

May 15, 1996

For: The Commissioners
 From: James L. Blaha, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
 Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING May 10, 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

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 Assistant for Operations, OEDO

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 415-1725

ENCLOSURE A

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending May 10, 1996

Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2

Effective May 10, 1996, Mr. H. Gene Stanley, Vice President - Nuclear Operations, will retire from Pennsylvania Power & Light (PP&L) and accept the position of Site Vice President - Braidwood Station with Commonwealth Edison. Mr. George T. Jones, Vice President - Nuclear Engineering, will assume Mr. Stanley's responsibilities. Mr. Glenn D. Miller, Manager - Nuclear Plant Services, will be promoted to Manager - Nuclear Engineering, and will report directly to Mr. Jones. Mr. Anthony F. Iorfida will be promoted to replace Mr. Miller.

Surry Units 1 & 2

Unit 1 continued at full power as of May 7, 1996. Unit 2 shut down on May 3 for refueling. On May 6, the licensee (VEPCO) issued a press release describing their "re-engineering" efforts to downsize and streamline the company. About 200 staff positions will be eliminated beginning August 1, of which 75 reductions will be at VEPCO headquarters and 60 at both Surry and North Anna. The staff reductions will be the highest in Support Services and lower in the Plant Operations (which includes Operations, Maintenance, and Planning and Nuclear Site Services) and the Fuel Cycle departments.

The long term goal is to reduce the baseline budget of 435 million dollars by about 75 million dollars (17%). A reduction of 22 million dollars in capital projects in the 5 year plan has also been adopted. A second phase of "re-engineering" is expected to occur this fall. The second phase will focus on Plant Modification Configuration/Engineering Redesign and the Fuel Cycle Department. Employee focus groups are being formed to provide feedback on the change process.

Lasalle Unit 1

Unit 1 Reactor Coolant System Chemistry Excursion Lasts for over Two Weeks

At about 1:00 pm CDT on May 6, 1996, Unit 1 entered Mode 1, after being in Mode 2 since April 21, 1996, when a reactor coolant system (RCS) chemistry excursion caused a halt in power ascension. The licensee's root cause analysis indicates that several factors contributed to the out of specification chemistry condition. During the startup, there were numerous increases and decreases in pressure caused by the cavitation of the reactor water cleanup (RWCU) pumps, causing trips of the RWCU pumps and isolations of the RWCU system. The inlet valve of the filter demineralizer was open to keep it filled and vented. The pressure transients caused a check valve to chatter, allowing resin from the filter demineralizer to pass through its inlet valve, through the check valve, become deposited in the regenerative heat exchanger and the feed water lines. The licensee has isolated, heated up and sent to radwaste, the contents of the shell side of the regenerative heat exchanger, and is currently in a slow power ascension.

As power is increased and feed water flow goes up commensurately, the increased flow and turbulence flush resin into the reactor vessel, where the heat causes the release of sulfates, increase in conductivity and decrease in pH. The licensee is closely monitoring RCS chemistry and halting the power increase each time there is another chemistry excursion until it

is cleaned up. Procedures have been changed to close the filter demineralizer inlet valve when RWCU system flow is lost, to prevent this event from recurring.

The licensee's root cause analysis of the event is not complete and is continuing. The resident staff and R-III are closely monitoring the situation.

Participation in ANS Topical Meeting and IEEE Subcommittee 7 (Human Factors and Control Facilities)

From May 6-10, 1996, James Bongarra and Greg Galletti of the Human Factors Assessment Branch (HHFB) attended the 1996 ANS Topical Meeting on "Nuclear Plant Instrumentation, Control, and Human-Machine Interface Technologies" in State College, PA. Mr. Bongarra also participated in the IEEE Subcommittee (SC)-7 (Human Factors and Control Facilities) meeting in State College, PA.

Mr. Galletti presented a paper at the ANS topical meeting on the subject of human performance issues associated with the implementation and design of digital systems in nuclear power plants. Mr. Galletti also chaired a session on modelling operator performance during the meeting.

