

January 25, 1996

SECY-96-016

For: The Commissioners  
From: James L. Blaha, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO  
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING JANUARY 19, 1996

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\*No input this week.

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 19, 1996

Meeting with National Academy of Sciences Committee

On January 17, 1996, Richard Eckenrode, Assistant Chief, Human Factors Assessment Branch, met with representatives of the National Academy of Sciences' Committee on Application of Digital Instrumentation and Control Systems to Nuclear Power Plant Operations and Safety in San Francisco, California. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss human factors issues raised by the Committee in its ongoing study of the use of digital instrumentation and control systems in nuclear power plants.

Millstone 1,2,3; Haddam Neck; and Seabrook

On January 16, 1996 Northeast Utilities (NU) announced the reorganization of its nuclear organization effective February 1.

Ted Feigenbaum, formerly Senior Vice President at Seabrook, will become Executive Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer over all five Northeast Utilities System plants, and will report to Robert Busch, president of NU's Energy Resources Group. The five plants are Haddam Neck Plant in Haddam Neck, CT; Millstone Units 1, 2, and 3 in Waterford, CT; and Seabrook Station in Seabrook, NH.

As part of the reorganization NU is establishing a new Nuclear Safety and Oversight Office headed by Senior Vice President Don Miller. Other members of the management team with functional responsibility for all five plants will be:

Fred Dacimo , vice president -- nuclear operations  
Eric DeBarba, vice president -- nuclear technical services  
Frank Rothen, vice president -- nuclear work services  
Steve Scace, vice president -- nuclear reengineering implementation.

Maine Yankee

At approximately 4 p.m. on January 10, 1996, the licensee responded to our Order and Demand for Information dated January 3, 1996. The licensee's response is in the form ordered, with an attachment addressing each of the four "restart" items of Order pages 16 and 17. Copies of the entire submittal have been made available to interested parties and the submittal has been placed in the Public Docket Room.

Maine Yankee went critical at approximately 10:40 p.m. on January 11, 1996, and closed onto the grid on January 16, 1996, thus ending their main generator repair, refueling, and steam generator resleeving outage at 1 year and 2 days.

NRR and RI are currently reviewing the submittal and will use it as the basis for inspecting the Licensee's files, computer analyses, procedure changes, operating instructions, TS updates and interpretations, operating crew briefings, computer alarm modifications, and technical data book changes that support the submittal. Coordinated inspections by the Residents and NRR are

being planned for the week of January 22. Inspection activity will not impact OI activities.

A public meeting is being planned. The tentative date and place are Tuesday, February 6, at the Wiscasset Middle School. Prior to this meeting inspection results will have been docketed in an RI Inspection Report.

Commonwealth Edison Company

Steam Generator Replacement Meeting

On 1/25/96, ComEd will be meeting the NRR and Region III staffs to discuss their program for replacement of the steam generators at Byron and Braidwood. The purpose of the meeting will be for the licensee to present their overall organization and implementation plans for the project. Although most areas related to the replacement will be discussed, specific emphasis will be on steam generator fabrication, including differences between the present and replacement ones, design philosophy, fabrication processes, and management oversight.

SG orders have been placed with Babcock and Wilcox International for installation in the fall of 1998 (Braidwood) and the spring of 1999 (Byron). Estimated costs for the project are \$250M.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 19, 1996

Design Basis Threat Policy and Implementation

On January 17, 1996, staff members of the Offices of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards and Nuclear Reactor Regulation met with Paul Leventhal and Dan Horner from the Nuclear Control Institute and Daniel Hirsch from the Committee to Bridge the Gap regarding the Design Basis Threat (DBT) for Radiological Sabotage, implementation of truck bomb protection at the power reactors, and changes to vital area protection contained in a proposed Generic Letter previously published in the Federal Register. They were particularly concerned that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's DBT did not protect against worst case events plus an additional margin of safety rather than NRC's approach of protecting against a reasonable characterization of the adversary's attributes and capabilities.

