

May 2, 1996

For: The Commissioners
 From: James L. Blaha, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
 Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING APRIL 26, 1996

Contents

- Nuclear Reactor Regulation
- Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
- Nuclear Regulatory Research
- Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data
- General Counsel
- Administration
- Information Resources Management
- Controller
- Personnel
- Small Business & Civil Rights
- Enforcement
- State Programs
- Public Affairs
- International Programs
- Office of the Secretary
- Region I
- Region II
- Region III
- Region IV
- Executive Director for Operations
- Congressional Affairs
- *No input this week

Enclosure

- A
- B
- C
- D
- E*
- F
- G
- H*
- I
- J*
- K
- L
- M
- N*
- O
- P
- P
- P
- P
- Q*
- R

James L. Blaha
 Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact: M. Satorius, OEDO
 415-1733

ENCLOSURE A

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending April 26, 1996

Issuance of Amendments for ABB-CE Tube Sleeving Methodology for Byron and Braidwood

On April 12, 1996, the staff issued amendments approving the use of ABB-CE methodology for steam generator sleeving for Byron and Braidwood. In February 1996, questions were raised by the staff regarding the viability of the ABB-CE process after indications were found by eddy current examinations of sleeves installed at Prairie Island. Some of the indications were found during post- installation inspections and others were found in sleeves which had been in service for only a few cycles. After the indications were found, ABB-CE conducted an analysis of sleeved tubes that were pulled at Prairie Island and determined the nature of the indications and concluded that they resulted from inadequate pre-installation tube cleaning and, therefore, were not service induced.

As a result, ABB-CE modified its installation process, in particular pre-installation cleaning of the steam generator tubes and enhanced visual inspection criteria prior to sleeve installation. In addition, Commonwealth Edison (ComEd) committed for Byron and Braidwood to: (1) conduct visual inspection of the inside surface of all tubes to be sleeved to ensure proper cleaning, (2) a visual inspection of all welds, (3) ultrasonic inspection after welding with an enhanced UT system, and (4) an eddy current inspection of the sleeve welds using the plus point probe. ComEd also committed to notify the staff if similar indications are identified during future sleeve installations.

Vermont Yankee

Vermont Yankee (VY) is operating at 100% power.

On Tuesday, April 23, 1996, VY completed augmented scram time testing during a routine rod pattern adjustment. Previous test result trending had indicated that the licensee would not exceed the technical specification (TS) 5% insertion limit of 0.358 sec before the refueling outage begins on August 23, 1996. The most recent results, however, indicated that the scram times will approach the TS limit close to the scheduled start of the outage. The licensee is evaluating its options. All of the Viton diaphragms in the scram solenoid pilot valves at VY were replaced with new Viton diaphragms after the licensee identified degradation of scram times following a December 8, 1995, scram. The licensee also replaced the end caps with the GE-recommended end caps at that time.

Maine Yankee

A public meeting between the NRC and Maine Yankee is scheduled for Monday evening (April 29) at 6:00 p.m. in Wiscasset, Maine. A second public meeting is scheduled immediately after (planned start at 7:00 p.m.) between the State

of Maine, the NRC and the public. After some brief opening remarks by the NRC and the State of Maine, questions will be taken from the floor. It is expected that this public meeting will continue for several hours.

Millstone Unit 2

On April 17, 1996, during the normal 30 day surveillance for the "B" diesel generator, the unit failed on high crankcase pressure. An event review team was immediately formed to establish the extent of the failure and the cause. It was found that a main crankshaft bearing failed, which prevented lubricating oil from being supplied to other bearings, which caused their failure. The skirt on one piston was cracked, which was probably due to over travel of the piston resulting from the bearing failure and subsequent interference with the liner of the cylinder. The unit had approximately 12 hours of operation since the last 18 month surveillance, when major maintenance was performed. The licensee estimates that it will take approximately six weeks to repair the diesel generator.

Oconee Nuclear Station

Completion of Testing of Modification Permitting Dual Generation of Keowee Hydro Units to the Grid

On April 21, 1996, post modification testing of modifications to the Oconee emergency power system, which corrected certain single failure vulnerabilities, was satisfactorily completed. The single failure vulnerabilities had previously prevented the Keowee units from being configured in their normal system alignment, which prevented the licensee from using both units to generate to the grid simultaneously for peaking purposes. After completion of necessary procedure changes, the Keowee units were restored to their normal alignment and the licensee has recommenced simultaneous dual generation to the system grid.

