

March 26, 1998

For: The Commissioners  
 From: James L. Blaha, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO /s/  
 Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING MARCH 20, 1998

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\*No input this week

James L. Blaha  
 Assistant for Operations, OEDO

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ENCLOSURE A

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending March 20, 1998

**Indian Point Unit 2**

On October 14, 1997, Indian Point Unit 2 shut down to address the problem of repetitive electrical breaker failures. During this outage, other equipment problems have been identified that Consolidated Edison (Con Ed) plans to correct prior to restart. On January 23, 1998, Region I issued a letter to Con Ed requesting a meeting to review and discuss: (1) equipment and human performance issues; (2) the plan to address these issues; and (3) schedules and priorities for planned actions, including those things that Con Edison plans to complete prior to plant startup. The meeting with Con Ed was held March 19, 1998, and restart is currently scheduled for March 26, 1998. Further, the staff was originally scheduled to perform an OSTI inspection prior to restart. However, the staff has agreed with Con Ed's request to perform their own independent OSTI staffed by industry consultants. The inspection plan for the OSTI is scheduled to be submitted for staff review prior to March 28, 1998, and the inspection is scheduled to begin no later than April 6, 1998. Region I will have an oversight team headed by a regional SES member in place to oversee the licensee's OSTI inspection. In addition, the engineering

inspection previously scheduled for March 16, 1998, has been postponed. The engineering inspection resources that had been allocated will be used to supplement resident inspector staff in verifying Con Ed's completion of startup actions.

### **Salem Nuclear Generating Station Units 1 and 2**

Operational Status - On March 14, 1998, Salem Unit 2 restarted from the forced maintenance outage, and as of March 20, 1998, the unit is at 100 percent reactor power. The station remains in an abnormal operating procedure for high river grass loading level that requires increased monitoring of heat exchanger differential pressures.

Salem Unit 1 entered Mode 3 on March 17, 1998, and is at 450 °F and 1750 psig with testing in progress. Once these tests are completed, the unit will be brought to normal operating pressure and temperature for additional testing. The licensee has indications that there is a potential loose part in the reactor vessel head area. Westinghouse will be installing additional instrumentation to evaluate the situation and recommend further actions.

The current schedule projects initial criticality/Mode 2 on April 5, 1998, if no cooldown will be needed to conduct repairs.

Salem Assessment Panel (SAP) - The staff's inspection of all technical issues needed for restart of Unit 1 has been completed. The two programmatic issues regarding motor-operated valve testing and the integrated test plan will be completed shortly. Upon receipt of the licensee's request for authorization to restart the unit, the SAP should be ready to make its restart recommendation to the Regional Administrator and the confirmatory action letter will be modified to acknowledge its closeout. The licensee will be required to provide the results of its self-assessment of unit performance within 30 days after returning to full-power operation. The next SAP meeting will be scheduled after the licensee completes the first hold-point at 25 percent power.

On March 17, 1998, the staff received verbal notification that FEMA is not aware of any offsite emergency preparedness issues that need to be addressed before restart of Salem Unit 1.

Licensing Actions - Currently, there are no licensing amendments that are needed before the scheduled restart of Unit 1.

### **D.C. Cook Units 1 and 2**

On March 13, 1998, the licensee informed the NRC that it had decided to melt all of the ice in the Unit 1 ice condenser, approximately 2.59 million pounds. Following the ice melt, the licensee will inspect the ice condenser components and make any necessary repairs.

The ice condenser system at D.C. Cook consists of 1944 baskets, each 45-foot high, filled with ice containing sodium tetraborate. In case of a loss-of-coolant accident or main steam line break, the ice condenser system will condense steam released into the reactor containment to reduce the pressure and avoid damage to containment structures.

The decision to melt the ice was made by the licensee after foreign material was discovered after melting the ice from 110 ice baskets. The ice was melted as part of the licensee's ongoing inspection and repair of the ice baskets. The foreign material included wood, plastic, wire, tape and other items. The foreign material would have the potential to affect the flow of water in the containment sump when cooling water is recirculated from the sump to the emergency core cooling system following a design basis accident.

The licensee is currently developing its plans and schedule for the ice removal and inspection activities. Once the ice is melted and the ice condenser system is inspected, the licensee will begin replacing the ice. The licensee is evaluating other sources of ice to supplement the ice-making capacity of its current system. The decision to melt the ice affects only Unit 1. The licensee will make a decision on Unit 2 after further review.

The ice replacement and ice condenser inspections and repairs will be monitored by the resident inspectors and the Region III staff.