Mr. Bongarra is the NRR representative to the SC-7 subcommittee which is part of the Nuclear Power Engineering Committee within the IEEE's Power Engineering Society. At the subcommittee meeting (May 8-10), Mr. Bongarra was acting chairman and continued as co-chairman and member of the working group currently revising two IEEE standards related to human factors engineering. The subcommittee recently submitted to IEEE for approval two final draft standards, one on the application of human factors engineering principles to the design of video displays and the second on the application of Human Reliability Analysis in Probabilistic Risk Assessments. The subcommittee is also planning its 6th Conference On Human Factors and Power Plants for 1997 for which Mr. Bongarra is the Financial Vice Chair. The Conference Steering Committee also met at the meeting.

1996 GSE Systems Users Conference

Frank Collins, Examiner, Operator Licensing Branch (HOLB), made two presentations at the 1996 GSE Systems Users Conference held in Baltimore, Maryland, during the week of May 5, 1996. In the first presentation, "Regulatory Update," Frank discussed the current NRC policies on simulators and the recently issued [NRC Regulatory Guide 1.149](#), which endorsed ANSI/ANS 3.5-1993, "Nuclear Power Plant Simulators for Use in Operators Training and Examination." Frank was also involved in a panel session discussing simulator testing philosophy and current ANSI/ANS 3.5 writing group issues.

Quality Assurance Meetings

On May 8th, Suzie Black and Bob Gramm of HQMB made a presentation at the NEI QA Information Forum. The presentation covered topics including: graded QA, 50.54(a) rulemaking petition, relocation of technical specification administrative controls, audit frequencies, and performance-based QA. The meeting included attendees from the QA Managers and QC Managers meetings that were held at the same location. On May 10th, the above mentioned HQMB staff attended the Great Lakes QA Managers meeting to discuss QA related topics.

ENCLOSURE B

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 10, 1996

Inspection of Transportation Package Fabrication at Amersham Corporation

On April 30-May 2, 1996, the Spent Fuel Project Office conducted a safety inspection of the fabrication of transportation packagings at Amersham Corporation in Burlington, Massachusetts. The objective of the inspection was to verify compliance with the provisions of [10 CFR Part 71](#) for certificates of compliance of the various packaging designs and implementation of the quality assurance program. The team also reviewed the implementation of the corrective actions that Amersham had initiated in response to previous inspection findings and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's earlier confirmatory action letter. The team identified a number of concerns with no major safety significance regarding design control and equipment calibration. The preliminary findings were discussed with the licensee at the exit meeting.

Internationally Monitored Retrievable Storage System Meeting

On May 3, 1996, representatives of the Commission, Office of the Executive Director for Operations, and Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, met with Chauncey Starr, President Emeritus of the Electric Power Research Institute, and Professor Wolf Hafele, Director of the Rossendorf Research Center in Germany, who briefed the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on the Internationally Monitored Retrievable Storage System (IMRSS). The IMRSS concept arose from discussions at three international workshops held in the last two years to explore the feasibility of an internationally monitored management regime for products arising from civilian nuclear power plants (e.g., spent fuel and excess plutonium) and for plutonium declared surplus to military requirements. Overseen by a political body working closely with the International Atomic Energy Agency, the IMRSS would establish international criteria and procedures for storage systems, physical operations, and transportation.

Renewal of Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. Materials License

On April 26, 1996, Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. (NFS) requested renewal of their existing Materials License SNM-124 for a period of ten years. The request commits NFS to conduct an integrated safety analysis (ISA) using the approach described in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission guidance in draft NUREG-1520, "Standard Review Plan for the Review of a License Application for a Fuel Cycle Facility." NFS would submit the complete ISA to NRC by October 1999. In addition, they would also reformat the license to conform to the new NRC draft standard format and content guide by November 1998.