Dresden Unit 2 Restart

On April 15, 1996, Dresden Unit 2 restarted from its 10 month refueling outage. The licensee was performing startup testing in preparation for the unit proceeding to 100% power; however, the HPCI system TS surveillances were not completed within the required 12 hour time limit after achieving 200 psig reactor system pressure. The surveillance was not completed due to elevated (above 150°F) discharge line temperature. The 150°F limit is a limit set by the licensee's operating procedures to prevent thermal binding of system valves. The unit was manually scrammed and the reactor pressure was reduced to less than 150 psig. All control rods inserted into the core following the manual scram. The unit was restarted on April 20, 1996, and all low pressure HPCI surveillances were completed in accordance with the TS. The reactor is currently at 600 psig reactor pressure and holding to perform further startup tests.

ENCLOSURE B

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 26, 1996

Meeting with HOLTEC International

Staff from the Spent Fuel Project Office met with representatives of HOLTEC, International on April 23, 1996, at NRC headquarters. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the staff's March 27, 1996, Request for Additional Information (RAI) on HOLTEC's application for approval of its Hi-Star 100 dual-purpose transportation and storage cask for spent fuel. The meeting also provided HOLTEC with an opportunity to discuss its quality assurance (QA) initiatives to improve the apparent QA, quality control (QC), and design control problems which the staff documented in the RAI. Representatives of Commonwealth Edison (HOLTEC's first client for the Hi-Star 100), several other utilities, and the Department of Energy (DOE), also attended the meeting. HOLTEC described several encouraging steps taken to improve QA, QC, and design control. In addition, HOLTEC sought clarification of several RAI's in structural and criticality areas. The President of HOLTEC indicated that he was considering submitting a single application rather than continuing its initial approach of submitting separate applications for [10 CFR Parts 71](#) and [72](#) approvals. No final decision has been made on this by HOLTEC.

Interagency Coordination Meeting on Transportation

On April 18, 1996, staff from the Spent Fuel Project Office attended an inter-agency coordination meeting at the Department of Transportation ([DOT EXIT](#)). Other agencies represented included DOE, Sandia and Oak Ridge National Laboratories, and the U.S. Enrichment Corporation. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss recent developments regarding the transportation of radioactive materials. Subjects discussed included probabilistic risk studies of waterborne transport, the need for additional guidance on shipment of low-specific activity material, uranium hexafluoride package issues, upcoming International Atomic Energy Agency meetings and training, and DOT's new radiation protection program requirements for carriers.

Meeting with Department of Transportation on Shipping Low-Specific Activity Material

On April 18, 1996, staff from the Spent Fuel Project Office met with representatives of DOT to discuss the need for additional guidance on shipment of large components, low-specific activity material, and surface contaminated objects. The guidance is needed to implement recent (April 1, 1996) revisions to the DOT and NRC transportation regulations. NRC is planning to develop guidance through a technical assistance contract, and solicited DOT involvement, possibly to include joint sponsorship/funding. Also discussed was the need for, and possible nature of, interim guidance on shipping steam generators (SGs), as industry has indicated that some SGs will be shipped using the revised rules before the final guidance could be completed.

Certification of U.S. Enrichment Corporation Plants

DOE Order on "As Found" Conditions: On April 5, 1996, DOE informed the NRC that DOE has issued an Order to USEC requiring prompt evaluation of "as found" conditions at the Portsmouth plant, which reflect differences between the actual plant and the DOE-approved safety documentation. DOE concluded that these conditions were not being promptly evaluated for safety significance. Over 600 discrepancies had been identified as of September 1995, and many had gone for months without resolution. The order requires a response within 15 days to identify those items that involve potential unresolved safety questions, and provides that safety assessments of those items be completed by June 1, 1996. The NRC staff agrees with DOE that "as found" conditions must be promptly evaluated at both USEC plants, and will continue to monitor this matter when NRC assumes jurisdiction following the initial certification.

Department of Energy Public Scoping Meeting

On April 17, 1996, Regulatory and International Safeguards Branch staff participated in DOE's public scoping meetings on the recently released draft Storage and Disposition Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) and draft Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS. The draft Storage and Disposition PEIS addresses alternatives for the disposition of excess weapons-usable fissile materials. The draft Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS addresses alternatives for maintaining a safe and reliable weapons stockpile. NRC has indicated to DOE that it will continue to provide input as needed, with regard to the Storage and Disposition PEIS. NRC has further advised DOE that it expected to have no role in the Stewardship and Management area.

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, requires Federal agencies to prepare an environmental impact statement on all major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. The results of the environmental analyses, together with information from technical and economic studies, national policy objectives, and public input, will form the basis for DOE's recommended alternative(s) which will be issued as a record of decision (ROD).