Visit to Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant

During the period January 17-19, 1996, a member of the Regulatory Development and International Safeguards Branch visited the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant as a member of a U.S. Government (USG) interagency team to evaluate the status of the high enriched uranium (HEU) downblending operation relative to the potential for the application of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards. The USG has made a policy statement relative to placing the HEU from excess weapons material under IAEA safeguards; however, the downblending operation at Portsmouth presents some difficult problems for carrying out the periodic material balances required by the U.S./IAEA Safeguards Agreement. The problems mainly concern the input and output measurements necessary to close material balance and classification issues. The former is primarily a physical access problem.

Ukrainian Observation of Material Control and Accounting Inspection

As part of the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program for training Ukrainian material control and accounting (MC&A) regulators, representatives from the Ukraine Ministry of Environmental Protection and Nuclear Safety observed an MC&A inspection at the Westinghouse commercial Nuclear Fuel Division during the week of January 15, 1996. The focus of the inspection was on non-destructive assay, measurement control, and item control.

ARCO Bluewater Uranium Mill Completes Radon Barrier and Erosion Protection

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission was notified by Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO) in a letter dated December 29, 1995, that they have completed placement of the final radon barrier and erosion protection rock on all tailing impoundments at the Bluewater Uranium Mill site near Grants, New Mexico. ARCO is the first Title II (of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978) licensee, where the completion dates of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Subpart T of 10 CFR 40 and the NRC/EPA Memorandum of Understanding (56 FR 55432, October 25, 1991) apply, to complete these activities.

Canonsburg Licensed for Long-Term Care

On January 16, 1996, the Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action Project site in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, was licensed for long-term care under the general license in 10 CFR 40.27. The general license in 10 CFR 40.27 is only available to the Department of Energy (DOE) for perpetual care of sites remediated under Title I of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978. The Canonsburg site came under the general license by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's acceptance of DOE's site-specific long-term surveillance plan.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 19, 1996

Proposed Rule to be Signed by EDO

On January 19, 1996, the Executive Director for Operations approved a proposed rule that would amend 10 CFR Part 20, "Standards for Protection Against Radiation."

This constitutes notice to the Commission that, in accordance with the rulemaking authority delegated to the EDO, the EDO has signed this proposed rule for publication in the Federal Register.

Publication of NUREG/CR-6224, "Parametric Study of the Potential for BWR ECCS Strainer Blockage Due to LOCA Generated Debris"

NUREG/CR-6224 documents the parametric evaluation performed by Science and Engineering Associates, Inc., of the susceptibility of a reference plant (BWR/4 with Mark I containment) to loss of net positive suction head (NPSH) margin because of debris blockage of the emergency core cooling system (ECCS) suction strainers. The research and analysis conducted formed the bases for Revision 2 of Regulatory Guide 1.82, "Water Sources for Long-Term Recirculation Cooling Following a Loss-of-Coolant Accident", that is planned to be issued in February 1996.

The debris used in the study consisted of fibrous thermal insulation shreds and fibers, corrosion products, and paint chips, as representing debris which might be present following a LOCA. The study concluded that net pump suction head (NPSH) margin may be lost quickly for most postulated breaks in the reference plant because of debris blockage. Of the 13 parameters in the study, the estimates of loss of NPSH margin were most sensitive to the three parameters of 1) suction strainer surface area, 2) ECCS flow rate, and 3) particulate filtration efficiency.

Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 19, 1996

Technical Training Division (TTD)

Functional acceptance testing for the newly-acquired Trojan simulator was completed on 1/12/96. The contractor who relocated the simulator to the Technical Training Center must still complete repair of minor cosmetic damage which occurred during shipping and installation, but the simulator is fully operational and ready to be incorporated into the Westinghouse training curriculum. The Trojan simulator replicates a Westinghouse 4-loop design and will replace the existing Westinghouse SNUPPS simulator which will be removed from service. The Trojan simulator provides improved fidelity, expanded functionality and increased scope of modeling which will support continued improvements in the Westinghouse curriculum, especially in the area of shutdown operations and problem areas. The simulator should also have greater reliability and availability because of relatively newer hardware. The simulator was previously certified under ANS/ANSI 3.5 and used for operator training and licensing. Instructor familiarization is in progress, and the simulator will be used for the reactor technology full course series which begins on January 29, 1996. All Westinghouse simulator training scheduled after April 15, 1996 is expected to use the Trojan simulator.

