

May 13, 1999

For: The Commissioners

From: James L. Blaha,
Assistant for Operations,
Office of the EDO

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING MAY 7, 1999

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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 May 7, 1999

NRC Attendance at Y2K Industry Workshops

EEIB staff attended two separate Y2K workshops that were hosted by the Nuclear Utilities Software Management Group (NUSMG) and EPRI during the week of April 26, 1999. The subjects of the workshops were software quality, electronic media, and the Y2K concern. The EEIB staff presented a paper to both groups which had representatives from NEI and most of the utilities. The subject of both staff presentations was the perspective and status of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Y2K initiatives. There was considerable industry interest in the ongoing staff reviews of Y2K program implementation. Discussions between staff and industry representatives addressed issues such as consistency of approach, contingency planning audits dealing with incomplete aspects of a utility program, and future staff activities for systems that are not Y2K ready on July 1, 1999.

Prairie Island Unit 1

The licensee for Prairie Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1, and the NRC discussed via telephone calls during the week of April 26, 1999, indications of circumferential cracking identified in steam generator tubes repaired using a Combustion Engineering sleeving process. Inservice inspections of all sleeve repairs have identified 13 tubes with indications of tube cracking believed to be caused by the presence of a welded sleeve. The indications are in the hydraulic expansion region near the sleeve/tube weld. Inspection results indicate that most of the cracks are located outside the pressure boundary of the tube (i.e., below the weld). However, some cracks appear to be within the pressure boundary or in the weld zone. The licensee and CE believe that the cracking is the result of a combination of factors unique to the installation process of welded sleeves in the 1997 outage at Prairie Island. A total of 223 sleeves were installed during the 1997 refueling outage. CE will continue to investigate this issue by performing destructive examinations of two defective sleeve repairs that were removed from the Prairie Island steam generators in the current refueling outage.

The cracking identified in the sleeved tubes exhibited a range of lengths. The licensee performed in-situ pressure testing of the most significant indications identified during the inspections. The tubes sustained the full test pressure ($3 \Delta P_{NO}$) without bursting or exhibiting any leakage. The licensee stated that all tubes exhibiting sleeve repair indications will be removed from service.

The cracking reported by the licensee is the first known occurrence of this type of degradation in CE welded sleeve repairs. At present, 11 PWRs are licensed to install these steam generator tube sleeves. The NRC staff and a representative from CE agreed to arrange a meeting after the vendor completes the destructive examinations of the pulled tubes to discuss the root cause for the cracking, the generic implications of the findings at Prairie Island, and changes to the installation process that will minimize the potential for cracking sleeve repair joints.

Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

On April 29, 1999, the staff issued the Order approving the sale and transfer of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station from Boston Edison Company to Entergy Nuclear Generation Company. The Order had 7 conditions which the licensee will need to comply with to complete the sale and transfer. Boston Edison has informed the staff that the sale will not take place until a week after the outage is completed (approximately June 15). Boston Edison has also stated that they have reached tentative agreement on 10 of the 12 issues before the IRS. They state the remaining two issues have limited tax consequences and have asked the IRS for a letter approval of the 10 issues. The sale would be consummated with the approval of the 10 issues. The staff has requested Boston Edison to provide as much lead time before the sale is completed as possible so the staff can prepare the conforming amendments. Boston Edison has also applied for an indirect transfer of the Pilgrim plant as a result of the proposed merger with Commonwealth Energy Systems. The merger would form a new parent company (NSTAR) which BEC Energy and Commonwealth Energy Systems would be subsidiaries. This would only be necessary if the sale is not completed before the merger.

1999 Annual Operator Licensing Examiners Training Conference

During the week of April 20-23, the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation's Division of Inspection Program and Management (DIPM) sponsored the 1999 Annual Operator Licensing Examiners Training Conference at NRC's headquarters, Two White Flint North Auditorium in Rockville, MD. Headquarters senior management keynote speakers included Commissioner Greta Joy Dicus and Bill Travers, Executive Director for Operations.

The topics for this year's sessions included the Initial Examination Process, Lessons Learned from Appeals and Hearings, and 10 CFR PART 55, "The Examination Process and Systems Approach to Training." The conference was well attended by regional operator licensing examiners.