Interagency Steering Committee on Radiation Standards Mixed Waste Subcommittee Meeting

On May 7, 1996, Division of Waste Management staff participated in a meeting of the Mixed Waste Subcommittee of the Interagency Steering Committee on Radiation Standards. Other organizations represented at the meeting were the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Defense, and the Department of Transportation. After a

brief discussion of recent agency activities in the area of mixed waste, the Department of Energy (DOE [EXIT](#)) presented the results of a draft report on radiation control criteria for slightly contaminated mixed waste. The report addresses the potential impacts of treating certain DOE low-level mixed waste as hazardous only and disposing of this waste in a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act disposal cell. The study concludes that implementing such an approach would result in significant cost savings with a decrease in collective dose. The subcommittee members were asked to comment on the draft report. The next subcommittee meeting is tentatively scheduled for mid-July 1996.

Host State Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting

During the period April 30-May 2, 1996, staff from the Division of Waste Management and Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research attended the Host State Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) meeting in El Paso, Texas. The meeting was attended by representatives from California, Connecticut, Illinois, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas. In addition, representatives from Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL), Department of Energy, Nuclear Energy Institute, and Low-Level Waste Forum were present. Because the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has ceased low-level waste topical report reviews, it was suggested that topical reports could be reviewed by INEL through a contract with either the TCC or the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors. INEL is also performing a cost comparison of the assured storage concept versus a [10 CFR Part 61](#) facility for the State of Connecticut. The attendees provided an update of siting and licensing activities within their respective states. Attendees also visited the Sierra Blanca site in Hudspeth County, Texas, and the Waste Isolation Project Plant in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

Low-Level Radioactive Waste Federal Responsibility Act of 1996

On May 7, 1996, U.S. Representative Jerry Lewis (California) introduced the "Low-Level Radioactive Waste Federal Responsibility Act of 1996," as H.R. 3394. The bill would repeal the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Act and transfer responsibility for low-level radioactive waste generated within any State outside a sited compact region to the Secretary of Interior. In addition, the bill would make a number of other changes to the existing Federal framework for low-level waste disposal. It also includes requiring development of disposal facilities on land owned by the Federal government, allowing contracts between the Department of Interior ([DOI EXIT](#)) and Department of Energy to provide for low-level waste disposal, and transferring waste to DOI for temporary storage beginning on January 1, 1997. The bill would also require DOI to charge disposal rates to recover the cost to the government to operate the disposal facility and require the average rate to be below \$500 per cubic foot of waste disposed.

Audit of the U.S. Geological Survey Quality Assurance Program

On April 29-May 2, 1996, Division of Waste Management staff observed the performance-based Department of Energy audit of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) quality assurance program in Denver, Colorado. The audit team evaluated the USGS activities leading to the Preliminary Site Saturated Zone 3-Dimensional Ground Water Flow Model and the Unsaturated Zone Hydrochemistry Data Synthesis Report. While the audit team rated USGS compliance with three of the thirteen programmatic elements audited as unsatisfactory, its overall finding was that the audit showed satisfactory USGS technical performance. The staff assessed the audit as being effective and agreed with the audit team's findings and recommendations.

ENCLOSURE C

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 10, 1996

Moderate Earthquake in Vicinity of Seattle

A moderate earthquake of magnitude 5.4 struck the vicinity of Seattle on May 2, 1996 at 21:04 local time (PDT). The epicenter location was at 47.8° N latitude, 121.9° W longitude, which is 10.2 km (6.3 miles) ENE of Duvall, WA and about 40 km (25 miles) NE of Seattle. The earthquake had a thrust fault mechanism, and its hypocentral depth was 7 km (5 miles). The earthquake was felt as far as Astoria and Portland, OR; Abbotsford and Mission, BC; and as far east as Wenatchee, WA.

The nearest nuclear plant is Trojan at 210 km (130 miles) from the epicenter - too far to trigger strong motion seismic instruments at the plant. Minor damage in form of broken dishes, etc. was reported in Seattle, but there are no reports of major damage. However, noticeable swaying of buildings was observed, and a baseball game at the Kingdome was halted.

