021, the NRC staff gave a presentation at a January 26-28 FEMA workshop on the Integrated Public Alert and Warning Systems (IPAWS) and Wireless Emergency Alert. The meeting was attended by representatives of licensees and their offsite response organizations (ORO). The workshop supplemented existing Alert and Notification System (ANS) and IPAWS training, which enhanced the warning capabilities of OROs and licensees. The NRC staff's presentation focused on NRC's reviews of licensees' ANS design changes to use IPAWS.

**Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending JANUARY 29, 2021**

Document Released to Public	Date of Document	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. None		
Information Papers		
1. SECY-21-0008	01/27/21	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending 01/15/2021
Memoranda		
1. None		

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to the Honorable Lamar Alexander and Marcy Kaptur, submits the NRCs Fiscal Year 2021 Congressional Budget Execution Plan, dated January 15, 2021.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes (ACMUI) – Call for Nominations