A project to replace the Safety Parameter Display System (SPDS) supplied with the BWR/4 Simulator with an upgraded, user-friendly system has been completed. This project was undertaken because the SPDS hardware (as delivered) began malfunctioning shortly after delivery of the simulator. The as-delivered hardware was outdated, in need of replacement, and without an adequate source of spare parts. The associated software would have required major modifications to make it run on the new computer system which NRC staff integrated with the simulator after its delivery. Use of in-house expertise to develop a new SPDS for the BWR/4 simulator was considered to be the best and most cost-effective approach.

The simulator engineering staff of the Technical Training Division used Picasso software (obtained from the OECD Halden Reactor Project) to create the displays and a user interface that took advantage of work previously done in the development of the Nuclear Engineering Workstation Simulator (NEWS). The NEWS interface software was modified as necessary to accommodate the BWR/4 database format, so minimal new development was required for the interface. Since the displays are similar to those found on the BWR/6 system, this greatly shortened the learning curve for use of the system by the instructors. In addition, experience in many technical training courses had shown that this design provided vital information in an extremely usable format. The project required approximately 7 months of part-time work to complete. The completed product is a graphical display system which is expected to greatly enhance future training conducted on the BWR/4 Simulator.

Preliminary Notifications

- a. PNO-I-96-001, Clara Maas Medical Center, THERAPEUTIC MISADMINISTRATION
- b. PNO-III-96-002, Champion Target, LEVEL GAUGE INVOLVED IN FIRE PN 396002
- c. PNO-IV-96-003, Texas Utilities Electric Co. (Comanche Peak 1), SAFETY INJECTION WITH DISCHARGE TO THE REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEM

Office of Administration  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 19, 1996

Contract Awards

Contract NRC-04-96-042 was awarded to Liebrock-Hicks Research on December 21, 1995, for "Data Distribution Algorithm Extensions for Reactor Simulations." The period of performance is December 21, 1995, through December 20, 1996. The firm fixed price is \$108,000.

Contract NRC-06-96-300 was awarded to Miguel Studios, Inc., on December 6, 1995, for "U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Video." The period of performance is January 2, 1996, through June 3, 1996. The firm fixed price is \$74,292.

Contract NRC-04-96-043 was awarded to Canberra Industries, Inc., on December 14, 1995 for "Gamma Spectrometer System Upgrade." The period of performance is 120 days. The firm fixed price is \$181,030.

Contract NRC-10-96-158 was awarded to EAS, Inc. (T/A EpiTech), on December 26, 1995, for "Editorial Support Services." The period of performance is one year with four one-year option periods. The firm fixed price is \$87,500.

NOTE: In all four of the above contract awards, procurement streamlining methods were used.

Garage repair

The OWFN garage has several areas where the concrete has spalled, exposing, in some locations, the reinforcing steel. While the structural integrity of the garage is sound, we want to identify the extent of the problem and determine the proper method to fix it. The Division of Facilities and Property Management has obtained the services of Meyer Consulting Engineers, a structural engineering company with a great deal of experience in such investigations. Their investigative work will be performed after 6:00 p.m. each evening, and we do not expect that their work will impact on the use of the garage. The final report, including recommended repairs, will be completed in 12 weeks.

Security Policy Forum - Personnel Security Committee

A representative from the Division of Security attended a Personnel Security Committee meeting on January 17, 1996, to discuss various scopes for background investigations prior to preparation of a paper for the Security Policy Forum. Based on the paper, the Forum will decide on the appropriate scope (e.g., years of coverage) for interviews of ex-spouses, employments, and references.