Recently Issued Publication

Draft Regulatory Guide DG-1046, "Guidelines for Reporting Reliability and Availability Information for Risk-Significant Systems and Equipment in Nuclear Power Plants," April 1996. Comments requested by July 5, 1996.

The NRC is also announcing a public meeting to discuss both Draft Regulatory Guide DG-1046 and a proposed regulation, "Reporting Reliability and Availability Information for Risk-Significant Systems and Equipment," Section 50.76, which is proposed for [10 CFR Part 50](#), "Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities." The public meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 4, 1996, from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM in the auditorium of NRC's headquarters at Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD.

Contact: Dennis Allison, AEOD (301/415-6835)

Fourth MELCOR Cooperative Assessment Program Meeting

The Fourth MELCOR Cooperative Assessment Program (MCAP) Meeting was held in Bethesda, MD, May 1-3, 1996. The MCAP program provides a vehicle for coordinating activities and collecting results from MELCOR assessments and applications by MELCOR code users in the international community. It provides a forum for interchanging ideas and results of MELCOR assessments from other countries and enables direct feedback to the NRC contractor code developers which is of mutual benefit to the NRC and the MELCOR code users. The meeting was attended by more than 30 people with 24 organizations from 16 countries participating.

The participating organizations each provided suggestions for improvement of the MELCOR code that they have found from their operational experiences would likely benefit the code's ability to more nearly approximate the progress of

severe accident transients. The participants also offered suggestions for user-guidelines in operation of MELCOR and interpretation of results as developed from their experience in running the code. The NRC contractor code developers provided feedback to the participants in the meeting on each of the individual development suggestions and on the user guideline suggestions.

The next annual meeting of MCAP is scheduled for April 30 through May 2, 1997, at the Residence Inn in Bethesda, MD.

ENCLOSURE D

Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 10, 1996

Incident Response Division (IRD)

Emergency Response Branch (ERB)

Emergency Preparedness Training Program

On May 6 and 7, 1996, an ERB staff member participated in the initial planning meeting for the Emergency Preparedness Technology course, designated H-302, at the NRC Technical Training Center. ERB has been assigned responsibility for preparing portions of the course text materials and the presentation of such topics as Nuclear Plant Systems and Vulnerabilities, Critical Safety Functions, Emergency Classification Systems, and the relationships between the Emergency Preparedness Program and the NRC's Emergency Response Organization. The pilot presentation for the H-302 course is scheduled for March 1997.

Communications Trial Period

On May 3, 1996, ERB completed a four-week trial period in which AEOD management routinely participated in calls in which the Headquarters Operations Officers (HOOs) contacted the Emergency Officers (EOs). AEOD management found this process very helpful in keeping abreast of events and in providing more NRC focus on several events. As a result of the success of the trial period, ERB plans to incorporate participation of line management into the early response decision conference call.

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-I-96-030, GPU Nuclear Corp. (Oyster Creek 1), BOMB THREAT

ENCLOSURE F

Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 10, 1996

Procurement Reform

A training session on commercial contracting was held for Division of Contracts (DC) staff on May 2, 1996, and a video on this subject prepared by the National Contract Management Association was shown on May 7, 1996. Commercial contracting procedures can be used by DC to procure a wide variety of products, primarily under negotiated fixed price contracts. The new procedures permit the use of such innovations as combining the Commerce Business Daily notice with the solicitation, a reduction in the solicitation phase from 45 to as few as 15 days, and award of a contract with as few as three clauses.

Penny Kinney, DC, and Ben Randall, IRM, attended training conducted by the Office of Management and Budget on Performance-Based Service Contracting on May 8, 1996. Guidance was provided on developing performance requirements, performance standards, quality assurance methods and incentives for performance-based service contracting.