The draft Storage and Disposition PEIS found no environmental discriminators among the alternatives for plutonium disposition. DOE's ROD on storage and disposition is scheduled to be issued in late 1996.

Cooperative Threat Reduction Program Regulatory Consultations in Ukraine

Members of the Regulatory and International Safeguards Branch (FRIB) traveled to Ukraine during the week of April 14-20, 1996, for consultations on safeguards regulatory issues. The FRIB staff accompanied Ukrainian nuclear regulatory personnel to their nuclear facilities to observe and provide practical guidance on inspections. FRIB obtained copies of Ukrainian regulations for NRC review and comment, and discussed future plans in developing a safeguards regulatory regime in Ukraine.

Meeting with Nuclear Fuel Services

On April 19, 1996, staff met with Nuclear Fuel Services (NFS) at NRC headquarters to discuss both the NFS renewal application due by May 30, 1996, and the pending NFS response to the "timeliness rule" requirements of [10 CFR 70.38](#). NFS presented the elements of their planned submittals, and the NRC staff agreed that the overall structure and scope of the planned submittals appeared adequate.

Oak Ridge Transuranic Waste Management Program

DOE recently contacted the staff regarding the potential licensing of a future facility to treat transuranic sludges (consisting of primarily californium with some plutonium) at Oak Ridge, Tennessee. DOE plans to publish a draft request-for-procurement (RFP) in May 1996, with plans for a final RFP in January 1997. The project calls for the treatment of transuranic waste sludge currently stored in 24 tanks with a total sludge volume of 700 cubic meters. DOE plans to segregate and lease the proposed site for the treatment facility to a private contractor who will own, design, construct, operate, and decommission the facility. Solidified wastes will be transferred back to the ownership of DOE. DOE has calculated that the volume of sludge contains more than 200 grams of plutonium which would require an NRC license if it were all stored under the contractor's license. However, if the contractor limits the amount of source and special nuclear materials under the control of the facility, the facility could be licensed by Tennessee, an Agreement State.

Publication of Draft NUREG-1541 for Comment

The NMSS Business Process Redesign (BPR) Core Team published draft NUREG-1541, "Process and Design for Consolidating and Updating Materials Licensing Guidance." This report describes the concept and approach for developing the Materials Electronic Library (MEL). The BPR Team conceived the idea for MEL as an integral part of its vision for the redesign of the materials licensing process. To establish MEL, the NRC will consolidate and update numerous documents supporting the materials licensing process into a single, comprehensive electronic repository for use by the NRC staff and managers, Agreement and non-Agreement States, licensees, applicants, and the public. The draft NUREG is out for comment and was discussed at the licensee workshop held April 25, 1996.

Region II Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program Review

During the week of April 15-19, 1996, a team composed of representatives from the Offices of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, State Programs, Region III and the State of Georgia, reviewed the Region II program under the Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program. In addition to the review of the nuclear materials program, team members from the Divisions of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards and Waste Management reviewed the fuel facility and decommissioning programs within Region II. The team's preliminary findings are that the program is satisfactory for all common and noncommon indicators.

NRC-Agreement State Working Group

On April 16-17, 1996, the NRC-Agreement State Working Group (WG) to evaluate the regulation of devices held its fourth public meeting. Approximately 25 persons, including users, vendors, and trade associations were present. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the draft recommendations of the WG. As a result of the meeting, the WG final recommendations will be forwarded to the Commission in June 1996.

South Carolina Supreme Court Upholds Barnwell Law

On April 22, 1996, the South Carolina Supreme Court upheld the South Carolina law that allows access to the Barnwell Low-Level Waste Disposal Facility by low-level waste generators throughout the United States (except North Carolina). The State Supreme Court ruled in favor of the State and against a former State representative, the Sierra Club, League of Women Voters, and other organizations that challenged the State's General Appropriations Act of 1995. The court ruled that inclusion of the Barnwell proviso did not violate the State's constitutional requirement that appropriations legislation be limited to "matters reasonably and inherently related to the raising and spending of the State's monies."

PIRT Panel to Evaluate Debris Transport in a BWR Drywell

NRC staff and contractors met with a recently-formed PIRT (Phenomena Identification Ranking Table) panel in Albuquerque, NM, on April 16 -18, 1996. The purpose of the meeting was to begin the process of ranking phenomena and analyses related to LOCA-generated debris transport in BWR drywells. The PIRT tables to be developed will be used to advise NRC of the phenomena considered most important to model, and to identify the codes best suited for analyzing debris transport. NRC currently assumes 100% transport of LOCA generated debris through the drywell as a bounding value, but some scaled European tests suggest such debris transport to be closer to only about 10%. The impact on plant backfits could be reduced if the PIRT-guided studies provided the basis for a lower debris transport fraction.