ACRS Review of the Calvert Cliffs Renewal Safety Evaluation

On April 28 and 29, 1999, the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) Plant License Renewal Subcommittee held a meeting to discuss the NRC staff's evaluation of the safety evaluation report (SER) for the Calvert Cliffs license renewal application. Dr. Mario Fontana chaired the meeting, as well as Dr. Mario Bonaca who will assume chairmanship of the subcommittee. Baltimore Gas and Electric presented an overview of the development of their renewal application, and the existing, modified and new procedures and activities relied upon for license renewal. The content of the staff's SER was presented for each chapter, by staff teams from DSSA and DE, and supported by DE management. The team approach worked well for the ACRS presentation because the staff was more readily able to respond to questions from the subcommittee members. At the conclusion of the meeting, Dr. Fontana commended the staff on the presentation, as well as the effort and detail which were evident in the staff's review.

On May 5, 1999, the staff presented a summary of the subcommittee presentation for the ACRS full committee. The ACRS raised a question related to the risk increase due to license renewal, but indicated that issue should be pursued separately. The ACRS is planning on issuing an interim letter related to their review of the Calvert Cliffs renewal application.

ENCLOSURE B

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 7, 1999

Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) Review

The sealed sources and devices program in the Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety (IMNS) was reviewed by a team comprised of representatives from the Agreement States of Georgia, Illinois, and Texas, and a staff member from the Office of State Programs. The IMPEP review was

conducted on April 26-30, 1999. The representative from Texas led the team, which used a set of common and non-common performance indicators to evaluate the adequacy of IMNS's programs for: (1) approvals of sealed sources and devices; (2) reviewing incidents involving radioactive materials; and (3) training and qualification of the IMNS staff. The team identified the strengths as well as areas for improvements in these programs. A draft report will be prepared as a first step and a Management Review Board meeting will be held later to review the preliminary findings, and make final determinations on the adequacy of the IMNS programs.

Confirmatory Action Letter Closed for Palisades Nuclear Plant

On April 28, 1999, the Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) closed a Confirmatory Action Letter (CAL) that had been issued to Consumers Energy, Palisades Nuclear Plant (Palisades), on May 16, 1997, and supplemented on September 5, 1997. The CAL, as supplemented, documented Consumers Energy commitments made to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission regarding actions to be taken concerning weld issues prior to loading any additional VSC-24 dry spent fuel storage casks. In closing the CAL, SFPO approved the actions taken at Palisades for future loading of the VSC-24 casks.

Transnuclear West NUHOMS Standardized Design Approved for Rulemaking

On April 29, 1999, the Spent Fuel Project Office completed its review and forwarded, for proposed rulemaking, the Transnuclear West fuel qualification amendment to Certificate of Compliance 1004 for the standardized NUHOMS storage system. This amendment includes additional material that could be stored in the NUHOMS standardized design.

Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Meetings for the Private Fuel Storage, Limited Liability Corporation's Application

On April 28, 1999, staff from the Spent Fuel Project Office were joined by staff from the Department of Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in holding two scoping meetings associated with the development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Private Fuel Storage, Limited Liability Corporation's application for a license to operate an away-from-reactor independent spent fuel storage installation on the reservation of the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians. The meetings were held in Salt Lake City, Utah, and Tooele City, Utah. Tooele City is the county seat of Tooele County, which borders, on all sides, the reservation of the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians. These were the second and third meetings held regarding the scope of this EIS. These meetings were convened to ensure that the scoping requirements of BIA and BLM (both cooperating agencies with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for the development of this EIS) were fulfilled. The Salt Lake City meeting drew media interest from local print and broadcast media. Speakers at the meetings included representatives of the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians, environmental groups, concerned citizens, and Utah State officials.

The meetings focused on the major federal actions which BIA and BLM must undertake. BIA must approve the lease between the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians and the applicant. The lease has been conditionally approved. Final approval is contingent upon completion of NRC licensing actions and the final EIS. BLM must amend the Pony Express resource management plan, which covers the use of federal lands, including the corridor for a new rail line proposed by the applicant. This rail line would connect the existing interstate rail line with the proposed site of the independent spent fuel storage installation. The applicant amended its application to include this rail line subsequent to the first scoping meeting in 1998.

Meeting with Virginia Power

On May 4, 1999, Virginia Power and Spent Fuel Project Office staff met to discuss several licensing issues having to do with the Surry and North Anna Power Stations. Virginia Power discussed the status of their independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) self assessment which is utilizing an integrated review process. They provided an update of the ISFSI operations at Surry and North Anna. Virginia Power concluded the meeting with an overview of their ongoing licensing activities including: quarterly licensing actions, 1999 priorities, applicability of recent changes to security rules, and license renewal.

