

June 30, 1999

SECY 99-167

For: The Commissioners
From: James L. Blaha, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
/s/
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING JUNE 25, 1999

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Enclosure

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*No input this week.

James L. Blaha
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 25, 1999

EEIB Audit of Licensee's Y2K Contingency Plans

EEIB has completed all of the six scheduled audits of licensees' Y2K contingency plans. The last two audits were completed the week of June 14 and took place at the Diablo Canyon and Duane Arnold sites. The staff found that the licensees had completed most of their contingency planning for internal events, external events, and certain remediated actions. A few minor discrepancies were found but, in all cases, corrective actions were taken or planned. Therefore, the staff concluded that the NEI/NUSMG 98-07 guidance was being followed at these sites and that the contingency plans were acceptable. During these audits, the staff had the opportunity to discuss with the regional staff the progress of their review of the licensees' Y2K readiness program. It was apparent that the regional staff is accomplishing these reviews consistent with the guidance provided in the Temporary Instruction (TI), the accompanying checklist prepared by EEIB, and the previous twelve Y2K readiness site audits that were conducted by EEIB during the September 1998 to January 1999 period.

Beaver Valley Power Station Units 1 and 2

Duquesne Light Company (DLC) and FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC) have announced that, effective July 6, 1999, Lew Myers, currently Vice President at Perry Nuclear Power Plant, will assume line management functions, as a contractor, at Beaver Valley Power Station (BVPS). Mr. Myers will report directly to Jim Cross, the current President - Generation Group and Chief Nuclear Officer for BVPS. Other Vice Presidents and Senior Vice Presidents currently at BVPS will then report to Mr. Myers. This change is being made in anticipation of, and preparation for, the proposed DLC/FirstEnergy asset transfer. Following the transfer, Mr. Myers will become the BVPS site VP and designated corporate officer with direct responsibility for BVPS, replacing Jim Cross.

Millstone Nuclear Generating Station

The NRC staff has responded to more than 333 letters, primarily from Long Island (L.I.) residents, voicing concerns about Millstone. The letters were sent to a variety of government officials, including members of Congress and the President, as well as to Mrs. Clinton. The staff sent a consolidated response to letters that were sent to multiple addressees. On April 8, 1999, the staff responded to 106 concerned citizens who primarily expressed concerns about the restart of Millstone Unit 2. The majority stated their concern with the state of emergency preparedness specifically related to L.I.'s geography. The staff also issued more than 227 additional letters on June 8, 1999, addressing citizen concerns related to evacuation plans for L.I., environmental issues regarding the effect of the plant on fish and pollution in Long Island Sound, and cancer cases in the vicinity of the plants. The staff has received an additional 90 letters thus far, some of which were sent by people to whom we have already responded. The staff is developing appropriate responses to these additional letters.

Revised Oversight Process Training

The Inspection Program Branch conducted the second pilot training session for the pilot of the revised oversight process in Dallas, Texas from June 21 to 25, 1999. The training covered various aspects of the revised oversight process including inspection, assessment, and enforcement. Staff from all four regions and headquarters attended.

Public Briefing on Revised Oversight Process

Members of the Inspection Program Branch participated with Region IV staff in a public meeting near the Ft. Calhoun Plant on June 17, 1999, to present information on the pilot of the revised oversight process and baseline inspection program. The staff fielded questions from members of the public and the media. The staff also conducted a similar meeting in the vicinity of Cooper on June 22, 1999.

Public Meeting with NEI on Guidance for Revised Maintenance Rule

On June 17, 1999, NRC staff held a public meeting in One White Flint North with representatives from the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) to provide and discuss NRC's feedback on NEI's proposed changes to NUMARC 93-01, Section 11, "Assessment of Risk Resulting from Performance of Maintenance Activities." NEI's proposed changes to their NRC-endorsed maintenance rule implementation guidance document, NUMARC 93-01, Revision 2, "Industry Guideline for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants (April 1996)" would update that document to incorporate implementing guidance for the proposed changes to 10 CFR 50.65 presently before the Commission for final approval. That maintenance rule change under Commission consideration would add a new paragraph, (a)(4), to the rule that would require licensees to assess and manage the increase in risk that may result from proposed maintenance activities. The rule change also proposes to permit licensees to limit the scope of the assessments to SSCs that a risk-informed evaluation process has shown to be significant to public health and safety. All operating nuclear power plant licensees would be affected by the rule change, and they all follow the NUMARC 93-01 guidance.