A second PIRT panel meeting has been scheduled for May 15-17, 1996, in Albuquerque, NM, at which time a draft PIRT will be prepared, and analysis approaches discussed in more detail. Completion of the initial PIRT and attendant recommendations for developing the best course of action is scheduled for June 1996.

ENCLOSURE D

Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 26, 1996

Technical Training Division (TTD)

A meeting was conducted at the Technical Training Center (TTC) April 21-26, 1996 between Gosatomnadzor of Russia (GAN RF), the Nuclear Regulatory Authority (NRA) of the Ministry for Environmental Protection and Nuclear Safety of Ukraine, and NRC leadership and other personnel associated with Russian Priority 5.1 (Analytical Simulator) and Ukrainian Priority 2.1 (Analytical Simulator) of the Lisbon Initiative. This meeting was conducted to obtain GAN RF and NRA comments and perspectives on the technical portions of contractor proposals for the Analytical Simulator project and to refine the implementation plan for other work in this priority.

The Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel (ASLBP) visited the TTC on April 23, 1996 in conjunction with its meeting in Atlanta, GA. The ASLBP was briefed on activities at the TTD, received demonstrations of teaching aids used at the TTC, and received a tour of the TTC facility including full scope simulators.

Dr. Robert Seale, Vice Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, visited the TTC on April 23-24, 1996 for extended discussions on NRC technical training programs. The discussions included the PRA and reactor technology curriculum, and issues related future improvements to the technical training programs as a whole.

Mr. Bill Subalusky, Vice President of Training and Education at the Institute of Nuclear Power Operators (INPO) visited the TTC on April 25, 1996. Mr. Subalusky was briefed on activities of the Technical Training Division, was briefed on technical training and curriculum areas for training of NRC staff, received demonstrations of teaching aids used at the TTC, and received a tour of the TTC facility including full scope simulators.

Safety Programs Division (SPD)

Reactor Analysis Branch (RAB)

Mary S. Wegner participated in the BWR Safety Relief Valve Performance meeting on April 24, 1996, in King of Prussia, PA. The meeting was conducted by Region I personnel and attended by licensees from Regions I, II, and IV. General Electric Company, Target Rock Company and Wyle Laboratory representatives, a representative of EPRI/NMAC, representatives from two state governments, and NRC personnel from Headquarters and Regions II and III were also in attendance.

Mary Wegner spoke about the results of SRV testing overall and the early results of the platinate valve testing based on information contained in AEOD/T95-03, "Target Rock Two-Stage SRV Performance Update," April 15, 1995.

Region I intends to publish a meeting summary that will include copies of the conference slide presentations.

Incident Response Division (IRD)

Emergency Response Branch (ERB)

Participation in News Media Workshop

On April 24, 1996, members of the Emergency Response Branch (ERB) presented portions of the Office of Public Affairs' two-day NRC News Media Workshop.

ERB's presentation topics included Reactor Technology, Reactor Emergencies and NRC's Emergency Response Operations. Following these presentations, approximately 21 workshop attendees participated in a tour of the NRC Operations Center.

Participation in "Children in the Work Place" Activities

On April 25, 1996, members of the ERB presented portions of the Office of Small Business and Civil Rights' "Children in the Work Place" program. ERB's presentation, "Are You a Problem Solver?" was followed by a short tour of the NRC Operations Center for approximately 125 children.

Federal Emergency Response Communications Planning

On April 24, 1996, an ERB staff member participated in a tabletop discussion sponsored by National Communication System (NCS) with representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA **EXIT**), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA **EXIT**), the Department of Defense (DoD) and the General Services Administration. Topics covered were: (1) communication coordination in the Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan

is similar to the Federal Response Plan and more details can be determined by a subcommittee of the Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee; (2) the Telecommunication Reform Act will impact the existing and future emergency telecommunications and the comment period on rule makings will end in May; and (3) the NRC is participating in the pilot project to start in June for the Emergency Response Link that would ensure internet capability among Federal agencies during response to an emergency.

ERC Counterpart Meeting

On April 23-25, 1996, staff from the IRD attended the 27th Emergency Response Coordinator (ERC) Counterpart Meeting in Region IV. The meeting was attended by the regional ERCs and Emergency Response Assistants and their management, as well as IRD to discuss emergency response program issues. Topics discussed in this meeting included a new Management Directive describing the NRC response program, training sessions provided by IRD for the Regions, a new upgrade for ERDS, the availability of GIS CD ROM data for all reactor sites, a major revision in the regional Base Team response procedures, a changed role for the Resident Inspectors in the early hours of a response. Of particular interest will be the emphasis that Chairman Jackson is placing on interface with the President, Governors, Congress, and other Federal agency heads during a response.