Contract Awards

Contract no. NRC-10-96-144 entitled "Urine Specimen Testing and Storage of Split Specimens," was awarded on May 8, 1996 to Northwest Toxicology, Inc. This fixed price requirements contract in the amount of \$38,810 is effective September 14, 1996 through September 13, 1998, with three option years for a total contract value of \$99,275. This competitive small business set-aside procurement incorporated multiple streamlining techniques, including award without discussions. As a result, award was made in five months and two weeks (less than half the time required to complete the previous procurement for this support).

On May 3, 1996, a sole source contract award was made to Robert Steele, Jr., of Idaho Falls, Idaho. The contractor shall provide expert advice to the NRC in resolving MOV safety and technical issues that will occur during the implementation of new Electric Power Research Institute MOV Performance Prediction Methods. The period of performance for this time-and-materials contract is June 1, 1996 through December 31, 1996. The total contract value is \$74,900. Use of streamlining techniques enabled DC to award this contract in 63 days.

Extension of Contract

DC is in the process of negotiating the exercise of an option to extend contract no. NRC-26-92-269 with the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO) for NRC's access to the Nuclear Plant Reliability Data System. INPO is requesting further restrictions and limitations be applied to the plant/unit-specific information currently furnished by this contract.

Facility Security Upgrades

Patricia Norry, Director, ADM, and staff from the Division of Security and the Division of Facilities and Property

Management, met with representatives of GSA, Lerner Corporation, and their attorney on May 6, 1996 to review the site plan application with the Montgomery County Planning Board. The site plan application requested permission to install a security fence along the east and south property line of the White Flint Complex. NRC's application was placed on the agenda for the Montgomery County Planning Board's May 9, 1996 meeting and was approved without discussion.

Drug Testing Rate

On April 24, 1996, [SECY-96-085](#) was signed by the EDO and forwarded to the Commission. This paper provided a status report on NRC's positive drug testing rate during the past two years, and a recommendation to maintain the current 50 percent testing rate for all NRC testing designated positions. On May 7, 1996, the Commission approved the recommendation to maintain the current 50 percent drug testing rate.

Modifications to Fitness-For-Duty Program Requirements (Part 26)

A proposed rule that would make significant amendments to the NRC's Fitness-For-Duty Program was published in the Federal Register on May 9, 1996 (61 FR 21105). The proposed rule is intended to ensure compatibility with changes made to the Department of Health and Human Services testing guidelines, to reduce unnecessary burden on the NRC and licensees and to ensure continued protection of public health and safety. The comment period for the proposed rule closes August 7, 1996.

Significant FOIA Requests Received during the 5-Day Period of May 3 - May 9, 1996:

Request for a copy of OI report related to the Millstone Nuclear Plant regarding misleading reports by Northeast Utilities. (Individual; FOIA-96-187)

Request for a copy of client's March 30, 1995 interview relating to shift staffing at Pacific Service Electric and Gas Company. (M.J. Wetterhahn of Winston & Strawn; FOIA-96-188)

Request for records related to promotions and awards received by NMSS and NRR employees since January 1994. (Individual; FOIA-96-189)

Request for a copy of a February 7, 1996 memo from Chairman Jackson to James Taylor addressing an exemption request for a fuel cycle facility. (O.G. Williams; J/R/A Associates; FOIA-96-195)

ENCLOSURE I

Office of Personnel
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 10, 1996

Individuals Selected for Graduate Fellowship Program

Three individuals were selected and later accepted fellowships in the 1996 NRC Graduate Fellowship Program. Selected are Mark Sitek, Health Physicist (NMSS), his plans include graduate school at MIT; Gradon Uyedia, Nuclear Engineer (RES), who plans to focus in the area of thermal hydraulics at Oregon State University; and Eric Thornsberry, (RES), a Physics major planning to attend the University of Maryland graduate school in reliability engineering.