The NRC staff provided the audience with copies of its draft Regulatory Guide (RG) DG-1082, "Assessing and Managing Risk Before Maintenance Activities at Nuclear Power Plants," which is proposed as a companion guide to RG 1.160, "Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants." Also provided was NEI's draft revision to NUMARC 93-01. The staff reviewed the Commission-directed schedule for submitting for their approval a regulatory guide for the revised §50.65 by November 15, 1999. NEI estimated that they would provide draft Section 11 guidance to the industry and NRC by July 9, 1999, with final revisions incorporated into NUMARC 93-01 by August 1999.

During this meeting, the NRC staff focused the meeting on three issues that need to be clarified before the staff would pursue endorsement of the revised Section 11 of NUMARC 93-01. The issues are (1) the scope of structures, systems and components (SSCs) to be considered for pre-maintenance assessments, (2) numerical thresholds for managing risk-significant configurations, and (3) additional guidance on managing increases in risk while performing maintenance activities. Additionally, NEI stated they are going to make a few other changes in

NUMARC 93-01 based on lessons learned from the baseline inspections. Principal among these is a change to the definition of availability. NEI did not share their desired revision to that definition nor did they detail what their other changes will be.

NEI stated that they would like to meet with the staff again to discuss final revisions to NUMARC 93-01 some time in July 1999.

NRC Generic Letter 99-02: Laboratory Testing of Nuclear-Grade Activated Charcoal, dated June 3, 1999

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing this generic letter to:

Alert addressees that the NRC has determined that testing nuclear-grade activated charcoal to standards other than American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) D3803-1989, "Standard Test Method for Nuclear-Grade Activated Carbon," does not provide assurance for complying with the current licensing basis as it relates to the dose limits of General Design Criterion (GDC) 19 of Appendix A to Part 50 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) and Subpart A of 10 CFR Part 100.

Seabrook Unit 1 -- Potential Sale

On June 14, 1999, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was reached between Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) and the State of New Hampshire in order to resolve their pending litigation and to bring retail competition in the electric industry to the customers of PSNH. According to an article published in the Portsmouth Herald on 6/14/99, the pending litigation resulted from a 1996 New Hampshire state law mandating a competitive marketplace. PSNH claimed the plans could force it into bankruptcy and filed a law suit.

The MOU includes a provision for an initial 18.2% rate reduction for PSNH customers and requires the divestiture of PSNH generating assets. Part of the divestiture is to sell North Atlantic Energy Corporation's approximate 36% ownership of the Seabrook Station by December 31, 2003. In addition, the MOU allows PSNH to write off \$367 million of the company's stranded costs and allows PSNH to continue to recover \$1.9 billion of the stranded costs.

A final comprehensive agreement must still be filed with and approved by the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission, the New Hampshire Legislature must approve the use of rate reduction bonds, and a number of approvals from federal regulators and various financial lenders are required. The MOU can be viewed at <http://www.psnh.com/restruct/pact666.htm>.

WNP-2 -- Licensee Name Change

Washington Public Power Supply System, the licensee for WPPSS Nuclear Project No. 2 (WNP-2), has changed its name to Energy Northwest. In addition, WPPSS Nuclear Project No. 2 will now be known as WNP-2. On June 3, 1999, the licensee submitted an amendment to the Operating License to reflect the name change. The staff is processing the request.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 25, 1999

Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Grants Summary Disposition of One Contention Admitted in the Private Fuel Storage, Limited Liability Corporation Proceedings

The Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (the Board) has granted the applicant's request for summary disposition of one of the contentions admitted by the Board into the Private Fuel Storage (PFS), Limited Liability Corporation proceedings. PFS has applied for a license for an away-from-reactor independent spent fuel storage installation. The proposed location of the facility is a site in the northwestern portion of the reservation of the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians. The contention dealt with the method used by the applicant to determine dose rates. PFS had revised its method of calculating dose rates and the Board found that this resolved the issue. Over 20 safety and environmental contentions remain. The Board has announced three hearings to adjudicate the contentions. The first two hearings will focus on the safety contentions. The third will consider environmental contentions. The first hearing will begin in November 1999. All hearings are scheduled to take place in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Meeting Regarding Transport of CDV-794 Calibrators

On June 17, 1999, staff from the Spent Fuel Project Office met with the Department of Transportation, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the Department of Army regarding shipment of CDV-794 calibrators. These devices contain up to 140 curies of cesium-137. The devices were used to calibrate high range radiation ratemeters for civil defense programs. The Army is under contract with FEMA to remove and ship about 25 calibrators from various locations throughout the U.S. The Army will explore various options, including use of a certified overpack, designing a new overpack for Nuclear Regulatory Commission approval, or other special consideration.