Proposed Security Fence

On January 17, 1996, ADM representatives met with GSA, Lerner and Lerner's attorney, to discuss the proposed fence for the rear and side of the Headquarters Complex. Lerner's attorney summarized the process for filing a site amendment application with the Montgomery County Planning Board, and the

schedule for obtaining County approval to install the fence. The proposed schedule pointed to a four to six month process for installing the fence.

Significant FOIA Requests Received During Period of January 12-18, 1996

Request for six categories of records related to the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company's steam generators and power uprate. (H.G. Brack; Center for Biological Monitoring, Inc.; FOIA-96-011)

Request for copies of the ACRS/ACNW quarterly fellowship reports issued from July 1991 through June 1992. (Paul Gabelia law firm; FOIA-96-012)

Request for records related to a merger to form Interstate Energy Corp. in Madison, WI from either Interstate Power Corp. in Dubuque, IA; Wisconsin Power & Light Co. in Madison, WI; or IES Industries in Cedar Rapids, IA. (Sheila Menes of Lane & Waterman; FOIA-96-013)

Request for computerized discs of the: Operators License Master File for 1992 through 1995; and the NRC Automated Telephone Directory for the years 1984 through 1989. (Maria Hileman; The Day; FOIA-96-015)

Request for bibliographies or indices of all documents in the possession of NRC relating to the NRC/AEC licensed nuclear materials processing facilities located in Apollo and Parks Township, PA (NRC Docket #70-135 and #70-364) (other than the index to the Public Document Room database) and copies of all environmental monitoring reports related to the above dockets. (Kay Reeves of Baron & Budd; FOIA-96-016)

Office of Information Resources Management  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 19, 1996

RuleNet

RuleNet, an approach by the NRC to encourage participative rulemaking by using the Internet, was launched on Friday, December 5, 1996, with a video conference featuring Chairman Jackson and Commissioner Rogers. The video conference linked participants in Rockville, Md, Chicago, Ill, Atlanta, Ga, Irving, Tx, and Philadelphia, Pa. The videoconference was facilitated by the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory. The purpose of the video conference was to explain RuleNet; what it is to accomplish and how it would be accomplished. People not able to attend one of the video conference centers were able to follow the proceeding on line on the World Wide Web.

To date, eight issues have been identified in Phase I of RuleNet. Phase II, starting on January 19, will identify alternatives or resolutions to these issues.

[Note: The following item is being submitted, in part, because the Department of Justice request was sent directly to IRM rather than OGC. Neither NRC nor DOJ have yet completed respective agency actions and the item may not be appropriate for dissemination to the public.]

Department of Justice Request for Superfund Site Documents

The Office of Information Resources Management (IRM) received a letter dated December 29, 1995, from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) requesting a search of agency files for records relating to the Norwood, Massachusetts Superfund Site. This request was made in support of ongoing DOJ litigation under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Recovery Act. The DOJ noted a specific 1955 contract between the Atomic Energy Commission and Tobe Deutschmann Corporation, and further requested a search for any procurement, or research and development contracts between the AEC and any other entity that may have resulted in production activities at the Norwood site. IRM provided a copy of the request to the Division of Contracts in order that a search of agency contract files could also be conducted. No contract records were found. When the search of remaining agency records is completed, the results will be provided to the Office of the General Counsel for final processing of the DOJ request.

Office of the Controller  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 19, 1996

Proposed Rule Signed by EDO

On January 19, 1996, the Executive Director for Operations approved a proposed rule that amends 10 CFR Parts 170 and 171. These proposed amendments to the Commission's fee regulations are necessary to implement the requirements of Public Law 101-508 to recover 100 percent of the FY 1996 budget authority through fees.