Canadian Counterpart Meeting

Representatives from AEOD and IP joined representatives from other Federal agencies (Department of State and Agriculture, DOE **EXIT**, FEMA, DOD **EXIT**, and NOAA **EXIT**) to attend a meeting with their Canadian counterparts to discuss the US/Canada Joint Radiological Response Plan on April 24, 1996, in Toronto, Canada. This Joint Plan is intended to complement other Canada-U.S. Joint Plans that provide a joint response mechanism for non-radiological pollution incidents that threaten boundary waters, coastal areas, or the inland boundary. The Joint Plan has been developed under the umbrella of the "Agreement Between the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States of America on Cooperation in Comprehensive Civil Emergency Planning and Management," signed on April 28, 1986. At this meeting a final draft version of the Joint Plan was developed which will be presented within two weeks to the Government agencies of both countries for final review and approval.

Keynote Speech for NUMUG Meeting

On April 25, 1996, Richard Barrett gave the keynote speech for the fourth meeting of the nuclear utilities meteorological data users group (NUMUG) in San Francisco. NUMUG promotes the exchange of data and methods among nuclear utilities, meteorological vendors and DOE laboratories. Mr. Barrett described the use of meteorological data and analysis by the NRC for emergency response. He also discussed emergency response to events which are initiated by meteorological conditions. The talk generated a great deal of discussion and several questions.

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-I-96-025, Mediray, DAMAGED MOLYBDENUM-99/TECHNETIUM-99m
2. PNO-II-96-031, Georgia Power Co., TRANSPORT OF A POTENTIALLY-CONTAMINATED INJURED INDIVIDUAL
3. PNO-II-96-032, The Treasure Coast Imaging Center, Inc., ABANDONED SOURCES AND RADIOPHARMACEUTICAL DOSES
4. PNO-II-96-033, Tennessee Valley Authority, DEMONSTRATION PLANNED NEAR THE WATTS BAR SITE BY THE SNAIL DARTER ALLIANCE

ENCLOSURE F

Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 26, 1996

Noontime Concerts

The ADM Service Center plans to begin the 1996 series of Noontime Concerts on May 8, 1996, with the Army Chorale. This year's schedule will include two concerts each month (May through September). A complete listing of events will be announced soon, including plans for an NRC Talent Show in September.

Classification Guide

The Division of Security has published the "Joint NRC/DOE Classification Guide for Uranium Isotope Separation by the Gaseous Diffusion Process," CG-PGA-5. Three hundred copies are being printed for distribution to authorized classifiers, the Commission, EDO staff, and others. Copies will also be provided to DOE and to the U. S. Enrichment Corporation.

Facility Security Activities

Some of the facility security measures used during the period surrounding the anniversary of the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City, and the 1993 incident at the Branch Davidian Compound in Waco, Texas, have been continued. Specifically, additional security guards have been assigned to posts on the exterior of the building, and the gate on the Plaza level of TWFN will remain down as long as public access to the Auditorium is not needed.

ADM/IRM Task Force - Theft of NRC Property

Based on recent events involving the theft and reports of missing NRC property (e.g., computer and telecommunications equipment), Task Force members are exploring what NRC can do to address this problem from a security, property control, inventory, and accountability standpoint. The initial weekly meeting was held on April 25, 1996. A report will be prepared in May 1996.

Significant FOIA Requests Received during the 5-Day Period of April 19 - 26, 1996:

Request for information on the Coors Porcelain Plant's activities relative to Project Pluto in the 1960's. (Individual; FOIA-96-174)

Request for a copy of contract number NRC-33-96-194. (Winston Chan; Multimax, Inc.; FOIA-96-175)

Request for a listing of the number of reactor failures or accidents and safety inspections or violations by month between 1977 and 1994. (J. G. Park; Texas A&M Univ.; FOIA-96-176)

Request for a copy of all requests submitted since December 12, 1995 under Policy & Guidance Directive PG 3-16 by physicians for exemptions to 10 CFR 35 Subpart J training criteria. (C.H. Rose; Institute for Nuclear Medical Education, Inc.; FOIA-96-177)

Request for copies of IG reports since January 1994 related to problems with government travel vouchers, credit cards, expense filings and reimbursements, etc. (K. Hart; McGraw Hill; FOIA-96-178)