Approval of Transport Package for Romanian Research Reactor Fuel

On June 17, 1999, the Spent Fuel Project Office issued an amendment to Certificate of Compliance No. 9225, for the Model No. NAC-LWT spent fuel transport package. The amendment was needed for an upcoming shipment of irradiated TRIGA fuel from Romania. The shipment is part of the Department of Energy program to return research reactor fuel from foreign countries.

Presentation on 10 CFR Part 35 Rulemaking. "Medical Use of Byproduct Material"

On June 18, 1999, a member of the 10 CFR Part 35 working group, from Region I, made a presentation on the Part 35 rulemaking to the New England Chapter of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine. The session included a discussion of: (1) the proposed rulemaking issued in August 1998; (2) major comments received on the proposed rulemaking; and (3) the staff's proposed response to the major comments. The discussions centered around changes to the rule that may impact the medical physicist. The session was well received by the approximately 70 participants.

Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Energy's Office of Waste Management Concerning Management of Sealed Sources Signed

On June 18, 1999, the Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Energy's (DOE's) Office of Waste Management concerning management of sealed sources. The MOU formalizes letters of agreement, dating back to 1992, between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and DOE for certain situations involving radioactive materials that represent an actual or potential threat to public health and safety and that require the recovery of the materials to mitigate the threat. The MOU defines the situations under which DOE assistance with the recovery and management of the materials may be considered, and specifies NRC and DOE responsibilities and activities to evaluate and respond to requests for such assistance. Although DOE assistance in these types of situations is generally limited to sealed sources containing material that exceeds the limits in 10 CFR 61.55 for Class C waste, the MOU specifies that other types and forms of radioactive material will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

On June 21, 1999, the Office of Public Affairs (OPA), issued a press release -- concerning NRC's efforts to address the orphan source issue -- that announced the signing of the MOU and indicated its availability on the NRC Internet Web Site at <http://www.nrc.gov/OPA>. Signing of the MOU will also be announced in a letter to be sent to all Agreement States and will be noticed in the Federal Register along with a copy of the MOU.

More Public Meetings on Proposed 10 CFR Part 63 Technical Criteria for Yucca Mountain

Staff from the Division of Waste Management (DWM) and the Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) held public meetings on June 15, 1999, in Amargosa Valley, Nevada; on June 16, 1999, in Las Vegas, Nevada; and on June 17, 1999 in Caliente, Nevada, to discuss the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) proposed regulations for a licensing decision on a possible future high-level waste repository at Yucca Mountain. Based, in part, on public comments received at earlier public meetings, in Las Vegas and Beatty in March, the Commission extended the public comment period for the proposed regulations to June 30, 1999. The purpose of the most recent public meetings was to continue the dialogue initiated in March, and for DWM and SFPO staff to expand upon earlier responses to specific questions and concerns raised by members of the public at the March meetings. The meetings began with an overview of NRC's potential licensing role and oversight responsibilities for the proposed repository at Yucca Mountain, followed by an opportunity for audience questions and discussion. Staff then delivered focused presentations on the timing and content of the proposed rule, the protectiveness of the proposed overall performance objective, requirements for multiple barriers, and NRC's role and responsibilities for regulating the safety of spent fuel shipments to the proposed repository. Several opportunities for questions and discussion were afforded throughout all three meetings.

International GEOTRAP Workshop

On June 14-17, 1999, staff from the Division of Waste Management (DWM) attended the fourth GEOTRAP workshop "Confidence in Models of Radionuclide Transport for Site-Specific Performance Assessment" in Carlsbad, New Mexico. The international conference was organized by the Nuclear Energy Agency and hosted by Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) and the Department of Energy (DOE). The overall aim of the workshop was to discuss approaches

taken within national waste-management programs to enhance and communicate confidence in geosphere transport models used in performance assessments for actual sites (experimental and candidate repositories). There were 24 papers and posters presented, including an oral presentation by the staff, "Regulatory Experience with Confidence-Building in Geosphere-Transport Models." This presentation was based mainly on the staff's experience with the Yucca Mountain performance assessments. In addition, DWM staff participated in two of four working groups that discussed issues and prepared inputs to the GEOTRAP-4 summary document. Conclusions were reached regarding the evaluation of confidence in transport models, the sufficiency of confidence at various stages of repository development, ways to enhance confidence, and means of communicating confidence. DWM staff also took part in a tour of the operating Waste Isolation Pilot Plant site, a tour of the Flow Visualization Laboratory at SNL, and a workshop on "upscaling," which describes techniques necessary to use small-scale measurements in models of much larger spatial scales.