Career Fairs Attended

On May 4, 1996, the NRC was represented at the Asian Pacific American Heritage Council exhibit, which was held at Freedom Plaza, Washington, D.C. On May 9-10, 1996, Tom Yingst represented the NRC at the career fair sponsored by the Federal Asian Pacific American Council in Arlington, Virginia. On May 9-11, 1996 the NRC exhibited at the Public Service Recognition Week on the National Mall. Hundreds of federal employees and interested attendees visited the exhibits and were provided information regarding career opportunities as well as information about the NRC.

Arrivals		
BOYD, Christopher	REACTOR ENGINEER (PFT)	RES
KIRKWOOD, Anthony	HEALTH PHYSICIST (PFT)	NMSS
MIKE, Linda	SECRETARY (OA) (PFT)	OP/SPAC
Departures		
GIANIOS, Charlene	BUDGET ANALYST (PFT)	OC
MCKAMEY, Sidney	OFFICE SVCS ASSISTANT (PFT)	R111

ENCLOSURE M

Office of Public Affairs
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 10, 1996

Media Interest

Brian Sheron, NRR, was interviewed by Today's Sunbeam, New Jersey, regarding steam generator issues.

The Region II PAO was interviewed by CNN in Atlanta regarding the upcoming ASLB hearing on Georgia Tech's license renewal request.

The Charleston, South Carolina Post & Courier is preparing an extensive story on spent fuel storage and disposal.

School Volunteers Program

The NRC has received an award from the Montgomery County Alliance for Educational Excellence in connection with our partnership with Montgomery County Public Schools. The agency was honored for our cadre of dedicated volunteers who regularly inspire students in Montgomery County schools.

Mary Thomas, RES, spoke about her NRC career at Fairview E.S.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
96-64	NRC Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards to Meet on May 23-25
96-65	Chairman of Ukrainian Parliamentary Committee on Nuclear Safety Visits NRC
96-66	Two NRC Regional Administrators are Reassigned
96-67	NRC Proposes Amendments to Fitness-For-Duty Rule
Regions:	
I-96-29	NRC Staff to Hold Predecisional Enforcement Conference With Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
II-96-43	NRC Licensing Board Sets Hearing on Georgia Tech Research Reactor
II-96-44	NRC Officials to Meet with TVA at Watts Bar Nuclear Plant on May 10
III-96-15	Fermi Plant Rated "Superior" in One Area, "Good" in Two Areas, "Adequate" in One Area in Latest Systematic Assessment Report
IV-96-29	NRC Staff to Hold Predecisional Enforcement Conference May 10 With Wolf Creek

ENCLOSURE N

Office of International Programs
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 10, 1996

IAEA Vacancy Notices

The following notice from the International Atomic Energy Agency has been posted on NRC bulletin boards:

P-5	Section Head Administration	96/024
P-4	Head of Dosimetry Laboratory Research & Isotopes	96/025
P-5	Nuclear Engineer Nuclear Energy	96/026
P-5	Nuclear/Chemical Engineer, Unit Leader Nuclear Energy	96/027
P-3	Systems Analyst/LAN Administrator Technical Co-operation	96/028
P-3	Nuclear Power Engineer Nuclear Energy	96/029
P-4	Instrumentation Specialist Safeguards	96/031
P-4	Operational Safety Officer Nuclear Safety	96/032
P-4	Food Irradiation Specialist Research and Isotopes	96/033
P-2	Systems Programmer Nuclear Energy	96/034
P-3	Nuclear Data Information Physicist Research and Isotopes	96/035
P-4	Nuclear Medicine Physician Research and Isotopes	96/036
P-4	Radiation Oncologist Research and Isotopes	96/037
P-4	Transport Safety Specialist Nuclear Safety	96/038

Foreign Visitors

Ukraine

Dr. Mykhailo Pavlovsky, Chairman of the Committee on Nuclear Policy and Safety of the Supreme Council of Ukraine (Rada, or parliament) came to NRC on May 7, 1996. They met with Chairman Jackson, Commissioner Rogers, James Milhoan, and selected staff. Chairman Pavlovsky was accompanied by members and officials of the Rada. This visit was part of a two week trip to the U.S. (May 6-17, 1996), hosted by the U.S. Information Agency. The invitation originated from Chairman Jackson's meeting with Mr. Pavlovsky in Kiev in September 1995. At that time, she suggested that he visit the United States to obtain a view of how nuclear issues are approached by various elements of the U.S. Government (legislative, regulatory, and executive).