Request for copies of IG reports since January 1995 related to whistleblowers and copies of commission policies dealing with alleged. (K. Hart; McGraw Hill; FOIA-96-179)

Request for copies of IG reports since January 1994 on delays by Office of Enforcement in developing policy to protect alleged. (K. Hart; McGraw Hill; FOIA-96-180)

Request for records related to an alleged statement made by a Region II official during a news conference held in Miami's Federal Building on 12/91. (J. Chandler of Troutman Sanders; FOIA-96-181)

ENCLOSURE G

Office of Information Resources Management
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 26, 1996

NARA Approves NRC Decommissioning Records Schedules

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) recently approved an NRC request for disposition authority involving certain types of records. The approval covers decommissioning records associated with Inspection and Enforcement Case Files, Nuclear Power and Non-Power Reactor Docket Files, and Material Licensing Case File records. The new records schedules implement the General Accounting Office (GAO) recommendations to retain decommissioning records and material licensing case files longer than 10 years. The record schedules establish the maintenance of the decommissioning portion of each licensing case file for permanent retention, and increases the retention period for non-permanent materials licensing case files from 10 years after termination of license to 20 years after license termination. The approval invokes Federal Records Center (FRC) instructions for retiring to the FRC older portions of docket file records that are not yet closed. This reduces the volume of material retained at the NRC.

The schedules, originally submitted to NARA on October 31, 1991, were signed by Archivist of the United States on April 4, 1996. The delay resulted from an issue raised by GAO about the need for NRC to provide guidance to the Agreement States for retaining decommissioning records. This issue has not been resolved. IRM is developing a separate disposition schedule for review and approval by the Office of State Programs and the Office of the General Counsel.

ENCLOSURE I

Office of Personnel
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 26, 1996

Organizational Development and Training (ODT) Staff Member Participates in Federal Training Officers Conference

On April 21-24, 1996, August Spector, ODT, participated in the Federal Training Officers Conference, which was held in Ocean City, Maryland. More than 280 training and development managers participated in individual sessions, which were centered around the theme of "Transforming Work: People, Technology, Culture." Dr. Spector gave a presentation on the topic "Challenge Learning: Bringing Outdoor Learning Indoors," which provided information related to organizational development and culture change.

Arrivals		
BUCHAN, Tammy	OFFICE RESIDENT ASSISTANT (OPFT)	RIV
CEROVSKI, Thomas	GENERAL ENGINEER (PFT)	NRR
FREEMAN, Scott	REACTOR ENGINEER (PFT)	RIV
SMITH, Simon	REACTOR ENGINEER (PFT)	RES
WONG, Valerie	OFFICE SERVICES ASSISTANT (OPFT)	NMSS
Retirements		
PIERCE, Louise	PAYROLL TECHNICIAN (PFT)	OC
Departures		
NONE		

ENCLOSURE K

Office of Enforcement
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 26, 1996

Civil Penalties Paid

The Duriron Company paid the civil penalty in the amount of \$2,500 for an action based on a Severity Level III violation involving the licensee's failure to leak test sealed sources at intervals specified by 10 CFR 34.25(b). (EA 95-227)

Foley Construction Services paid the civil penalty in the amount of \$1,000. The action was based on a Severity Level III violation involving an Agreement State (California) licensee willfully using a moisture density gauge in a non-Agreement State (Montana) in January and February 1995. (EA 95-270)

ENCLOSURE L

Office of State Programs
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 26, 1996

Environmental Justice Subcommittee Meeting

Maria Lopez-Otin, Federal Liaison, attended the meeting of the Environmental Justice Subcommittee on April 19, 1996. The Subcommittee was informed that only five agencies had submitted their final Environmental Justice Implementation Report. NRC's report was submitted on February 12, 1996. The second report to the President, as called for in Executive Order 12898, is expected to be completed by the end of May and all agencies were urged to complete their Implementation Reports. Subcommittee members were given a draft of the Council on Environmental Quality Environmental Justice guidance. Agencies have until May 3, 1996, to submit comments on the guidance. In addition, the Subcommittee was briefed on projected work that it needed to undertake for the next year.

ENCLOSURE M

Office of Public Affairs
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 26, 1996

Media Interest

Twenty reporters attended the Office of Public Affairs' 2-day Media Workshop at headquarters. Key staff and managers in the agency discussed current topics that reporters are writing about such as reactor aging, spent fuel and dry cask storage, decommissioning, deregulation, and health effects of radiation. The reporters represented large metropolitan newspapers, as well as small papers located near nuclear facilities, trade publications and wire services.