Meeting with Department of Energy and Grand County on Atlas

On June 23, 1999, staff from the Division of Waste Management (DWM) participated in a meeting with the Department of Energy (DOE) and representatives of Grand County, Utah. Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson had committed, on June 15, 1999, to have DOE investigate the Atlas uranium mill tailings site near Moab, in Grand County, Utah. The Grand County representatives were meeting with DOE as a followup to the Secretary's statement. DWM staff answered questions related to the status of the site reclamation, ground-water cleanup, and Atlas' bankruptcy. DOE stated that a staff member was visiting the Atlas site to gather information. DOE stated that it will take the time necessary to fully investigate the situation but did not anticipate that it would take as long as six months. DOE also said that there was no immediate health and safety need for it to take emergency action and that the initial actions that the licensee or trustee will be required to take over the next couple of years would likely be necessary whether the tailings will be stabilized in place or moved to another location. Prior to the meeting with Grand County officials, DWM staff met with DOE staff to provide background information and answer questions on the Atlas site, the reclamation, and significant issues.

Meeting with Sequoyah Fuels Corporation and Cherokee Nation

On June 22, 1999, representatives from the Division of Waste Management, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Office of the General Counsel, Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 and Headquarters, and the Oklahoma State Department of Environmental Quality and the Office of the Attorney General met with members of the Cherokee Nation and representatives of Sequoyah Fuels Corporation (SFC). The Nation has expressed interest in becoming the long-term custodian of the SFC site following license termination. They presented several questions concerning the details of instituting this arrangement. There was also a discussion of the SFC decommissioning plan, the review schedule, and the potential need for conducting an environmental impact study. The representatives of the Nation stated that they are in favor of an Environmental Impact Statement. Though not all of the questions were resolved, this meeting served to confirm open channels of communication among the interested parties. The meeting was open to the public for observation and representatives of Fansteel Corporation also attended.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 25, 1999

Piping Test at Battelle, Columbus

On June 12, 1999, a full-scale pipe fracture experiment was successfully conducted at Battelle's unique pipe loop test facility under the Battelle Integrity of Nuclear Piping Program. NRC is participating in this program along with the Central Research Institute of Electric Power Industry (CRIEPI) of Japan and a consortium from Korea represented by the Korea Institute of Nuclear Safety (KINS). A consortium from Taiwan, led by the Institute of Nuclear Energy Research, is also expected to join the program. The cost of the program is equally shared by all participants.

The primary purpose of this test was to experimentally assess the effects of secondary stresses on pipe fracture behavior. The experiment was conducted on 16-inch diameter schedule 100 pipe, heated to 550 F with pressure of 2250 psi. Other tests planned in this program are related to the behavior of cracked pipe systems under seismic loading and non-linear behavior to predict actual margins.

Collectively, data from these tests and analytical activities planned in this program will provide realistic means to evaluate flaws found during inspections, evaluate applications of leak-before-break to piping systems of different sizes and under various conditions, and evaluate realistic margins to deal with the proposed changes in design. This program will provide confirmatory information as well as information for timely decisions with respect to ongoing and new industry initiatives.

Regulatory Guide on Instruction on Prenatal Radiation Exposure

Revision 3 of Regulatory Guide 8.13, "Instruction Concerning Prenatal Radiation Exposure," was issued recently. This guide was issued to provide information to pregnant women and other personnel to help them make decisions regarding radiation exposure during pregnancy.

Incident Response Operations
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 25, 1999

Training Session for Rhode Island and Massachusetts

As part of the IRO State Outreach program designed to facilitate interactions among licensee, Federal, State, and local responders to a major radiological event, a member of IRO and Region I conducted a training session for the States of Rhode Island (RI) and Massachusetts (MA) in Providence, RI on June 21, 1999. This session was conducted as a result of a request by the State of RI for training in Federal response in preparation for their upcoming ingestion exercise to be conducted with the Pilgrim facility in August. The session was attended by over 50 individuals from the licensee, RI, and MA with expertise in emergency management and radiation health. Other Federal agencies assisted in the presentation of material on a wide range of subjects including obtaining Federal resources for a major nuclear power plant event affecting RI, FDA protective action guides, and DOE resources. The session was well received with good interaction among all participants.