### **Management Changes**

On March 13, 1998, ComEd announced the replacement of Mr. Edward S. Kraft, Jr., Site Vice President (SVP), and Mr. Frank Famulari, Manager of Quality and Safety Assessment (Q&SA), at Quad Cities Station. Mr. David A. Sager, Vice President Generation Support, was appointed as the new SVP. Before joining ComEd, Mr. Sager spent 20 years at Florida Power & Light, including the last 6 years as SVP at St. Lucie. Mr. Jerry Walker was appointed as the new Manager of Q&SA. After 8 years in various capacities including Manager of Operations Overview at Comanche Peak, Mr. Walker joined ComEd in 1997 as Project Manager of Corporate Assessment. These management changes were effective immediately.

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ENCLOSURE B

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 20, 1998

### **Department of Energy Briefing on Mixed-Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility Postponed**

The Department of Energy (DOE **EXIT**) has postponed the Commission briefing previously scheduled for March 23, 1998, on the subject of DOE plans for a mixed-oxide (MOX) fuel fabrication facility that would be built at a DOE site, but operated by a contractor. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has been working with DOE, under a reimbursable agreement, to identify and analyze legislative issues that might have to be addressed in order for

NRC to undertake licensing a DOE-owned MOX facility. The briefing has been rescheduled for April 3, 1998.

### **Revised Schedule for Licensing of Final Sites Under the Title I Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action Program**

On March 11, 1998, the Department of Energy (DOE), Albuquerque Operations Office, notified the Division of Waste Management staff of revisions to the schedule for completion of surface cleanup and construction, and submittal of documents necessary for licensing the final five sites under Title I of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act (UMTRCA). Under UMTRCA, as amended, DOE is Congressionally mandated to complete the surface cleanup phase of the Title I program by September 30, 1998. Based on DOE's revised schedule, information needed to complete the licensing of three of the five sites will be submitted in sufficient time for staff to complete its licensing review of those sites this fiscal year. DOE will not submit reports documenting completion of construction at the final two sites, Naturita and Maybell, Colorado, until September 1998 and January 1999, respectively. Although the revised schedule will delay completion of the staff's review until Fiscal Year 1999, this is not a problem, because the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is not mandated to complete licensing by the September 1998 date. The staff has notified DOE of its commitment to support the completion of the DOE surface reclamation program, and has taken steps to reprogram resources to fulfill this commitment as no resources previously were budgeted for reviews in this area beyond the mandated date.

### **Siemens Power Company Inspection Results**

On February 23-27, 1998, staff from the Spent Fuel Project Office conducted a safety team inspection at Siemens Power Company (SPC), in Richland, Washington. The team identified several safety concerns in the areas of design control, corrective action program, and nonconformance controls. On February 27, 1998, an exit meeting was held to present the inspection findings identified by the team. To document SPC's proposed corrective actions in response to the inspection findings, a Confirmatory Action Letter was issued to SPC on March 17, 1998. Specifically, SPC agreed to independently verify that each package it ships meets its Certificate of Compliance and that each package shipment will be approved by SPC senior management. SPC also agreed to hire an independent consultant to perform a root cause analysis for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission-identified deficiencies.

### **Issuance of Final Environmental Impact Statement for Construction and Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation to Store the TMI -2 Spent Fuel at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has issued and filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA [EXIT](#)), the "Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Construction and Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) to Store the Three Mile Island Unit 2 Spent Fuel at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory" (NUREG-1626). The NRC adopted the Department of Energy's (DOE's) Programmatic FEIS and Environmental Assessment related to the proposed action. This is the first time the NRC has adopted another agency's FEIS. If the EPA files the NRC's FEIS in the Federal Register, NRC can issue a Record of Decision in 30 days which would permit DOE to start construction of the proposed ISFSI.

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ENCLOSURE D

Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 20, 1998

### **Inspecting for Performance Course at Region II**

The Inspecting for Performance course was presented in Region II, 3/17-19/98. This was the first presentation of the course after a major revision to the course material. This is the third major revision to the course materials since its creation. The revision brings the course and material up-to-date with current NRC guidance. The revision incorporates Manual Chapter 610 and provides a brief overview of the Maintenance Rule. The course provides an understanding of the concepts of performance-oriented inspection; performance-oriented inspection tools and techniques, and insight on and understanding of how to apply these inspection tools and techniques effectively. The course is presented through lectures and discussions as well as workshops which allow the students, individually and in groups to examine, exercise, and critique the use of performance-oriented inspection tools and techniques.