The proposed annual fees for all licensees have decreased by about 6 percent compared to FY 1995. The reduction in the annual fees results from changes in (1) the budget to be recovered from fees; (2) the amount of the budget recovered from Part 170 fees and other offsetting receipts; and (3) the number of licensees paying annual fees. This proposed change is consistent with NRC's intention, stated in the FY 1995 final rule, that beginning in FY 1996, annual fees would be stabilized by adjusting the FY 1995 annual fees by the percent change (plus or minus) in the NRC budget authority taking into consideration the estimated collections from Part 170 fees and the number of licensees paying fees. The FY 1996 annual fees are compared to those assessed for FY 1995 in the following table:

	<u>Range of Annual Fees</u>	
<u>Class of Licensees</u>	<u>FY 1995</u>	<u>FY 1996</u>
Operating Power Reactors	\$2,936,000	\$2,747,000
Fuel Facilities	\$639,200 to \$2.6M	\$598,100 to \$2.4M
Uranium Recovery Facilities	\$22,000 to \$60,900	\$20,600 to \$57,000
Transportation Approval Holders	\$1,000 to \$77,800	\$950 to \$72,800
Materials Users	\$490 to 23,300	\$450 to \$21,700
Other Licenses	\$56,500 to \$417,700	\$52,900 to \$388,600

Other aspects of the proposed rule that the Commission should note are:

- The materials "flat" renewal fees in §170.31 would be eliminated and included with the annual materials fees in §171.16(d). This proposed change continues the streamlining and simplification of fees initiated in FY 1995 and is consistent with NRC's recent BPR initiative to extend the duration of certain materials licenses.
  
- The professional hourly rates for the reactor and materials programs would be revised based on the number of direct FTEs for FY 1996. The FY 1996 hourly rate for the reactor program is \$128 per hour as compared to

\$123 per hour for FY 1995. The FY 1996 hourly rate for the materials program is \$120 per hour as compared with \$116 per hour for FY 1995. The materials "flat" licensing fees have been revised to reflect the change in the hourly rate.

- Continuing the streamlining of the fee structure and process, the NRC proposes to assess annual fees of less than \$100,000 to materials licensees on the anniversary date of the license. This would allow NRC to make the billing process more efficient by distributing the billing and collection of annual fee invoices over the entire year. The current practice is to bill over 6,000 materials licensees at the same time during the fiscal year.
- The fee categories in Part 170 that relate to the export and import of radioactive material would be amended to include clarifying language that export and import of materials includes the export and import of radioactive waste. The NRC amended Part 100 effective August 21, 1995, to require specific licenses for the export and import of radioactive waste.
- The NRC will continue to assess two fees for licensees that qualify as small entities under the NRC's size standards. In general, licensees with gross annual receipts of \$350,000 to \$5 million pay a maximum fee of \$1,800. A second or lower tier small entity fee of \$400 is in place for small entities with gross annual receipts of less than \$350,000 and small governmental jurisdictions with a population of less than 20,000. No change in the amount of the small entity fees is proposed because the small entity fees are not based on the budget but are established at a level to reduce the impact of fees on small entities.

This notice informs the Commission that, in accordance with the authority delegated to the EDO, the EDO has signed this proposed rule and is forwarding it to the Office of Federal Register for publication.

#### Implementation of Electronic T&A

Implementation of the new electronic Time and Attendance reporting system has been completed for approximately one-half the agency. The remaining offices are being phased in, with an expected completion by the end of February 1996.

#### Financial Statement Status

The Commission's fiscal year 1995 financial statements have been submitted for audit to the Office of the Inspector General. Upon completion of the audit, the statements will be incorporated into the annual Accountability Report (due March 31, 1996) and sent to the Office of Management and Budget and to Congress. The concept of an Accountability Report is new; the report consolidates the submission of numerous reports into one annual submission, thereby reducing duplication of reporting. NRC is participating as a pilot agency in the submission of this report.

Office of Personnel  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 19, 1996

Special Recruitment Effort Being Developed to Support Region III

Region III will be participating in special recruitment events in an effort to locate General Engineers, Materials Radiation Specialists, and Reactor Radiation Specialists. The initial focus will be on scheduled interviews at the University of Illinois, University of Wisconsin, University of Michigan, and Northwestern University.