Press Releases

Headquarters:	
96-61	NRC's Advisory Panel on Electronic Information System for Waste Repository Licensing to Meet in Las Vegas
96-62	NRC's Advisory Committee to Meet May 3 in Rockville, MD.
96-63	Note to Editors: ACRS Reports
Regions:	
I-96-28	NRC Staff Rates Indian Point 3 Nuclear Power Plant "Superior" in Plant Support; "Good" in Maintenance; and "Adequate" in Engineering and Plant Operations
II-96-46	Shearon Harris Plant Rated "Superior" in all Four Areas of NRC Assessment Report
III-96-15	NRC Staff Plans Discussion of Plant Performance at ABB Combustion Engineering Fuel Plant in Hematite, MO

ENCLOSURE O

Office of the Secretary
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 26, 1996

Historian

Samuel Walker, NRC Historian, spoke to reporters who attend the Office of Public Affairs Media Workshop on April 24, 1996. Dr. Walker outlined the historical background of the major regulatory issues that the Atomic Energy Commission and the NRC have dealt with over a period of 50 years.

ENCLOSURE P

Region I
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 26, 1996

Seabrook Integrated Performance Assessment Process (IPAP) Inspection Results Meeting

On April 22, 1996, NRC Region I staff presented and discussed the results of the IPAP Inspection of the Seabrook Nuclear Plant that was conducted onsite February 5-16, 1996 and documented in NRC Inspection Report 50-443/96-080. The meeting was at 7:00 PM in the Frank Jones Center at Portsmouth, NH, and was open for public observation.

The meeting was opened by Deputy Regional Administrator, William F. Kane. The Team Leader, Harold Gray, gave the IPAP results. The IPAP team findings were generally positive for the areas of safety assessment/corrective actions,

plant operations, engineering, maintenance, and plant support (including radiation controls, security and emergency preparedness). Weaknesses included corrective actions effectiveness in the safety assessment area, problem resolution and deficiency tagging errors in the operations and maintenance areas, reoccurring equipment problems in engineering, and an overall lack of emphasis on UFSAR commitments. The meeting with the licensee lasted two hours.

Following the presentation and discussion with the licensee the meeting was opened for questions from the approximately sixteen attendees from the public and press. Questions and comments related to opposition of recommended reduced inspection effort, detection of increased radioactivity on November 29, 1995, and failure to notify the public following an unplanned short evacuation alarm a few months ago. The public meeting lasted about 1 1/2 hours.

Predecisional Enforcement Conference With Syncor International Corporation

On April 22, 1996, Region I held a predecisional enforcement conference with Syncor International Corporation. The conference was held to review an apparent unauthorized use of licensed material. Specifically, the licensee identified in August 1995, a lock in an unrestricted area contaminated through apparent deliberate misuse of technetium-99m. The licensee presented the results of its investigation of the event and the corrective steps they plan to take. The staff is evaluating the presentation by Syncor and will make an enforcement decision.

Licensing Meeting with the U.S. Army, Ft. Detrick, Maryland

DNMS hosted a meeting in Region I on April 26, 1996, with representatives of the U.S. Army to discuss the renewal of the license for the U.S. Army facility at Fort Detrick, Maryland. The principal topic of the discussion was the Army's plans to dispose of potentially contaminated sewer sludge from the Fort Detrick sewage treatment plant.

ENCLOSURE P

Region II Items of Interest Week Ending April 26, 1996

Atomic Safety and Licensing Board

The Atomic Safety Licensing Board (ASLB) held their annual conference in Atlanta, Georgia. Commissioner Dicus; the Deputy Executive Director for Nuclear Materials Safety, Safeguards and Operations Support; and several Region II representatives addressed the ASLB during this conference.

National "Bring Your Child To Work Day"

On April 25, 1996, was national observance of "Bring Your Child To Work Day." Many of our Region II parents brought in their child/children with them to work for office tours and other activities.

Duke Power Company - McGuire

On April 26, 1996, the Director, Division of Reactor Projects was at the Duke Power Company's McGuire facility to present operator certificates to newly licensed operators during an evening ceremony.

Tennessee Valley Authority - Watts Bar

After significant troubleshooting, TVA concluded that the cause of the turbine governor valve closure on April 16, 1996, was a spurious electrical signal caused by a self checking circuit in the AMSAC equipment. Tests were conducted unsuccessfully to recreate the governor valve closure. The licensee did observe a dip in EHC oil pressure in response to the self check issue. TVA disabled the self check circuit and the plant was taken critical on April 21, 1996. On April 21, 1996, there was a trip of the operating main feed pump at 12 percent power which resulted in initiation of the auxiliary feedwater system, which responded properly. When operators attempted to take manual control of auxiliary feedwater, one valve would not transfer from auto to manual. The valve was then closed by placing a control switch in pull-to-lock. This was a similar failure on the valve controller as occurred a week earlier. Both controllers were replaced and returned to the vendor for analysis. Power will be gradually increased to the 90 percent level to resume testing.

