

April 14, 1999

For: The Commissioners  
 From: James L. Blaha, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO /s/  
 Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING APRIL 9, 1999

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James L. Blaha  
 Assistant for Operations, OEDO

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ENCLOSURE A

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending April 9, 1999

**South Texas Project (S) and Staff Continue Discussion on Special Treatment Requirements and Risk-informed Graded Quality Assurance (GQA) Program Implementation**

On April 6, 1999, the staff had a conference call with STP. The call was the latest in a series of discussions between STP and the staff regarding possible solutions to difficulties encountered by STP in implementing GQA because of special treatment requirements in regulations other than in [10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B](#). By letter dated March 1, 1999, STP submitted a draft, "Request for Exemption from Special Treatment Requirements for Components that are Low Safety Significance or Non-Risk Significant." During a March 15, 1999, meeting at the NRC, STP discussed structures, systems, and components (SSCs) currently classified as safety-related but which STP's detailed functional analyses performed in support of their GQA program showed as having no significance to safety. The staff questioned why STP could not re-classify many of these SSCs as non-safety-related within the current regulatory framework. During the April 6, 1999, call, STP discussed a process which would enable them to reclassify many of these SSCs as non-safety-related

without an exemption request. STP will provide the staff a letter discussing their process and the staff agreed to seek management and OGC input on the appropriateness of the proposed process.

### **Oconee Nuclear Station Units 1, 2, and 3**

Duke Energy Corporation has informed the staff that the Improved Technical Specifications (ITS) have been implemented at Oconee. This represents a major effort by the licensee and the NRC staff because the ITS replaced a set of technical specifications that had been in effect since the units were licensed in 1973. In addition, the electrical section was significantly revised based on submittals and supplements that started in 1993 and a major evaluation of the emergency electrical distribution system (with comprehensive reports prepared by the Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data and NRR) that started in 1995.

### **Connecticut Yankee**

On April 5, 1999, Connecticut Yankee (CY) announced its selection of Bechtel Power Corporation (Bechtel) as a Decommissioning Operations Contractor (DOC) to decommission the Connecticut Yankee Nuclear Plant and return the site to a green field condition.

Bechtel will provide its services on a fixed price, turnkey basis, and will assume the financial and scheduling risks of the decommissioning project. The contract provides incentives for good performance and adherence to health and safety standards.

Bechtel will also implement a dry storage option at CY, and prepare a plan for repowering the site with a gas-fired electric generation plant.

Bechtel will begin mobilization of its personnel the week of April 12, 1999. CY personnel displaced due to the use of a DOC will be considered for positions elsewhere at CY and at Bechtel. Transition of decommissioning and site activities to Bechtel is expected to be complete by October, 1999.

### **Yankee Rowe**

The Citizens Awareness Network and the New England Coalition on Nuclear Pollution, both located near Yankee Rowe, have joined together in challenging the licensee's proposed License Termination Plan (LTP) and have been granted a hearing on their concerns. The Franklin Regional Council of Governments has been admitted as an interested governmental entity. The ASLB in a Prehearing Conference Order dated March 17, 1999, LPB-99-14, admitted four contentions, in abridged form, below:

1. Adequacy of determination of background radiation.
2. Adequacy of determination of subsurface soil contamination.
3. Adequacy of detection of alpha emitters in Final Site Survey Plan.
4. Adequacy of applicable scenarios for calculation of final release doses.

The Board has issued a Memorandum and Order, ASLBP No. 99-754-01-LA-R, dated April 1, 1999, scheduling dates for discovery, pre-filed testimony and for the hearing, which is to start on September 27, 1999. The licensee has filed a Notice of Appeal dated April 1, 1999, challenging the four contentions admitted by the Board in their March 17, 1999, Order. The Board has ordered the staff to respond to the Appeal by April 16, 1999.

As required by [10 CFR 50.82](#), the staff is issuing its approval of the LTP as a license amendment which is now in concurrence. Since the LTP issues are involved in a hearing, the staff cannot issue this approval without prior notification of the Commission. A memo from the staff to the Commission providing this notification is also in concurrence. If the Commission has no objection to issuance of this license amendment, the staff plans to issue it before the end of July 1999. An Environmental Assessment of the LTP will be published in the Federal Register on April 12, 1999.

### **Meeting on Millstone Emergency Planning Zone**

On April 5, 1999, Thomas Essig, Chief, EP & HP Section, IOLB/DIPM, and Falk Kantor of the EP & HP Section, along with Robert Bores, NRC Region I State Liaison Officer, participated in a meeting on the Millstone plume exposure pathway Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) in Hartford, CT, at the State Emergency Operations Center. Participants in the meeting included representatives of the Connecticut Office of Emergency Management and Department of Environmental Protection, the New York State Emergency Management Office, and FEMA Regions I and II. Representatives of the licensee's emergency preparedness group also attended. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss (1) the arrangements between the States of Connecticut and New York for protective actions for the New York areas within the 10-mile EPZ, (2) the decision-making process and communication links for expanding response efforts beyond the EPZ in the event that ever became necessary, (3) the emergency planning efforts of the State of New York and the licensee currently taking place on eastern Long Island, and (4) the existing State and local emergency response capabilities for severe weather and other non-nuclear emergencies on eastern Long Island. In addition, the status and implications of the 50-mile EPZ bills recently introduced into Congress and the New York legislature as well as the Suffolk County resolution were discussed. The staff reiterated that NRC and FEMA were not proposing any changes to the 10-mile plume and 50-mile ingestion pathway EPZ planning requirements. As a result of the meeting, it was concluded that there is an increased level of coordination and cooperation among the States of Connecticut and New York, the licensee, and the local governments on Long Island for protective actions for the public in the event of an accident at Millstone.

### **NRC Meeting with NEI Regarding Proposed 10 CFR 50.65(a)(4) Rulemaking Activities**

On April 6, 1999, Mr. Ted Quay and Mr. Rich Correia from the Quality Assurance, Vendor Inspection, Maintenance and Allegations Branch (IQMB), along with other staff members, conducted a public meeting with NEI and industry representatives to discuss issues related to [10 CFR 50.65\(a\)\(4\)](#) rule making activities. Discussions at this meeting continued the dialogue and interchange between NRC and NEI from similar meetings held previously (May 21, 1998, and July 28, 1998), to discuss guidance regarding the conduct of assessments prior to performing maintenance.

Mr. See-Meng Wong, SPSB, presented the overview of the draft regulatory guide, DG-1082, "Assessing and Managing Risk of Maintenance Activities at Nuclear Power Plants." Representatives of NEI expressed concern about the scope of the plant structures, systems and components (SSCs) covered by the rule and methods to evaluate licensees' implementation of the rule change. NEI expressed its continuing interest in risk informing the Maintenance Rule and were continuing their work on a revision to NUMARC 93-01 [☐](#), "Industry Guideline for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants." However, NUMARC 93-01 would be revised using an NEI version of the rule.

Mr. Correia provided the audience with copies of the draft regulatory guide DG-1082. He advised those assembled that the draft regulatory guide and the summary of the meeting would be posted on the Maintenance Rule Web Site as soon as possible. NEI stated that they wanted to have another Maintenance Rule workshop later in the year and invited the NRC staff to participate. NEI would advise the NRC of the date when finalized.

The meeting discussions were open and beneficial in ensuring the open communication with stakeholders.

### **AP600 Design Certification**

The proposed design certification rule for the AP600 standard plant was submitted to the Commission for its review on March 31, 1999 (SECY-99-101). This action was completed two months ahead of the projected schedule (CTM). The applicant for certification of the AP600 design, formerly Westinghouse Electric Corporation, was sold by CBS to British Nuclear Fuels, PLC (BNFL) and Morrison Knudsen Corporation on March 22, 1999. The assets and operations of the commercial nuclear business were transferred on the closing date to Westinghouse Electric Company LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, which is responsible for the overall design and certification of AP600 and was formed as an indirect subsidiary by BNFL through its U.S. subsidiaries.

### **Non-Power Reactor Staff Counterpart Meeting**

The NRR staff and management for non-power reactors (NPRs) participated in their annual counterpart meeting on April 5 and 6. The meeting covered a variety of topic areas, including:

- potential changes in the NPR regulatory program to further implement the NRCs cornerstones;
- potential topics for NRC's seminar to the Organization of Test, Research and Training Reactors in September at the National Institute of Standards and Technology;
- potential changes in the NPR operator licensing, inspection, enforcement, and project management programs; and
- roles and responsibilities within the new NRR organization.

Plans to address these and other issue are being refined by the NPR staff.

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ENCLOSURE B

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 9, 1999

### **Meeting with the Department of Energy/Savannah River Site Concerning Waste Classification Methodology for Tank Closure**

On April 1, 1999, staff from the Division of Waste Management and the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses held a public meeting with staff from the Department of Energy-Savannah River site (DOE-SR) and its contractors to discuss topics pertaining to DOE's methodology for incidental waste classification related to closure of high-level waste (HLW) tanks at the site. The DOE methodology, which is undergoing NRC review, will be used by DOE-SR in determining whether residual waste in HLW tanks following bulk waste removal can be considered incidental waste. The meeting helped to clarify DOE's response to an earlier NRC request for additional information. Key topics discussed in the meeting related to DOE-SR's performance assessment analyses, radionuclide detection systems, water table elevations, and intruder scenarios. DOE agreed to provide a written submission, containing additional information regarding its methodology, in follow-up to the meeting by April 22, 1999.

### **Department of Energy-Nuclear Regulatory Commission Technical Exchange on Pre-closure Design Issues**

On March 31, 1999, staff from the Division of Waste Management (DWM) and the Department of Energy (DOE [EXIT](#)) held a technical exchange meeting which focused on the following items: (1) Event Categorization; (2) Quality Assurance (QA) Classification and Grading; (3) Level of Detail in the License Application Design (LAD); and (4) Integrated Safety Assessment (ISA). DWM and DOE made an effort to arrive at a common understanding on the level of detail to be presented by DOE in its LAD; the approach used by DOE to classify structures, systems, and components (SSC) important to safety; and the graded QA approach, whereby it is expected that QA applied to an SSC is commensurate with its importance.

DOE presented its approach to showing compliance with the proposed 10 CFR Part 63 pre-closure performance objective, namely 25 mrem/yr dose to real people (for Category-1 events), and 5 rem/event to a hypothetical individual at the site boundary (for the Category-2 events). With respect to QA, DOE proposes to adopt three quality levels based on risk criteria and existing staff guidance for other nuclear facilities. Simply stated, the three levels respectively correspond to: failures of SSCs that directly affect public health and safety (Q-1); failures of SSCs that indirectly affect public health and

safety (Q-2); and SSCs needed to limit occupational exposures (Q-3). DOE also summarized a white paper still in preparation that will outline the criteria for developing the contents of the LAD. Finally, DOE presented a summary of how the ISA will be used in the LAD to demonstrate compliance with pre-closure performance objectives.

DWM staff raised questions related to deterministic versus probabilistic methods of dose calculations for the Category-1 design basis events, and questions pertaining to items important to site characterization and retrievability. Staff explained the distinction between "event" and "event sequences" as applied to dose calculations for Category-2 events. Staff also clarified the intent of the proposed and alternative criteria in section 63.44 which had been misunderstood by DOE. Staff offered to make the intent clearer in the final version of the rule while addressing the public comments. DOE committed to provide the final version of its white paper on the level of detail of LAD and procedures for classification of events and graded QA.

#### **Meeting with BWX Technologies Regarding Shipment of Low Enriched Uranium Compounds**

On April 7, 1999, staff from the Spent Fuel Project Office met with BWX Technologies, Inc. (BWX) regarding the shipment of low enriched uranium compounds. The uranium compounds are currently stored in approximately 750 shipping containers. The container design (Model BU-7) was previously certified by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, however, the containers have experienced significant corrosion. BWX Technologies plans to request an exemption to authorize a one time shipment of these containers. Prior to shipment, BWX stated that the containers will be refurbished, and the containment vessel closure bolts will be replaced. BWX also plans to perform physical testing of the refurbished containers to demonstrate that they meet the performance standards in 10 CFR Part 71.

#### **Meeting with Arizona Public Service Company on Dry Cask Storage Plans**

On April 7, 1999, staff from the Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) met with the Arizona Public Service (APS) Company regarding plans to develop an independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) at the Palo Verde reactor site. APS intends to utilize NAC International's (formerly called the Nuclear Assurance Corporation) Universal Multi-purpose System, a dual-purpose storage and transport cask design currently under review in SFPO. APS has selected and cleared an ISFSI site, and intends to commence construction of the storage pads in mid-2001. APS will lose full core off-load capability in the Spring of 2003, and thus intends to commence storage operations in late 2002. APS intends to load 56 casks over the first six years of ISFSI operation.

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ENCLOSURE C

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 9, 1999

#### **Presentation on Mixed-Oxide (MOX) Fuel by Nuclear Control Institute**

Edwin Lyman of the Nuclear Control Institute presented his paper, "Public Health Consequences of Substituting Mixed-Oxide for Uranium Fuel in Light-Water Reactors," to the NRC staff in a public meeting on April 7, 1999. Plutonium-bearing MOX fuel is not normally used in commercial reactors in the United States, but it is being considered as one option for the disposal of excess weapons material. The main body of work that was reported addressed the higher content of transuranic elements in MOX fuel and the health consequences these might have in the event of beyond-design-basis severe accidents. The study indicated there might be increases of about 32% in latent cancer fatalities with MOX cores in comparison with uranium-based cores. The NRC staff has not performed similar calculations and therefore was not in a position to comment on these results. However, statements about greater vulnerability to reactivity insertions and pressurized thermal shock of the reactor vessel were questioned by the staff. The staff is preparing a memorandum to inform the Commissioners of technical issues associated with using MOX fuel in commercial power reactors.

#### **Workshop on Conceptual Models of Flow and Transport in the Fractured Vadose Zone**

On March 18-19, the Board on Earth Sciences and Resources (BESR) of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) convened a workshop of invited scientists to discuss conceptual models of flow and transport in the fractured vadose zone. The NAS workshop, held in Irvine, California, was sponsored by RES and DOE's Yucca Mountain Project Office. The NAS/BESR panel, which organized and selected the invited speakers from DOE national laboratories, international research organizations, Federal agencies, and academia, was formed to assess the process through which conceptual models are developed, tested, refined, and reviewed. The workshop considered information from a wide range of expertise in hydrogeology, geochemistry, soil science, and related fields. The information and workshop discussions will form the technical basis for an NAS panel report. The 45 invited workshop attendees from the U.S., Canada, Israel, and Sweden are currently conducting research in unsaturated flow and transport through fractured geologic material. Several issues were raised during the workshop, including the need to understand and predict the rapid preferential flow that has been discovered recently in a number of field studies and experiments, as well as the need to evaluate and resolve hypotheses explaining processes governing flow in these systems.

On March 26th, the NAS panel chair reported to the BESR in Washington, DC, on the workshop and provided a draft outline of their report. The NAS panel is presently compiling a series of individually authored papers presented at the workshop and preparing a consensus panel report. The NAS panel report will provide information on contemporary approaches and techniques for conceptual model building, guidance to regulatory agencies on the review of conceptual models for site licensing, and knowledge and experiences from the related earth science fields. The report will also identify future research opportunities and needs for developing and testing conceptual models.

Specific information on the NAS workshop background, speakers, presentations and attendees can be obtained on the NAS/BESR homepage at

Incident Response Operations  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 9, 1999

**National Radiological Emergency Preparedness Conference**

Staff members from IRO were presenters at the National Radiological Emergency Preparedness Conference in Baton Rouge, LA on March 28-31, 1999. Over 300 emergency response and preparedness professionals were in attendance including representatives from industry, international, State, local, and Federal organizations. The IRO staff made presentations on new initiatives in IRO and reorganizations within the NRC, the agency, and KI Core Group's progress on the question of use of Potassium Iodine for the general public, and the results from the Salem - 98 post-plume phase exercise conducted with the States of NJ and DE and representatives of many Federal agencies including the NRC. The final results were documented in NUREG-1670, Salem 98: A Post-Plume Phase, Federal Participation Exercise.

An IRO staff member conducted State Outreach training in Illinois along with representatives from Region III on April 6, 1999, in Springfield. Attendees included representatives from the Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety, Emergency Management, FEMA, FBI, and others. Topics included the objectives of the Outreach program, NRC, and Federal response capabilities, the Price-Anderson/Stafford Act resources. The presentation was well received. The session was followed by a discussion with state officials on the upcoming Dresden Exercise and expected interactions between state, licensee, and NRC players.

This was followed by a similar sessions conducted in Burlington, CT., on April 7, 1999. Participants included representatives from the States of VT and NH and local organizations. FEMA Region I, DOE/NV and others. This training was provided in anticipation of NRC and other Federal Play in the upcoming Vermont Yankee ingestion exercise which will be conducted April 27-29 in Waterbury, VT. The discussions and presentation were successful with all State supplied questions answered and issues resolved. These sessions are part of the IRO State Outreach program designed to foster relationships with States, licensees, and regional Federal organizations in incident response.

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATIONS:

1. PNO-I-99-016, Northeast Utilities, PLANT COOLDOWN TO REPAIR SHUTDOWN COOLING SYSTEM ISOLATION VALVE
2. PNO-I-99-016, Medi-Physics, Inc., CONTAMINATED PACKAGE
3. PN-III-99-017, V.A. Edward Hines, Jr. Hospital, MEDICAL MISADMINISTRATION

Office of Administration  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 9, 1999

**OWFN Front Entrance Extension Project**

The OWFN Front entrance extension project is continuing towards an April 19,1999 completion. All plumbing work has been completed and tested and the contractor has begun the finish assembly and of the new doors and glass.

Frequency of Reviews and Audits for Emergency Preparedness Programs, Safeguards Contingency Plans, and Security Programs for Nuclear Power Reactors (Parts 50 and 73)

A final rule that amends NRC's regulations to allow licensees the option to change the frequency of licensees' independent reviews and audits of their emergency preparedness programs, safeguards contingency plans, and security programs was published in the Federal Register on March 29, 1999 (64 FR 14814). The final rule allows nuclear power reactor licensees to elect to conduct program reviews and audits either at intervals not to exceed 12 months or as necessary in response to program performance indicators and as soon as possible after a change in personnel, procedures, equipment, or facilities that could potentially affect safety. The final rule requires that in no case shall reviews be conducted less frequently than every 24 months. The final rule becomes effective April 28, 1999.

**Conformance to National Policies for Access to and Protection of Classified Information (Parts 2, 10, 11, 25 and 95)**

A final rule that amends the Commission's regulations to conform with the requirements for the protection of and access to classified information to new national security policy documents was published in the Federal Register on April 1, 1999 (64 FR 15636). The final rule becomes effective May 3, 1999.

Chief Information Officer  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending April 9, 1999

**Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the 5-Day Period of April 2, 1999 through April 8, 1999:**

Technical specification time limits, 7/24/87 C. E. Rossi memo re extension of specific technical specifications.	(FOIA/PA 99-174)
Self, welding certification.	(FOIA/PA 99-175)
Project Managers Handbook.	(FOIA/PA 99-176)
Nuclear Materials & Equipment Corp. (NUMEC), Leechburg, PA, all Health & Safety Laboratory (HASL) Technical Memoranda, AEC, New York Operations Office.	(FOIA/PA 99-177)
Inspection results 1995 to present at PECO Energy or AmerGen Energy Corp owned facilities & TMI-2.	(FOIA/PA 99-178)
LCO's for ECCS Components, recommend interim revisions, 12/1/75 memo, R.L. Baer to V.Stello.	(FOIA/PA 99-179)
Safety evaluations related to licensee amendments, searchable via NRC's internal NRR web site.	(FOIA/PA 99-180)

ENCLOSURE I

Office of Human Resources  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending April 9, 1999

**Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Information Sessions Held**

During the week of April 5-9, 1999, Office of Human Resources staff and representatives of Green Spring Health Services presented a series of information sessions for approximately 85 employees and supervisors to advise them of the counseling services available to them and immediate family members through the agency's EAP. By calling a toll free number, an employee can speak to a counselor regarding personal, family and job issues; financial and legal problems; alcohol and drug addiction; and child and elder care concerns. Services are confidential and available on a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week basis. There is no charge to the employee for these services.

**Human Resources Development (HRD) Staff Member Attends Eastern Management Development Center (EMDC) Workshop**

On April 5-6, 1999, Lillian van Santen, of the HRD staff, attended a National Sales Partnership Workshop at the Office of Personnel Management's EMDC in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. The purpose of the conference was to elicit comments from the EMDC attendees in an effort to improve the present EMDC program and meet the changing needs of agencies. These improvements will be reflected in the course offerings of the FY2000 leadership development program.

<b>Arrivals</b>		
COADY, James	CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR	OIG
COLPO, Sarah	GENERAL ENGINEER	NMSS
PICCIRILLO, Darren	CHEMICAL ENGINEER	NMSS
SMITH, April	REACTOR ENGINEER	RI
TIMM, David	CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR	OIG
<b>Departures</b>		
HUBER, Marc	SR RESIDENT INSPECTOR	RIII
POLICH, Timothy	PROJECT MANAGER	NRR
SUMMERS, Roxanne	SR POLICY ANALYST	ACRS/ACNW

ENCLOSURE M

Office of Public Affairs  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending April 9, 1999

**Media Interest**

There was press interest in the meeting on Calvert Cliff's draft environmental impact statement at Solomon's Island, Maryland.

Ashok Thadani, RES, was interviewed by Cox Broadcasting at a Nuclear Control Institute meeting to hear their views on DOE's study regarding MOX fuel.

Wire service reporters were interested in the electrical relay failure at Seabrook.

Reporters called Region I and headquarters about the Millstone Independent Review Team report.

<b>Press Releases</b>	
<b>Headquarters:</b>	
99-66	Note to Editors: ACRS Meetings
99-67	NRC to Hold Public Meeting in Washington, Pennsylvania on Molycorp Proposal
99-68	NRC Approves B&W's Request to Dismantle Building at Pennsylvania Site
99-69	NRC Deletes Reporting Requirement on Loading of Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage Installations
99-70	NRC Issues Cleanup Criteria for Uranium Mills
99-71	NRC Plans Public Meeting on Performance-Based Approaches to Regulation
99-72	Note to Editors: ACRS Meeting
<b>Regions:</b>	
I-99-25	NRC Announces Enforcement Actions for Discrimination at Millstone Based on Independent Review
I-99-26	NRC Issues Notice of Violation to Haddam Neck Plant Operator
I-99-27	NRC Chairman Shirley Ann Jackson to Hold News Briefing Following Visit to Salem Nuclear Generating Station
II-99-23	NRC Finds Performance 'Acceptable' at North Anna in Latest Review
II-99-24	NRC Finds Performance 'Acceptable' at Surry in Latest Review
II-99-25	NRC Finds Performance 'Acceptable' in Latest Review of Catawba
II-99-26	NRC Finds Performance 'Acceptable' at McGuire in Latest Review
II-99-27	NRC Finds Performance Acceptable, Areas Needing Improvement in Latest Review of Oconee
III-99-20	NRC Finds Performance 'Acceptable' at Kewaunee Nuclear Plant in Latest Review
III-99-21	NRC Finds Performance 'Acceptable' at Palisades Nuclear Plant in Latest Review
III-99-22	NRC Finds Performance 'Acceptable' at Fermi Nuclear Plant in Latest Review
III-99-23	NRC Finds "Steady Progress" in Work Leading to Restart at Clinton Nuclear Plant in Latest Review
III-99-24	NRC Finds Performance 'Acceptable' at Point Beach Nuclear Plant in Latest Review
III-99-25	NRC Finds D.C. Cook "Committed to Aggressively Evaluating" its Problems in Latest Review of Nuclear Plant Performance
IV-99-16	NRC Finds Performance 'Acceptable' at Fort Calhoun in Latest Review
IV-99-17	NRC Finds Performance 'Acceptable' at Grand Gulf in Latest Review
IV-99-18	NRC Finds Performance 'Acceptable' at San Onofre in Latest Review
IV-99-19	NRC Finds Performance 'Acceptable' at River Bend in Latest Review

Office of International Programs  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending April 9, 1999

**Development of Y2K Early Warning System (YEWS)**

OIP is developing the international Y2K Early Warning System (YEWS). YEWS will enable countries located in earlier time zones to quickly relay information on Y2K related events to countries in later time zones so nuclear facility operators in those countries can take action, if appropriate, against similar Y2K-related failures. YEWS will reside on the Internet, using redundant servers located in different international time zones. The development of YEWS will be an international collaborative effort using the Internet for rapid input and prototyping.

YEWS will be ready for the NRC's Y2K contingency plan exercise in October, which is being coordinated with the Nuclear Energy Agency and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

**Washington Visit of IAEA Deputy Director General Zygmund Domaratzki**

Mr. Zygmund Domaratzki, Deputy Director General for the Department of Nuclear Safety, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), met with officials at the Departments of State and Energy and Congressional aides. He also met with Commissioners Diaz, McGaffigan and Merrifield, as well as EDO William Travers. Mr. Domaratzki was in Washington to promote the work of the Department of Nuclear Safety and urge continued U.S. support. In meetings, he noted some of his Department's priorities, including work on safety and security of radiation sources, safety of research reactors and revision of the safety standards documents. The timing of the visit was partly intended to coincide with the completion of the State Department reorganization so that Mr. Domaratzki could meet with newly-appointed officials to educate them on the work of his Department.

**Visit of Dr. John Loy, Acting CEO, Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA)**

On Monday, April 5, Dr. John Loy, Acting CEO, Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA), met with Commissioner McGaffigan and staff members of NMSS, NRR and OIP to discuss materials licensing, radiation protection, decommissioning of research reactors, low-level waste repository licensing and international cooperation.

Office of the Secretary  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending April 9, 1999

Documents Released to Public		Date	Subject
<b>Decision Documents</b>			
1.	<a href="#">SECY-99-049</a>	2/12/99	Compatibility of Agreement State Programs that Prohibit the Disposal of Mixed Waste
	<a href="#">SRM on 99-049</a>	4/6/99	(same)
	<a href="#">Commission Voting Record on 99-049</a>	4/6/99	(same)
2.	<a href="#">COMSECY-99-007</a> 	3/12/99	Notice of Intent to Ship Low-Level Decommissioning Waste from the Lake City Army Ammunition Plant to Waste Control Specialists' Facility in Andrews, Texas
	<a href="#">SRM on 99-007</a>	4/6/99	(same)
	Chairman Jackson's comments on 99-007	3/30/99	(same)
	Comm. Dicus' comments on 99-007	3/18/99	(same)
	Comm. Diaz' comments on 99-007	3/17/99	(same)
	Comm. McGaffigan's comments on 99-007	3/17/99	(same)



	Comm. Merrifield's comments on 99-007	3/19/99	(same)
<b>Information Papers</b>			
1.	Report of Review	3/12/99	Millstone Units 1, 2, and 3: Allegations of Discrimination in NRC Office of Investigations Case Nos. 1-96-002, 1-96-007, 1-97-007, and Associated Lessons Learned
2.	<a href="#">SECY-99-089</a>	3/25/99	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending March 19, 1999
3.	<a href="#">SECY-99-091</a>	3/24/99	NRC Participation in OECD Cooperative Project on Reactor Vessel Lower Head Failure
<b>Memoranda</b>			
1.	<a href="#">M990406</a>	4/6/99	Staff Requirements - Affirmation Session, Tuesday, April 6, 1999: 1. SECY-99-095 - Hydro Resources, Inc. (HRI) - ENDAUM's and SRIC's Petition for Interlocutory Review of Presiding Officer's Order Concerning Radioactive Air Emissions (March 18, 1999)(LBP-99-15)
2.	Staff Requirements	4/6/99	In Response to EDO Memorandum dated January 27, 1999 Regarding OIG Inquiry, Case No. 99-01S and Remaining Issues from SECY-98-292
3.	<a href="#">M990317A</a>	4/2/99	Staff Requirements - Meeting with Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste and Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (SECY-99-074)
4.	Staff Requirements	4/6/99	Memorandum in Response to the Millstone Independent Review Team March 12, 1999 Report on Allegations of Discrimination in NRC Office of Investigations Case Nos. 1-96-002, 1-96-007, 1-97-007 and Associated Lessons Learned
5.	Memorandum to Chairman Jackson fm G. Paul Bollworm	3/31/99	Clarification of Enforcement Discussion in March 19, 1999 Millstone Independent Review Team Report

ENCLOSURE P

Region III  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 9, 1999

**Management Meeting with Commonwealth Edison Company - LaSalle**

On April 6, 1999, a management meeting was conducted in Mazon, Illinois, between management representatives from Commonwealth Edison Company and members of the NRC staff. The meeting discussion focused on LaSalle Nuclear Power Station's Unit 1 performance and the status of LaSalle Unit's 2 restart activities. Also discussed was the recent Plant Performance Review of the LaSalle station. NRC Region III Regional Administrator Jim Dyer participated in the meeting.

**American Power Conference**

On April 7, 1999, NRC Region III Regional Administrator Jim Dyer participated in Illinois Institute of Technology's "61<sup>st</sup> Annual American Power Conference" held in Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Dyer discussed "Region III Perspective of the Changing Regulatory Environment". He was a member of a panel that included: Michael Sellman, Senior Vice President & CNO, Wisconsin Electric Power Company; Steve Floyd, Director, Regulatory Reform, Nuclear Energy Institute; and Michael Meisner, President, Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company.

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Office of Congressional Affairs  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending April 9, 1999

**CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, No. 14**

OCA CONTACT	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Keeling	04/12/99	3:00	Elizabeth Moler, Notra	Alleged Chinese Espionage	Senators Warner/Levin

	216 SHOB		Trulock		Armed Services
Portner	04/13/99 138 DSOB	9:30	DOE	FY00 Energy & Water Appropriations: Solar, Renewables, & Nuclear Energy	Senators Domenici/Reid Energy & Water Development Appropriations
Combs	04/13 & 21 1324 LHOB	2:00	George Frampton, CEQ	NEPA Oversight	Reps. Young/Miller Resources
Combs	04/14/99 2123 RHOB	10:00	Markup	H.R. 45, Nuclear Waste Policy Act	Reps. Barton/Hall Energy and Power Commerce
Keeling	04/15/99 2118 RHOB	10:00	Elizabeth Moler, Notra Trulock	Counterintelligence at DOE Labs	Reps. Hunter/Sisisky Military Procurement Armed Services
Keeling	04/16/99 2322 RHOB	9:30	TBA	Security Problems at DOE Labs	Reps. Upton/Klink Oversight & Investigations Commerce
Gerke	04/21/99 342 DSOB	10:00	TBA	S. 746, Regulatory Reform	Senators Thompson/Lieberman Governmental Affairs
Gerke	04/22/99 342 DSOB	10:00	TBA	S. 59, Regulatory Right-to-Know Act	Senators Thompson/Lieberman Governmental Affairs
Gerke	Late April 562 DSOB	TBA	DOD, DOE	Y2K and Nuclear Issues	Senators Bennett/Dodd Special Year 2000 Tech Problem
Combs	TBA 1324 LHOB	TBA	Markup	H.R. 45, Amending Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982	Rep. Young/Miller Resources