Preliminary Notifications:

1. PNO-II-99-025, Georgia Power Co. (Hatch 2), SHUTDOWN IN EXCESS OF 72 HOURS
2. PNO-III-99-032, Consumers Power Co. (Palisades 1), DRY CASK STORAGE PROJECT OFFICE DAMAGED BY FIRE

Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 25, 1999

Acquisition Training

On June 24, 1999, the Division of Contracts and Property Management conducted its Acquisition for Project Managers module, "Closing Out the Contract." This module focuses on the NRC policies and procedures for deobligation of excess funds; closing contracts and DOE laboratory agreements; and evaluating the performance of the contractor.

On June 24, 1999, the Division of Contracts and Property Management conducted its Acquisition module, "Property Management." This module focuses on approval and tracking of contractor-acquired property, government-furnished property, and property reporting requirements.

Miscellaneous Changes to Licensing Requirements for the Independent Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste (Part 72)

A final rule that amends the regulations governing the independent storage of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste was published in the Federal Register on June 22, 1999 (64 FR 33178). The final rule differentiates the requirements for storing spent fuel under wet and dry conditions, clarifies requirements for the content and submission of various reports, and specifies that quality assurance records must be maintained as permanent records when identified with activities and items important to safety. The final rule becomes effective August 23, 1999.

Chief Information Officer
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 25, 1999

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the 5-Day Period of June 18, 1999 through June 24, 1999:

OI FY 1998 Annual Report w/Appendix. (FOIA/PA 99-260)

Materials licenses for Peoria, IL and documents related to release of radioactive materials into a sanitary sewer system by those licensees. (FOIA/PA 99-261)

Civil and administrative violations with monetary penalties for calendar year 1998 on disk. (FOIA/PA 99-262)

IMPAC Listing. (FOIA/PA 99-263)

Palisades plant, Consumer Power, communications re the 6/9/99 hydrogen burn events. (FOIA/PA 99-264)

Office of Human Resources
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 25, 1999

Arrivals		
CAMPBELL, James	ENGINEERING AIDE (COOP)	NMSS
FRANKLIN, Dwana	SUMMER CLERICAL	RIII
GRUBEL, Richard	ENGINEERING AIDE (COOP)	NMSS
JOZWIAK, Chris	SUMMER TECHNICAL INTERN	NRR
SPIVACK, Ian	ENGINEERING AIDE (COOP)	NMSS
THAKER, Vivek	SUMMER INTERN	NRR
Retirements		
None		
Departures		
PETERSON, Jessica	SUMMER CLERICAL	RIII

Office of Public Affairs
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending June 25, 1999

Media Interest

Region II reported media interest in the plant performance reviews at Catawba and Oconee.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
99-128	NRC Takes Action on "Orphan" Radioactive Sources
99-129	NRC Reviews Department of Energy Viability Assessment for Yucca Mountain, Nevada, Disposal Site
99-130	Note to Editors: ACRS Reports
99-131	NRC to Allow "Enforcement Discretion" in Some Industrial Radiographer Certification Cases
99-132	NRC Seeks Public Comments on Issues Related to Release of Solid Materials From Licensed Facilities
Regions:	
I-99-56	NRC Staff Schedules Public Meeting for June 29 to Describe Agency's New Inspection Program for Salem/Hope Creek Nuclear Plants
I-99-57	NRC Staff Schedules Public Meeting for June 30 to Describe Agency's New Inspection Program for Fitzpatrick Nuclear Plant
II-99-37	NRC Staff Schedules Public Meeting in Chattanooga June 28 to Describe New Inspection and Assessment Program
II-99-38	NRC Staff Sets Enforcement Conference With Duke Energy to Discuss Apparent Violation at Catawba Nuclear Station
II-99-39	NRC to Discuss Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Oconee Nuclear Station License Renewal at Local Public Meeting

Office of the Secretary
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending June 25, 1999