Arrivals

ADAMS, John	REACTOR ENGINEER (PFT)	RIII
ALLEN, Donald	REACTOR ENGINEER (PFT)	RIV
KELLER, Charles	REACTOR ENGINEER (PFT)	RIII
LARA, Julio	RESIDENT INSPECTOR (PFT)	RIII
MAYNEN, Joseph	REACTOR ENGINEER (PFT)	RIII
O'DONOHUE, Kathleen	REACTOR OPERATIONS ENGINEER (PFT)	NRR
TROCINE, Leigh	NUCLEAR SYSTEMS ENGINEER (PFT)	AEOD

Departures

DELAESPRIELLA, Robert	RESIDENT INSPECTOR (PFT)	RI
FREDERICK, Lori	TECHNICAL WRITER-EDITOR (PFT)	OIG
HARMON, Charles	NUCLEAR PROCESS ENGINEER (PFT)	NMSS
JONES, Thomas	NUCLEAR PROCESS ENGINEER (PFT)	NMSS
KONG, Susie	MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT (OPFT)	OIG

Office of Enforcement  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 19, 1995

Civil Penalties Paid

Public Service Electric and Gas (Hope Creek) paid the civil penalty in the amount of \$100,000. The action was based on violations including a procedural violation that led to a bypass of the shutdown cooling flow from the reactor, and an inadvertent change in the plant's operational condition from cold shutdown to hot shutdown for more than eight hours. (EA 95-216)

The Department of the Navy (San Diego Naval Center) paid the civil penalty in the amount of \$2,500. The action was based on the licensee's Quality Management Program to include adequate policies and procedures for the verification that correct radioactive sources are selected in accordance with the written directive prior to administering a brachytherapy dose. The patient received 33 percent less dose than prescribed. (EA 95-210)

Commonwealth Edison Company (Dresden Station) paid the civil penalty in the amount of \$50,000. The action was based on a violation involving a radioactive waste shipment which was received at an offsite vendor facility on August 14, 1995, with an external radiation level (350 millirem/hour) which was in excess of the DOT limit. (EA 95-214)

Office of Public Affairs  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 19, 1996

Media Interest

Chairman Jackson was interviewed by Essence magazine.

Government Executive magazine ran a story about the Hatch exercise held in August and NRC's emergency response duties.

The Region IV PAO is working with a British newspaper (Sunday Telegraph of London) for a story about Brown & Root, the architect/engineering firm, and their work at Comanche Peak.

Press Releases

Headquarters:

- 96-08                   NRC Extends Certain Materials Licenses by Five Years on a One-Time Basis
- 96-09                   NRC's Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste to Meet February 24-26
- 96-10                   NRC Denies Exemption Requests on Radiography Equipment Requirements

Regions:

- I-96-3                   NRC Chairman to Hold News Conference Following Visit to Limerick Generating Station on January 19
- II-96-5                   NRC Reschedules Meeting with TVA on Watts Bar Plant
- III-96-2                   Big Rock Point Plant Rated "Good" in Three Areas, "Superior" in One Area in Latest Systematic Assessment Report

Office of International Programs  
Items of Interest  
Week ending January 19, 1996

IAEA Vacancy Notices

The following notices from the International Atomic Energy Agency have been posted on NRC bulletin boards:

P-3	Marine Chemist		
		95/708	Research & Isotopes
D-1	Director		
		95/001	
	Safeguards		

Region I  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 19, 1996

Licensing Visit with Permagrain Products

On January 18, 1996, Region I staff met with the Permagrain Products president and members of his staff to discuss the issues remaining to be settled before the renewal of the Permagrain Products license can be issued. Permagrain Products is on the SDMP list and the Permagrain Products license is in "timely renewal". The principal issues include pool water conductivity and compliance with the requirements of 10 CFR 36. The licensee made a commitment to submit information on these subjects by the middle of February 1996.