### **Air-Operated Valves**

As part of its ongoing air-operated valve (AOV) study, staff from AEOD, RES and contractor staff from INEEL visited Indian Point Unit 3 on March 10 and 11, 1998. It was learned that Indian Point Unit 3 has almost 600 AOVs, 263 of which are designated as safety-related, and 215 of which are covered by the maintenance rule.

The licensee has concluded that over 60 AOVs are "Risk Significant." The highest risk-important AOVs are the PORVs and valves in the auxiliary feedwater and service water systems.

During the last outage, the licensee's diagnostic testing found problems in 50 percent of the 20 AOVs tested. In one particular case (high-risk significance valve in the AFW system), the licensee used AOV diagnostic testing to find the source of longstanding unreliable operation. Subsequently, the licensee corrected the valve and actuator problems with simple adjustments and maintenance. As a result of these activities, the AOV has been operating satisfactorily and according to the plant AOV engineer, "the valve has never operated as well before." At Indian Point 3, the AOV diagnostics have proven to be a cost effective tool. Because of the long history of problems with the AFW valve, the licensee was considering an expensive hardware modification including a larger valve actuator, which has now been found to be unnecessary.

The Indian Point 3 AOV engineer noted that the plant initiated its AOV program because the plant's AOV failure rates were about double the industry average.

#### **Preliminary Notifications**

1. PNO-I-98-003A, Smith Environmental Technologies Corp, LOST PORTABLE GAUGE (GAUGE HAS BEEN FOUND)
2. PNO-I-98-008, Private Property, TRITIUM SIGN AT A PRIVATE RESIDENCE
3. PNO-II-98-015, Department of the Navy, DISCOVERY OF GENERALLY LICENSED GAUGE AT CAMP PENDLETON, CA
4. PNO-II-98-016, General Electric Company, FIRE IN DUMPSTER
5. PNO-III-98-025, Michigan Electric Co. (Cook 1 2), OUTAGE EXTENDED TO MELT ICE AND INSPECT UNIT 1 ICE CONDENSER
6. PNO-IV-98-012, Washington Public Power Supply System (Washington Nuclear 2), REACTOR SCRAM AND ENGINEERED SAFETY FEATURES (ESF) ACTUATION
7. PNO-IV-98-012A, Washington Public Power Supply System,(Washington, Nuclear 2), UPDATE TO UNPLANNED REACTOR SCRAM AND ENGINEERED SAFETY FEATURE

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ENCLOSURE F

Office of Administration  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 20, 1998

#### **U.S. Enrichment Corporation (USEC)**

DFS staff attended a meeting with NMSS, OGC, and the Department of Treasury on March 16, 1998, to discuss statutory determinations and approvals required for USEC privatization. Other issues discussed included the draft Executive Order establishing an enrichment oversight committee that will monitor and coordinate U.S. Government efforts with respect to the privatized USEC. Within the merger and acquisition portion of the USEC privatization process, foreign ownership, control or influence (FOCI) information is required by NRC under the National Industrial Security Program from prospective bidders. This information was received by NRC on March 17, 1998. DFS staff met with DOE personnel on March 20, 1998, to review these initial FOCI packages.

#### **Policy Integration Committee (PIC) Meeting**

The Acting Director of ADM/DFS attended a U.S. Security Policy Forum PIC meeting on March 18, 1998. The agenda included reports on: the new national security safeguarding directive that is still under review by the National Security Council (NSC) pending resolution of an issue regarding the referral of security infractions/violations to DOJ; plans to re-convene the Joint Security Commission for a brief period to conduct a quick evaluation of the U.S. Security Policy Board and Forum structure and process; and presentations by the National Imagery and Mapping Agency and the National Counterintelligence Center.

#### **Documents Submitted for Publication**

The following document has been forwarded to the Office of the Secretary for signature and transmittal to the Office of the Federal Register for publication:

- A document that will withdraw an advance notice of proposed rulemaking that considered possible amendments to the regulations applicable to specific domestic licenses of broad scope for byproduct material (Part 33).

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ENCLOSURE G

Chief Information Officer  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 20, 1998

#### **Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests Received during the 5-Day Period of March 13, 1998 - March 19, 1998:**

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Legal representation during investigations, NRC policies, procedures, guidance documents. | (FOIA/PA-98-108) |
| Atlas Corp, Moab, UT, License SUA-917, reimbursement claims made and/or paid.             | (FOIA/PA-98-109) |
| Nuclear Waste Policy Act, congressional consideration 1980-1982.                          | (FOIA/PA-98-110) |
| St Lucie, investigations regarding release of confidential source identities.             | (FOIA/PA-98-111) |

MLTS database, active licensees.

(FOIA/PA-98-112)

Circumferential or axial free-spun crack leakage, internal correspondence.

(FOIA/PA-98-113)

Millstone Station, meetings between named individual and NRC officials.

(FOIA/PA-98-114)

Breitling Watch Co., Stamford, CT.

(FOIA/PA-98-115)

ENCLOSURE M

Office of Public Affairs  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 20, 1998

**Media Interest**

A CBS-TV affiliate in Syracuse, NY, is producing a show on emergency preparedness at Nine Mile Point and Fitzpatrick.

Three reporters attended Luis Reyes' press conference at St. Lucie.

The Tri-City Herald published a story on the three-person inspection team sent to WNP-2.

**School Volunteers Program**

Mike Raddatz, SFPO, helped students at Patrick Henry E.S. with science projects

| Press Releases |   |
|----------------|---|
| Headquarters:  |   |
| 98-36          | Note to Editors: ACNW Reports   |
| 98-37          | Note to Editors: ACRS Meeting April 1   |
| 98-38          | NRC Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards to Meet in Rockville, Maryland, April 2-4  |
| 98-39          | Note to Editors: ACRS reports   |
| 98-40          | NRC Issues Letter to Siemens Nuclear Division Confirming Actions on Transportation Packages   |
| Regions:       |   |
| I-98-28        | NRC Proposes \$4,400 Civil Penalty Against Delaware Firm for Violation Involving Transportation of Radioactive Material                 |
| I-98-29        | NRC Staff to Meet With Public to Discuss Schott Glass Technologies License Termination Request  |
| I-98-30        | NRC, GPU Nuclear to Discuss Apparent Violation at Oyster Creek  |
| I-98-31        | NRC Staff to Review Apparent Violation at Seabrook Nuclear Plant  |
| II-98-20       | Meeting Scheduled to Address Pilot Program for NRC Oversight at DOE's Oak Ridge National Laboratory                                     |
| II-98-21       | NRC Staff to Hold March 31 Enforcement Conference With FP&L to Discuss Security Concerns at St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant               |
| III-98-19      | NRC Staff Proposes \$55,000 Fine Against U.S. Enrichment Corporation for Violations of NRC Safety Requirements at Portsmouth, OH, Plant |
| IV-98-10       | NRC Special Inspection Team Sent to WNP-2   |

ENCLOSURE N

Office of International Programs  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 20, 1998

**Visit of Indian Atomic Energy Regulatory Board Chairman P. Rama Rao**

On Monday, March 16, Chairman P. Rama Rao of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) called on Chairman Jackson, Commissioner McGaffigan, and Executive Director for Operations Callan to discuss implementation of the three NRC-AERB nuclear safety projects. In the afternoon, Chairman Rao addressed interested NRC staff on "The Science and Technology Scenario in India."

## IAEA Vacancy Notices

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

|     |  |        |
|-----|--|--------|
| P-3 | Supervisor, Mass Spectrometry<br>Research and Isotopes | 98/002 |
| P-2 | Systems Programmer<br>Nuclear Energy                   | 98/003 |
| P-4 | Supervisor, Chemical Analysis<br>Research and Isotopes | 98/004 |
| P-4 | Nuclear Engineer<br>Nuclear Energy                     | 98/005 |
| P-4 | Senior Training Officer<br>Safeguards                  | 98/006 |
| P-3 | Head, Information Centre Unit<br>Nuclear Energy        | 98/007 |
| P-3 | Safeguards Data Evaluator<br>Safeguards                | 98/008 |
| P-4 | Procurement Officer<br>Administration                  | 98/009 |
| P-4 | Head, Reader Services Unit<br>Nuclear Energy           | 98/010 |
| P-5 | Senior Operational Safety Officer<br>Nuclear Safety    | 98/600 |
| P-3 | Technical Officer<br>Research and Isotopes             | 98/700 |
| P-3 | Analytical Chemist<br>Research and Isotopes            | 98/701 |

ENCLOSURE O

Office of the Secretary  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 20, 1998

|  | Document  | Date    | Subject   |
|--|---|---------|---|
| <b>Decision Documents Released to the Public</b> |   |         |   |
| 1.   | COMSAJ-98-001/ COMEXM-98-001                        | 2/2/98  | Annual Fees for Storage of Spent Fuel   |
|  | <a href="#">SRM on COMSAJ-98--001/COMEXM-98-001</a> | 3/9/98  | (same)  |
|  | Comm. Dicus vote on COMSAJ-98-001/<br>COMEXM-98-001 | 2/18/98 | (same)  |
|  | Comm. Diaz vote on COMSAJ-98-001/<br>COMEXM-98-001  | 2/20/98 | (same)  |
| 2.   | COMSAJ-98-002                                       | 2/6/98  | Comments on the 1998 Strategic Plan and Priority Issues for the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste   |
|  | <a href="#">SRM on 98-002</a>                       | 3/11/98 | (same)  |
|  | Comm. Dicus vote on 98-002                          | 2/18/98 | (same)  |
|  | Comm. Diaz vote on 98-002                           | 2/23/98 | (same)  |
|  | Comm. McGaffigan vote on 98-002                     | 2/27/98 | (same)  |
| 3.   | <a href="#">SECY-98-023</a>                         | 2/13/98 | Proposed "Subsequent Arrangement" to Authorize Argentina to Recovery and Use for Medical Isotope Production, two Kilograms of U.S.-Supplied, Unirradiated High Enriched Uranium (HEU) |
|  | Comm. Voting Record on 98-023                       | 3/11/98 | (same)  |

|  |               |         |  |
|--|---------------|---------|--|
|  | SRM on 98-023 | 3/11/98 | (same)   |
| <b>Information Papers Released to the Public</b> |               |         |  |
| 1.   | SECY-98-037   | 3/4/98  | Core Capabilities (COMSECY-96-027)   |
| 2.   | SECY-98-043   | 3/6/98  | Annual Status Report on the Administration of NRC's Requalification Program and the Initial Operator Licensing Examinations (WITS 8800098) |
| 3.   | SECY-98-047   | 3/12/98 | Weekly Information Report - Week Ending March 6, 1998  |
| <b>Memoranda Released to the Public</b>          |               |         |  |
| 1.   | M980219A      | 3/18/98 | Staff Requirements: Meeting with Northeast Nuclear on Millstone, 9:30 A.M. Thursday, February 19, 1998                                     |

#### Commission Correspondence Released to the Public

1. Letter to Senator Tom Harkin, dated March 9, 1998, concerns the availability of potassium iodide for use by the general public in the event of an emergency at a nuclear power plant (incoming of February 13, 1998, also released).
2. Letter to David M. Abshire, Center for Strategic & International Studies, dated March 10, 1998, concerns an invitation to participate in a CSIS project on nuclear regulatory reinvention (incoming of February 10, 1998, also released).
3. Letter to David M. Abshire, Center for Strategic & International Studies, dated March 10, 1998, provides a draft paper on "Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Regulation."

#### Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Subcommittee Meeting on Planning and Procedures; Notice of Meeting on April 1, 1998.
2. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Meeting Notice for April 2-4, 1998.
3. Power Inspection, Inc.; Docket No. 30-20644-CivP; Establishment of Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (Bloch/Cole/Shon).
4. 10 CFR Part 33; Specific Domestic Licenses of Broad Scope for Byproduct Material; Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking: Withdrawal.

ENCLOSURE P

Region I  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 20, 1998

#### Haddam Neck Decommissioning Meeting

A meeting to discuss the status of the decommissioning of the Haddam Neck plant was held in Haddam, CT, on March 11, 1998. NRC staff from Region I, the senior resident inspector, and the NRR project manager supported the meeting. Mr. Don Davis, President and CEO of Connecticut Yankee, chaired the meeting for the licensee, supported by Mr. Russell Mellor, Vice President for Operations and Decommissioning. Topics discussed included the decontamination of the reactor system, the design of the spent fuel island, and the completion of the licensee's Radiological Performance Improvement Program. The meeting was open to the public for observation, and provided NRC an opportunity to discuss the licensee's plans and status of several key decommissioning issues.

#### Testimony Before The Maine Joint Legislative Committee on Utilities And Energy

On March 12, 1998, Ronald Bellamy, Chief, Decommissioning and Laboratory Branch, and NRR staff (Michael Webb, Project Manager, and Richard Dudley, Sr Project Manager), presented testimony to the Maine Joint Legislative Committee on Utilities and Energy. The 12-member committee is jointly chaired by Senator Richard J. Carey, and Representative Kyle W. Jones. The committee was interested in the NRC plans for overseeing the decommissioning of the Maine Yankee plant, including site characterization, environmental sampling, and radiological analysis protocol. The Committee is charged with preparing legislation that specifies the level of oversight the State of Maine will provide during the decommissioning, and desired NRC input before finalizing their legislation.

#### Heritage Minerals, Inc.

In response to a letter from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on March 10, 1998 Decommissioning and Laboratory Branch staff met with DEP management representatives in Trenton, NJ to discuss the status of the Heritage Minerals, Inc. site. Heritage Minerals formerly removed rare earths and monazite from mineral sand, generating tailings piles that contained naturally occurring radioactive materials that exceeded

current NRC release criteria for unrestricted use. The site is on the NRC SDMP list. Topics covered during the meeting included plans for the NRC license renewal, decommissioning and decontamination plans for NRC-licensed and State-licensed areas, and continued State concerns regarding jurisdictional issues.

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ENCLOSURE P

Region II  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 20, 1998

**Quarterly Press Conference**

On March 17, 1998, the Regional Administrator held a Quarterly Press Conference at the St. Lucie facility in Jensen Beach, Florida to brief news media and interested public representatives.

**South Carolina Electric and Gas Company**

Representatives from South Carolina Electric and Gas Company were in Regional Office on March 17 to attend a management meeting to discuss the results of recent refueling outage and operations improvement initiatives at the V. C. Summer Nuclear Station.

**Full Scale Emergency Exercise - St. Lucie**

The Regional Administrator and other Region II managers and staff participated with the licensee and state and local agencies in an emergency preparedness exercise on March 18. The licensee's response was observed by an NRC team and FEMA.

**Navy Radiation Safety Committee**

The Regional Administrator, accompanied by a Radiation Specialist, attended the Navy Radiation Safety Committee Meeting in Crystal City, Virginia on March 19.

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ENCLOSURE P

Region III  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 20, 1998

**Dresden Predecisional Enforcement Conference**

On March 18, 1998, the regional staff met March 18 representatives of Commonwealth Edison Company for a predecisional enforcement conference on apparent procedural violations at the Dresden Nuclear Power Station. The discussion focused on Commonwealth Edison's apparent failure to revise containment venting procedures promptly when notified, both by the utility's own staff at its LaSalle station and by NRC inspectors, about safety concerns regarding these procedures.

Commonwealth Edison vented the Dresden Unit 3 reactor containment in March of last year while the plant was operating, thus placing the plant in a condition which had not been reviewed for potential safety consequences if certain types of accidents occurred.

**Meeting to Review Status of Clinton Nuclear Power Plant**

On March 17, 1998, the staff met with Illinois Power Company officials to review the status of activities and the performance improvement program at the Clinton Nuclear Power Plant.

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ENCLOSURE P

Region IV  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 20, 1998

**Washington Public Power Supply System - Washington Nuclear 2**

On March 12, 1998, RIV dispatched a special inspection team to assess an unplanned reactor scram with complications, which occurred on March 11, 1998, at WNP-2. The three person team was chartered to determine the initial cause of the reactor scram, review the complications during the event, including both hardware and human performance issues, and assess the licensee's analysis and corrective actions. The team completed its onsite inspection activities on March 17, 1998, and will formally exit with the licensee after a regional review of the findings. The licensee restarted the plant on March 19, 1998.

Office of Congressional Affairs  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending March 20, 1998

**CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, No. 9**

| OCA CONTACT | DATE & PLACE          | TIME  | WITNESS | SUBJECT                          | COMMITTEE  |
|-------------|-----------------------|-------|---------|----------------------------------|--|
| Combs       | 03/24<br>406 DSOB     | 11:00 | Markup  | S. 8, Superfund Reauthorization  | Senators Chafee/Baucus<br>Environment and Public Works                 |
| Madden      | 03/25<br>2322 RHOB    | 2:30  | NRC     | FY99 NRC Authorization           | Reps. Schaefer/Hall<br>Energy and Power<br>Commerce                    |
| Madden      | 03/26<br>116 DSOB     | 9:30  | DOE     | Environmental Management Program | Senators Domenici/Reid<br>Energy & Water Development<br>Appropriations |
| Combs       | 03/26/98<br>2322 RHOB | 11:00 | TBA     | H.R. 3000, Superfund Amendments  | Reps. Oxley/Manton<br>Finance & Hazardous Materials<br>Commerce        |
| Gerke       | 04/28<br>SR-253       | 9:30  | TBA     | Year 2000 Computer Problem       | Sen. McCain/Hollings<br>Commerce, Science & Transportation             |