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SRM on SECY-99-007 and SECY-99-007A	6/18/99	Recommendations for Reactor Oversight Process Improvements and Recommendations for Reactor Oversight Process Improvements (Follow-up to SECY-99-007)
Commission Voting Record on SECY-99-007	6/18/99	Recommendations for Reactor Oversight Process Improvements
Commission Voting Record on SECY-99-007A	6/18/99	Recommendations for Reactor Oversight Process Improvements (Follow-up to SECY-99-007)
2. COMNJD-99-003	6/3/99	Additional Considerations for Resolution of SECY-98-300 and SECY-99-133
SRM on COMNJD-99-003	6/23/99	(same)
Chmn. Jackson vote on COMNJD-99-003	6/5/99	(same)
Cmr. Dicus vote on COMNJD-99-003	6/7/99	(same)
Cmr. McGaffigan vote on COMNJD-99-003	6/7/99	(same)
Cmr. Merrifield vote on COMNJD-99-003	6/16/99	(same)
3. SRM on SECY-99-141	6/24/99	Final Rule Amending the Fitness-For-Duty Rule
4. COMEXM-99-001	4/22/99	Reconsideration of SECY-99-017 ("Proposed Amendment to 10 CFR 50.55A")
Memo to Comm. McGaffigan fm A. Vietti-Cook re COMEXM-99-001	6/24/99	(same)

SRM on COMEXM-99-001	6/24/99	(same)
Chairman Jackson's comments on COMEXM-99-001	5/17/99	(same)
Comm. Dicus' comments on COMEXM-99-001	5/14/99	(same)
Comm. Diaz' comments on COMEXM-99-001	6/12/99	(same)
Comm. Merrifield's comments on COMEXM-99-001	5/14/99	(same)
5. SECY-99-129	5/11/99	Effects of Electric Power Industry Deregulation on Electric Grid Reliability and Reactor Safety
SRM on 99-129	6/25/99	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 99-129	6/25/99	(same)
Negative Consent Documents		
1. SECY-99-152	6/7/99	Status of Reactor Fire Protection Projects
SRM on 99-152	6/24/99	(same)
2. SRM on SECY-99-134	6/25/99	Agency Contingency Plans for the Year 2000 Computer Problem in the Nuclear Industry
Information Papers		
1. SECY-99-149	6/4/99	Proposed NRC Generic Letter 83-11, Supplement 1, "Licensee Qualification for Performing Safety Analyses"
2. SECY-99-150	5/28/99	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending May 28, 1999
3. SECY-99-153	6/9/99	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending June 4, 1999
Memoranda		

1. M990622	6/22/99	Staff Requirements - Affirmation Session: I. SECY-99-130 - Final Rule - Revisions to Requirements of 10 CFR Parts 50 and 72 Concerning Changes, Tests, and Experiments
Commission Voting Record on 99-130	6/22/99	(same)
- M990618C <u>Revised</u>	6/22/99	Staff Requirements - Affirmation Session: I. SECY-99-133 - Final Revision to 10 CFR 50.65 to Require Licensees to Perform Assessments Before Performing Maintenance; II. SECY-99-145 - Kansas Gas & Electric Co. et al. (Wolf Creek Generating Station, Unit 1), Docket No. 50-482 (Antitrust Issues)
Commission Voting Record on 99-133 <u>Revised</u>	6/22/99	Final Revision to 10 CFR 50.65 to Require Licensees to Perform Assessments Before Performing Maintenance
- M990317C	6/23/99	Staff Requirements - Briefing on Part 50 Decommissioning Issues, Wednesday, March 17, 1999
- M990504A	6/24/99	Staff Requirements - Meeting on NRC Response to Stakeholders' Concerns, Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Se-Jong Kim, Korea Institute of Nuclear Safety (KINS), dated June 14, 1999, concerns the opening of a KINS office in the Rockville area (incoming letter dated May 27, 1999, also released)
2. Letter to FEMA Director James Lee Witt, dated June 15, 1999, concerns the funding of potassium iodide (incoming letter dated April 29, 1999, also released)
3. Letter to Congress, GAO, and OMB, dated June 15, 1999, concerns recommendations by the GAO in its report entitled "Nuclear Regulation - Better Oversight Needed to Ensure Accumulation of Funds to Decommission Nuclear Power Plants" (incoming letter from GAO dated May 6, 1999, also released)

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Meeting Notice for July 14-16, 1999
 - Kansas Gas and Electric Company (Wolf Creek Generating Station, Unit 1); Docket No. 50-482-LT; Memorandum and Order (CLI-99-19)
 - Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Subcommittee Meeting on Planning and Procedures; Notice of Change in Meeting Time on July 13, 1999
 - U.S. Department of the Army (Request for Materials License); Docket No. 30-34610-ML; Designation of Presiding Officer (Charles Bechhoefer)

Region II
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 25, 1999

BWX Technologies - Emergency Exercise

On June 22, 1999, Region II participated in the BWXT emergency exercise. State and local government response personnel also participated. The licensee's response to a postulated fire involving radioactive material was effective. No exercise weaknesses were identified.