The delegation was also to meet with the Environmental Protection Agency; the Congressional Research Service; Congressmen John Meyers and Tom Bevill, and the staff of the Senate Energy Committee; DOE Secretary O'Leary and Nuclear Energy Office Director Terry Lash; state regulatory bodies in Minnesota; Westinghouse and ABB; Nuclear Energy Institute and Public Citizen; and to make trips to the Calvert Cliffs and Prairie Island nuclear power plants.

ENCLOSURE O

Office of the Secretary
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 10, 1996

Historian

Samuel Walker, NRC Historian, participated in a plenary session at the annual meeting of the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on May 5, 1996. The topic of the panel was "History of Regulation of Radioactive Materials." The paper Mr. Walker presented was titled "The Atomic Energy Commission, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Regulation of Radioactive Materials."

ENCLOSURE P

Region I
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 10, 1996

Presentation at Local Middle School

As part of the Region I outreach effort, on May 3, 1996, Todd Jackson of the Decommissioning and Laboratory Branch, DNMS, visited the Owen J. Roberts Middle School, Chester County, PA, to talk with two eighth-grade science classes about the NRC and radiation safety. About 60 students participated in demonstrations of radiation detection instruments, discussed safe use of radiation and materials, and learned about relative risks.

Briefing of New York State Officials on IP-3 Performance

Curt Cowgill, Branch Chief for Region I Division of Reactor Projects Branch 2, briefed members of the New York State Governor's Office as well as other New York State officials on May 8, 1996 regarding Indian Point 3. Specifically, Mr. Cowgill discussed the performance of the New York Power Authority, licensee for Indian Point 3, over the last year as detailed in the SALP report issued on April 23, 1996. A similar briefing was conducted last year in response to New York State concerns with lingering performance problems and the extended shutdown at Indian Point 3.

ENCLOSURE P

Region II
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 10, 1996

Duke Power Company - Catawba

On May 7, 1996, representatives from the Region II office were at the Catawba facility to attend a presentation by representatives of the Duke Power Company regarding the performance of their Catawba facility.

Commissioner Visit

On May 8-9, 1996, the Director, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety and the Director, Office of Small Business and Civil Rights accompanied Commissioner Kenneth C. Rogers on his visit to materials licensees in Charleston, West Virginia. Commissioner Rogers visited three NRC licensees in Charleston, West Virginia (West Virginia State College, Charleston Area Medical Center, and St. Francis Hospital). The Commissioner discussed the College Nuclear Medicine Technology training program, toured the facilities and met with the nuclear medicine technologists in the area.

Carolina Power and Light Company - Robinson

On May 9, 1996, representatives from the Carolina Power and Light Company were in the Region II office to attend a Predecisional Enforcement Conference regarding security violations at their Robinson facility.

Federal Executive Board Awards for Southeast Region

On May 9, 1996, the Federal Executive Board Awards for the Southeast Region were presented. The NRC Region II office has two finalists and one winner: Finalist in the Managerial/Executive Category; Finalist in the Secretarial/ Clerical Employee Category; and Winner of the Achievement in EEO Category.

Tennessee Valley Authority - Watts Bar

On May 10, 1996, the Regional Administrator and the Director of NRR met with TVA at a public meeting onsite to discuss Watts Bar power ascension performance and conduct of operations. The unit is at 100 percent power and in the final stages of power ascension testing.