Commissioner Dicus visits Region II

On April 25, Commissioner Dicus visited in Region II. During the visit the Commissioner toured Region II facilities, met with Senior Managers and addressed the Region II staff.

ENCLOSURE P

Region III Items of Interest Week Ending April 26, 1996

State of Ohio MOU Request

Region III received a letter from the Ohio Department of Health requesting that NRC pursue an agreement or MOU with the State of Ohio. The letter identified low-level radioactive waste and contaminated sites as areas in which the Ohio Department of Health is interested in conducting inspections at NRC-licensed facilities for and on behalf of the NRC in Ohio.

In addition, the State of Ohio has also expressed an interest in continuing to perform environmental monitoring near the Portsmouth gaseous diffusion plant in Ohio, which also may be included in the MOU. The State of Ohio is currently pursuing Agreement State status and is projecting achievement of that status in late 1998.

Braidwood Nuclear Power Station

On April 26, 1996, a predecisional enforcement conference was held in the Region III Office between members of the NRC staff and Commonwealth Edison Company to discuss: the mispositioning of the Unit 2 hydrogen monitor valves on January 23rd; the start of work on the Unit 2 safety injection system outside the established out-of-service boundary on March 5th; and the configuration control and out-of-service trend problems in 1995 and 1996. The conference focused on the apparent failure to properly control the configuration of safety-related systems and the apparent failure to correct weaknesses identified by the licensee in its methods for configuration control.

Fermi and Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Stations

From April 23rd through April 25th, 1996, the Deputy Regional Administrator, and Director of Reactor Projects visited Fermi and Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Stations. They toured the plants and met with utility management and NRC resident staff.

University of Cincinnati

From April 25th through 26th, 1996, the Director of Nuclear Materials Safety met with licensee senior managers, toured the facility, and participated in an inspection of the facility and the inspection exit meeting held with the licensee.

The University of Cincinnati is a broadscope licensee and uses radiopharmaceuticals and sealed sources for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes, and various radioactive materials for human and non-human research and development. The licensee also uses various sealed sources for instrument calibration and in portable gauging devices, and other specifically listed radioactive materials for specific research purposes.

ENCLOSURE P

Region IV
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 26, 1996

Management Meeting Between Region IV and Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS)

On April 23, 1996, the Regional Administrator and other staff members from Region IV and the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation met with management and staff of the CNS in a public meeting held at the CNS facility. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the licensee's progress concerning Phase III of its Performance Improvement Program, which refocuses improvement efforts from shorter-term issues to longer-term strategic direction.

Sequoyah Fuels Corporation

A regulators meeting comprised of NRC, EPA, and Oklahoma-DEQ was held in the EPA Region 6 office, Dallas, Texas, on April 24, 1996. Agenda items included status reports on the NRC and EPA environmental assessments and each agency's perspective of the most significant environmental hazards to be addressed during decommissioning. The NRC was represented by staff from NMSS and Region IV.

ENCLOSURE R

Office of Congressional Affairs
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 26, 1996

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, No. 61

OCA ASSIGNMENT	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Gerke	04/30/96 2247 RHOB	9:00	TBA	Veterans' Preference	Reps. Mica/Moran Civil Service Government Reform & Oversight
Combs	04/30/96 334 CHOB	9:30	TBA	Veterans Exposed to Ionizing Radiation	Reps. Everett/Evans Compensation, Pension, Insurance & Memorial Affairs Veterans' Affairs
Gerke	04/30/96 430 DSOB	9:30	TBA	S. 1085, Affirmative Action for the Fedl Government	Senators Kassebaum/Kennedy Labor & Human Resources
Callahan	05/01/96 2318 RHOB	10:00	TBA	DOE Budget Request for Nuclear Energy	Reps. Rohrabacher/Roemer Energy & Environment Science
Gerke	05/01/96 2322 RHOB	10:00	TBA	FERC's Final Rule on Open Access Transmissions	Reps. Schaefer/Pallone Energy & Power Commerce
Gerke	05/02/96 406 DSOB	2:30	Hubert Bell	Confirmation	Senators Chafee/Baucus Environment & Public Works
Madden	TBA	TBA	Commission	NRC Oversight	Senators Faircloth/Graham Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property and Nuclear Safety Environment and Public Works