Completion of Y2K Reviews

On June 24, Region II completed the last of its Year 2000 Readiness Reviews at nuclear power reactor sites in Region II. These reviews were performed in accordance with NRC Temporary Instruction 2515/141. Region II and NRR are determining follow up actions for licensees where licensee actions are not complete.

Duke Energy Corporation - Oconee Plant Performance Review

On June 21, 1999, NRC Region II Deputy Director, Division of Reactor Projects, and other Regional management, presented the results of the most recent periodic plant performance review of the Oconee facility. Following the Performance Review, a meeting was held with State and local officials.

State of Florida Radiological Emergency Preparedness Workshop

The Deputy Director, Division of Reactor Safety, spoke at the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Workshop on June 23, 1999. The workshop was attended by thirty-five representatives of State and local emergency response agencies. The subject of the speech included challenges facing the NRC and initiatives the NRC is completing to address the challenges in the area of emergency preparedness.

Region III
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 25, 1999

EDO Visit to D. C. Cook

William Travers, Executive Director for Operations; Jim Dyer, Regional Administrator; and Roy Zimmerman, Deputy Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, visited the D. C. Cook Nuclear Power Station on June 23, 1999. They toured the plant and reviewed the status of the utility's expanded system readiness reviews.

AEP Announces Plan for D. C. Cook Restart

On June 25, 1999, American Electric Power Company, Inc., announced that its Board of Directors had approved plans for the restart of the D. C. Cook Nuclear Power Station. The two units have been shut down since September 1997 when NRC inspectors raised issues during a design inspection. The utility is completing the discovery phase of an expanded system readiness review. Unit 2, the lead unit, is expected to return to operation in April 2000 and Unit 1 in September 2000.

Region IV
Items of Interest
Week Ending June 25, 1999

Meeting with the Public in Auburn, Nebraska

On the evening of June 22, 1999, representatives from Region IV and NRR met with members of the public residing in the area around Cooper Nuclear Station. The meeting, led by the Regional Administrator, NRC Region IV, provided an overview of the Pilot Inspection Program. Prior to the meeting, the Regional Administrator held a press conference to discuss the NRC's role, in general, and how the new inspection program being piloted would better focus agency resources. Following the presentation, the NRC responded to questions from the public. About 30 members of the Cooper Nuclear Station staff and the public attended the meeting.

Office of Congressional Affairs
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending June 25, 1999

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 25

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Gerke	06/29/99 SH-216	9:30	DOE Secretary Richardson, Sens. Moynihan & Schumer (D-NY), Gov. Johanns (R-NE)	Electricity Restructuring, S. 161, S. 282, S. 516, S. 1047, S1273, S. 1284	Senators Murkowski/Bingaman Energy & Natural Resources
Combs	06/29/99 2322 RHOB	10:00	TBA	DOE's Enforcement of Price-Anderson Nuclear Safety Requirements	Reps. Upton/Klink Oversight & Investigations Commerce
Gerke	07/01/99 2123 RHOB	10:00	TBA	Electricity Competition	Reps. Barton/Hall Energy and Power Commerce
Gerke	07/01/99 2154 RHOB	2:00	OMB, GAO, CFOs from NRC, ACF/HHS, EPA	Government Performance and Results Act	Reps. Horn/Turner Govt Mgmt, Information and Tech. Government Reform
Combs	TBA SD-406	TBA	Markup	S. 1090, Superfund Reauthorization	Senators Chafee/Baucus Environment & Public Works
Portner	07/13/99 (TENTATIVE)	TBA	Commission	NRC Authorization, license fees, legislative requests	Reps. Barton/Hall Energy and Power Commerce

Gerke	07/15/99 SH-216	9:30	TBA	Electricity Restructuring	Senators Murkowski/Bingaman Energy & Natural Resources
Gerke	07/29/99 SD-562	TBA	Electric Utilities	Y2K and Nuclear Issues	Senators Bennett/Dodd Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem