

## INFORMATION REPORT

MARCH 8, 2021

SECY-21-0028

FOR: The Commissioners

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

SUBJECT: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT – WEEK ENDING  
FEBRUARY 19, 2021

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 Signed by Haney, Cathy  
on 03/08/21

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SUBJECT: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT – WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 19, 2021,  
DATED MARCH 8, 2021

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**ADAMS Accession No:** ML21063A511

OFFICE	OEDO	OEDO/AO
NAME	SMroz	CHaney
DATE	03/05/2021	03/08/2021

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**Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer (OCHCO)**  
**Items of Interest**  
**Week Ending FEBRUARY 19, 2021**

<b>ARRIVALS</b>
NONE
<b>RETIREMENTS</b>
NONE
<b>DEPARTURES</b>
NONE

**Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending FEBRUARY 19, 2021**

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests and Appeals  
Received During the Period of February 12 – 19

<b>Tracking Number</b>	<b>Requester's Name</b>	<b>Requester's Organization</b>	<b>Request Description as submitted by requester</b>	<b>Received Date</b>
2021-000102	Derek Martin	Accountable.US	Requesting copies of reports regarding political appointees whom transferred over to non-political permanent positions within this agency since as early November 1, 2016	02/12/2021
2021-000103	Michael Ravnitzky		A copy of the letter of request and the letter of response and any responsive records provided for the following FOIA requests: NRC-2016-000202 and NRC-2020-000237	02/16/2021
2021-000104	Nicole Jacques		Copies of all communications, environmental impact reports, financial analyses, memos, and plans or proposals regarding the government's review and/or selection of a site for the permanent storage and disposal of High-level Radioactive Waste (HLW), to include spent nuclear fuel (SNF), in the United States, during the time period of January 2017 to the present day	02/16/2021
2021-000105	Dr. Edwin Lyman	Union of Concerned Scientists	All documents related to Terrestrial Energy USA's (TEUSA's) pre-application engagement with the NRC regarding its Integral Molten Salt Reactor, including but not restricted to white papers, topical reports, and other documents submitted to the NRC, NRC staff comments and reviews of TEUSA submittals (formal and informal), meeting summaries, and internal and external staff communications, including emails	02/16/2021

Tracking Number	Requester's Name	Requester's Organization	Request Description as submitted by requester	Received Date
2021-000106	Elana Varilek	Parnall Law Firm	Any and all criteria, licenses, certifications, tests, regulations, safety officer assignments and duties, or any other NRC-imposed requirement for facilities to be permitted to receive, handle, manufacture, or ship radioactive material; any and all training, guidelines, testing, test preparation materials, or other compliance-related materials provided by NRC to facilities that receive, handle, manufacture, or ship radioactive material; any and all records regarding all Core Laboratories locations, and/or its employees (past or current) under NRC jurisdiction; all dosimeter readings for Core Laboratories Albuquerque employees for the past five years; any and all materials regarding the exposure incident on 10/22/19 at Core Laboratories in Albuquerque; and any and all materials regarding ANY exposure incident, whether acute or chronic, at any Core Laboratories location under NRC jurisdiction	02/19/2021

**Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending FEBRUARY 19, 2021**

**NRC Participated in the Nuclear Energy Institute’s Risk-Informed Forum**

On February 16-18, 2021, NRC staff participated in the Nuclear Energy Institute’s (NEI) Risk-Informed Forum. The forum focused on various risk-related activities covering licensing, oversight, research, and other topical areas. The NRC staff presented on the Risk-Informed Process for Evaluations; lesson-learned and experiences with licensing of risk-informed initiatives, including the use of virtual audits; probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) modeling realism, including incorporation of flexible coping strategies (or FLEX) into PRA models; and progress on the NRC staff’s efforts to use integrated review teams for the review of licensing actions.

**NRC Hosted Public Meeting on License Renewal Term Limits**

On February 18, 2021, the NRC held a public meeting to gauge stakeholder views/perspectives and industry interest in renewing operating licenses for an additional 40-year term in lieu of the current 20-year term limit. Attendees included the NEI, Beyond Nuclear, and members of the public. Stakeholders provided varying perspectives from neutral to not in favor of extending the license renewal term limits. The staff will use the feedback obtained from the meeting to determine if this initiative's continued development is warranted.

**Staff Approved Licensing Requests for Regulatory Relief Related to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency**

The NRC staff has reviewed and approved several licensing requests seeking temporary flexibilities to maintain the safe and secure operation of the U.S. nuclear fleet during the pandemic. A summary of approved licensing actions provided during this reporting period are summarized below. A complete list of licensing actions approved by the NRC in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency is available on the NRC public website at <https://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/covid-19/reactors/licensing-actions.html>.

*Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2 (Vistra Operations Company, LLC)*

Type	Subject	Incoming Request	Decision
Exemption	Select Requirements of 10 CFR Part 26, “Fitness for Duty Programs,” Section 26.205, “Work hours”	02/08/2021 ML21039A688	02/11/2021 ML21040A001
		02/09/2021 ML21040A512	
		02/10/2021 ML21041A541	

*Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2 (Exelon Generation Company, LLC)*

Type	Subject	Incoming Request	Decision
Exemption	Select Requirements of 10 CFR Part 26, “Fitness for Duty Programs,” Section 26.205, “Work hours”	01/21/2021 ML21022A009	02/18/2021 ML21029A336

**Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)**  
**Items of Interest**  
**Week Ending FEBRUARY 19, 2021**

**Honeywell International Began Discussions with NMSS for a Potential Restart**

On February 19, 2021, Honeywell International notified the NRC by letter that a decision has been made to resume full operations at its uranium conversion facility located in Metropolis, Illinois, with preparation activities beginning this year. The Metropolis Works facility has been maintained in a “ready-idle” status since late 2017. The staff has initiated discussions with Honeywell regarding licensing and inspection activities to support restart.

**Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)**  
**Items of Interest**  
**Week Ending FEBRUARY 19, 2021**

**Staff Participated in Interagency Meeting on Supply Chain Risk**

On February 12, the NRC staff participated in a quarterly meeting of the Information and Communications Technology Supply Chain Risk Management Task Force, led by the Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. The meeting included discussions on Task Force activities and potential areas for joint planning and collaboration during calendar year 2021, such as utilizing the Task Force to address lessons learned from SolarWinds.

**Staff Participated in Emergency Preparedness Meeting**

On February 17, the NRC staff participated in a meeting of the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) Emergency Preparedness (EP) Working Group. NSIR staff discussed: (1) Rev 6 of RG 1.101, "Emergency Response Planning and Preparedness for Nuclear Power Plants"; (2) Rev 2 of NUREG/CR-7002, "Criteria for Development of Evacuation Time Estimate Studies"; (3) planned 2021 pre-hurricane season Preliminary Capabilities Assessment/Disaster Initiated Review tabletop drill; (4) research on non-radiological impacts from evacuations; (5) coronavirus-related activities (EP exercise exemption requests); and (6) significant operating experience/lessons learned from inspection activities. Meeting attendees included staff from the Federal Emergency Management Agency Technical Hazards Division, and NEI and licensee EP managers.

**Staff Participated in Interagency Cybersecurity Task Force Meeting**

On February 17, the NRC staff participated in a meeting of the Securing Energy Infrastructure Task Force (SEI TF) Senior Technical Group, led by the Department of Energy Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response. Members of the Technical Group represent government organizations, utilities, academia, and national laboratories. The SEI TF's Congressionally-mandated mission is to advise a two-year pilot program to isolate and defend critical industrial control systems from security vulnerabilities and exploits. The meeting included discussions on the SEI TF's efforts along with major milestones in support of developing the SEI TF's final report to Congress in June 2022.



**Office of Enforcement (OE)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending FEBRUARY 19, 2021**

**Decision Issued on Differing Professional Opinion (DPO) Appeal**

On January 28, 2021, the Executive Director for Operations (EDO) issued a decision on the appeal of a DPO submitted on May 8, 2019. The appeal pertained to a DPO submitted on October 10, 2017, regarding the staff's response to TIA 2014-04 associated with degraded voltage protection at the Oconee Nuclear Station for Units 1, 2, and 3 (Oconee). An Ad-Hoc DPO Review Panel was convened to review the DPO and presented its findings to the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) by report dated December 12, 2019. The Panel concluded that: 1) the TIA 2014-04 response was correct, but that attributes of NRC's Principles of Good Regulation (i.e., Openness and Transparency) could have been strengthened; 2) the Oconee degraded voltage relay (DVR) configuration is in compliance with its licensing basis; 3) the engineered safeguard buses have adequate sources of emergency power under all modes of plant operation, 4) the licensee is not required to include additional setpoints and time delays in the Technical Specifications; and 5) the issues raised in the DPO are of very low safety significance. On February 7, 2020, the NRR Office Director issued a Director's Decision to the DPO submitter.

On March 5, 2020, the DPO submitter appealed to the EDO regarding the DPO response decision. The appeal stated that the DPO response decision contained inaccurate technical and regulatory bases to conclude that Oconee meets its licensing basis. On March 30, 2020, the Director of NRR issued his Statement of Views letter in response to the DPO appeal. The EDO's decision on the DPO appeal concluded that the DVR scheme at Oconee is consistent with the site's current licensing basis and provides reasonable assurance of adequate protection of site safety. However, the EDO directed NRR to determine whether a proposed Technical Specification is required for DVR protection at Oconee under 10 CFR 50.36(c)(3), in accordance with the backfit rule. The EDO thanked the submitter for taking the time to raise his concerns and for the detailed information provided to support her review. The EDO noted that the submitter's willingness to raise concerns through the DPO process is consistent with the agency's organizational values of Openness and Commitment.

The DPO Case File can be found at Agencywide Documents Management and Access System Accession No. ML21047A241.

**Office of the Secretary (SECY)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending FEBRUARY 19, 2021**

<b>Document Released to Public</b>	<b>Date of Document</b>	<b>Subject</b>
<b>Decision Documents</b>		
1. Staff Requirements Memorandum SECY-18-0005	02/19/21	Policy Statement on Enhancing Participation in U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Public Meetings
2. Commission Voting Record SECY-18-0005	02/19/21	Policy Statement on Enhancing Participation in U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Public Meetings
<b>Information Papers</b>		
1. SECY-21-0010	02/01/21	Advanced Reactor Program Status
2. SECY-21-0015	02/12/21	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending 01/29/2021
<b>Memoranda</b>		
1. Staff Requirements Memorandum M210218A	02/18/21	Affirmation Session - SECY-20-0087: Holtec International (HI-STORE CISF) Sierra Club Appeal of LBP-20-6; SECY-20-0099: DTE Electric (Fermi 2) Appeal of LBP-20-7 (Denial of Hearing Request - Spent Fuel Pool License Amendment)

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to the Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr., et al., submits the December 2020 monthly status report on the NRC activities and use of unobligated carryover funds appropriated from the Nuclear Waste Fund, dated February 8, 2021.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. None.