ENCLOSURE P

Region III
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 10, 1996

Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station

At 2:32 a.m. on May 10, 1996, Commonwealth Edison Company declared an Alert under the licensee's emergency plan for the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station. Minor damage occurred to the reactor building and two other buildings on the plant site due to high winds or a possible tornado touching down at 2:20 a.m. There were no injuries to any workers and no indication of radiological releases. The licensee activated its Technical Support Center. NRC's Region III Office and Headquarters were in the Monitoring Phase of Normal Mode between 5:20 and 8:20 a.m. Notifications to the appropriate local, state and federal agencies were completed by 7:45 a.m.

At 10:00 a.m. the licensee determined through tests that approximately one-third of the sirens in the emergency planning zone were disabled due to loss of AC electrical power. Appropriate emergency management agency officials were notified.

Unit 1 has been shut down since February for a refueling outage. Unit 2 was operating at 100 percent when the event occurred. The licensee began the process of shutting down Unit 2 at approximately 3:00 a.m. and achieved cold shutdown about 10:30 p.m.

Advanced Medical Systems, Inc. - Cleveland, Ohio

On May 7, 1996, representatives from Advanced Medical Systems, Inc. and NRC staff from Region III met in the Region III Office, Lisle, Illinois, to discuss issues relating to a proposal by the licensee to secure funds for the packaging and shipment of cobalt-60 sealed and bulk sources (and possibly dry wastes) for disposal at Barnwell during summer or fall of 1996.

Dresden and Quad Cities Nuclear Power Stations

A management meeting was held in the Region III Office on May 7, 1996, with Commonwealth Edison Company's Dresden and Quad Cities plant site staff and NRC Region III's Division of Reactor Safety and Headquarters' Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation staff to discuss structural steel issues in the corner rooms at Dresden and Quad Cities. The major points discussed involved the relationship between test coupon results at Quad Cities and the operability decisions for Dresden Unit 3 and Quad Cities Unit 2.

Clinton Nuclear Power Station

A management meeting was held in the Region III Office on May 6, 1996, with representatives of Illinois Power Company to discuss events associated with a trip which occurred at the Clinton Power Station on April 9, 1996.

ENCLOSURE P

Region IV
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 10, 1996

Meeting Between NRC Senior Management and Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS)

On May 6 and 7, 1996, the Associate Director for Projects, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulations (NRR); the Deputy Regional Administrator, Region IV; and staff members from Region IV and NRR met with CNS management and staff and toured the plant. Topics discussed included progress the licensee has made in its performance improvement program and major programmatic initiatives the licensee has undertaken or is considering such as submittal of an Improved Standard Technical Specifications proposal, performance of its accident analysis using an updated code, and improvements to its Update Safety Analysis Report.

Predecisional Enforcement Conference with Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation

On May 10, 1996, a predecisional enforcement conference, open to public observation, was held in the Region IV Office in Arlington, Texas, with representatives of the Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation. The purpose of the predecisional enforcement conference was to discuss apparent violations related to the frazil ice event that occurred on January 30, 1996.

ENCLOSURE R

Office of Congressional Affairs
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 10, 1996

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, No. 63

OCA ASSIGNMENT	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Gerke	05/14/96 S216 Capitol	2:15	Vote	Nomination of Hubert Bell as NRC IG	Senators Chafee/Baucus Environment & Public Works
Callahan	05/15/96 2318 RHOB	1:30	Markup	DOE Civilian R&D	Reps. Rohrabacher/Roemer Energy & Environment Science

Gerke	05/15/96 2122 RHOB	10:00	TBA	Future of Federal Regulation of Electricity Markets	Reps. Schaefer/Pallone Energy & Power Commerce
Gerke	05/16/96 TBA	10:00	TBA	Executive Branch Compliance with Travel Regulations	Reps. Horn/Maloney Govt Mgmt, Info & Tech Government Reform & Oversight
Gerke	05/22/96 2247 RHOB	1:30	TBA	Electronic Reporting and Streamlining Act	Reps. Horn/Maloney Govt Mgmt, Info & Technology Government Reform & Oversight
Madden	TBA	TBA	Commission	NRC Oversight	Senators Faircloth/Graham Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property and Nuclear Safety Environment and Public Works