Combustion Engineering

On Friday, January 19, 1995, Region I staff from the Decommissioning and Laboratory Branch and the Nuclear Material Safety Branch 3 (Commercial & Industrial), NMSS staff from Fuel Cycle Licensing Branch and representatives from Asea Brown Boveri Inc. (ABB) will meet at the NRC Headquarters to discuss a proposed alternate use for one of the buildings at the Combustion Engineering, Inc. facility in Windsor, Connecticut. ABB has proposed the transfer of Building 17 at the Windsor, CT facility from its NRC license for special nuclear material license to its NRC byproduct nuclear materials license. The meeting is open for public observation.

Region IV  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 19, 1996

Madigan Army Medical Center

A predecisional enforcement conference was conducted at Fort Lewis, Washington with Madigan Army Medical Center (MAMC) on January 18, 1996. MAMC holds a radioactive materials license issued by NRC authorizing the use of byproduct material for diagnostic and therapeutic procedures as defined in 10 CFR 35.100-400, as well as research activities conducted under the approval of the radiation safety committee. A special inspection and investigation conducted on June 6 through December 21, 1995, identified several apparent violations of NRC requirements. These apparent violations, included failures to:

(1) adequately train individuals in the provisions of the licensee's quality management program (QMP) and require that individuals working under the supervision of authorized users follow procedures identified in the QMP relating to brachytherapy treatment planning, and (2) establish a QMP that met the objectives that final plans of treatment and related calculations were in accordance with applicable written directives and that each administration of radiation from brachytherapy was in accordance with the applicable written directive. These failures contributed, in part, to five misadministrations involving brachytherapy procedures.

Additionally, the inspection disclosed two examples of an apparent violation of 10 CFR 30.10, "Deliberate Misconduct," on the part of the licensee's former medical physicist. A predecisional enforcement conference will be conducted with this individual on January 17, 1996, in Seattle, Washington.

Schlumberger Technology Corporation

At the request of NRC Region IV, a conference was held with Schlumberger Technology Corporation on January 17, 1996, to discuss pending licensing actions. These actions included logging while drilling (LWD) source exemptions, activity limits for depth control markers, leak testing LWD sources, use of the LWD collar as a deflection device, and depleted Uranium shields - possessing greater than 999kg. Attendees included members of the licensee's staff, NRC Region IV licensing personnel, and Headquarters staff.

Predecisional, Closed Enforcement Conference with TU Electric

On January 16, 1996, a predecisional enforcement conference was held in the Region IV office with TU Electric (Comanche Peak). The conference reviewed the circumstances, including the individual management actions, which resulted in the temporary revocation of an employee's site access (apparent violations of 10 CFR 50.7 and 10 CFR 50.5). The NRC requested by separate EA letters that the three licensee management individuals involved be in attendance. The NRC's Office of Investigations and the licensee concluded that the action was taken after an employee supposedly contacted the NRC. The NRC was represented by the Regional Administrator and members of his staff, and individuals from Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Office of General Counsel, and Office of Enforcement. The licensee was represented by the Group Vice President, Nuclear Production and members of his staff. The three managers and counsel were in attendance.

Comanche Peak SALP Meeting

On January 19, 1996, the Regional Administrator, Region IV, the Director, Project Directorate IV-1, and additional regional and NRR staff, attended a public SALP meeting at the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station.

Meeting with Entergy Operations, Inc.

On January 19, 1996, a meeting between Entergy Operations, Inc. and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission was held in the NRC Region IV office in Arlington, Texas. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Entergy-wide engineering and maintenance initiatives. Attendees included the Region IV Deputy Regional Administrator and other members of his staff, the chief executive officer and other senior corporate executives from Entergy, and senior engineering and maintenance managers from River Bend Nuclear Station, Arkansas Nuclear One, Waterford 3, and Grand Gulf Nuclear Station.

Meeting with Entergy Operations, Inc. (Waterford)

A meeting was held January 18, 1996 in the Region IV office with Entergy Operations, Inc. (Waterford) to discuss corrective actions for an exercise weakness identified during their last exercise and to provide an overview of changes the licensee plans to make in their emergency preparedness program.