10 CFR Part 70 Proposed Rule Development

The 10 CFR Part 70 proposed rule package has been developed and was forwarded to the pertinent Nuclear Regulatory Commission offices for concurrence. The staff activities to support submittal of the rulemaking package to the Commission by June 1, 1999, are on schedule.

ENCLOSURE C

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 7, 1999

Public Meeting on Protective Coatings for Nuclear Power Plants

A public meeting was held on April 15, 1999, at NRC headquarters to discuss research activities on protective coatings for nuclear power plant containments that are under way at the Savannah River Technology Center. This research was funded by RES in response to NRR's user need request. This was the second open meeting to inform the public and industry about our program activities on protective coatings and to obtain their views.

A Phenomena Identification & Ranking Table (PIRT) panel (composed of industry-nominated coatings experts) presented their views on phenomena and processes important to failure of qualified coatings. The panel also presented preliminary rankings of importance of such phenomena and processes when coatings are subjected to a LOCA environment following 40 years of aging under normal plant conditions. This PIRT panel was formed in response to industry recommendations for such a group, and it was well received by industry attendees. Savannah River Technology Center staff discussed their

current program activities, how they interfaced with the PIRT's findings, and their planned work in CY 1999.

The Nuclear Energy Institute will assemble the attendees' views and provide feedback by mid-May 1999, so the comments can be used by the project staff. The PIRT panel plans to issue their first PIRT report by mid-June 1999. Their report and the available project findings from Savannah River will be discussed at an American Society for Testing and Materials meeting of ASTM D-33 Committee, "Protective Coating and Lining Work for Power Generation Stations," scheduled for June 28-29, 1999. This ASTM Committee has developed the protective coatings standards for nuclear power plants that are endorsed in Draft Regulatory Guide DG-1076, "Service Level I, II, and III Protective Coatings Applied to Nuclear Power Plants." DG-1076 was issued in March 1999, and its comment period ends July 30, 1999.

Public Meeting on the Risk of Debris Accumulation on Sump Screens

A day-long public meeting was held on April 14, 1999, at NRC headquarters to inform stakeholders of the progress on the GSI-191 study and to address concerns raised by stakeholders at public meeting held in November 1998. The purpose of the GSI-191 study is to assess the impact of debris accumulation on sump screens on emergency core cooling system performance. The NRC's primary contractor for this study is Los Alamos National Laboratory. The technical presentations focused on the risk assessment of debris accumulation and on the transport of water-borne debris. In response to comments received from an earlier public meeting, the RES staff clarified the application of the study results, the incorporation of risk in the study, and the relationship of the study to other RES efforts. Attendees at the meeting included Westinghouse Owners' Group, Combustion Engineering Owners' Group, Nuclear Energy Institute, Electric Power Research Institute, various licensees, and various vendors. Attendees were invited to submit comments to the GSI-191 Project Manager via electronic mail.

RES Evaluation of Electrosleeve Repairs for Steam Generator Tubes

RES has recently conducted tests of steam generator tubes containing electrosleeve repairs. These tests were done on a very high priority basis in support of an ongoing NRR evaluation of proposed electrosleeve repairs to the steam generator tubes at the Callaway plant. The proposal for the electrosleeve repairs is a first-of-a-kind application of a technology that deposits an almost pure nickel sleeve inside an existing steam generator tube to provide a structural replacement for the pressure boundary in that area. The electrosleeve technology involves deposition of the nickel in a very fine, nanocrystalline grain structure that provides mechanical and corrosion properties that are superior to those of the "parent" Inconel tubes under design basis conditions. In February 1999, NRR raised questions regarding the severe accident (high temperature) performance of the electrosleeve material. The fine grained electrosleeve material is more susceptible than Inconel to loss of mechanical properties when held at high temperatures (>600 C). The issue is whether steam generator tubes with electrosleeve repairs would be more susceptible than Inconel tubes to thermally induced SG tube ruptures that could lead to containment bypass.

To resolve the materials issues, RES supported steam generator research at the Argonne National Laboratory (ANL). ANL developed models and test data on the electrosleeve materials performance. The testing involved steam generator tubes containing intentional flaws in the "parent" tube that were "repaired" by electrosleeving. The electrosleeved tubes were provided to RES and ANL by Framatome Technologies Incorporated. These tubes were subjected to temperature and pressure conditions simulating those that could occur in a PWR primary loop from a severe accident. The testing at ANL made use of a unique high temperature pressure and leak test facility that had been developed with support from RES.

The detailed knowledge of the materials performance provided by the testing, coupled with evaluations of the thermal-hydraulics and severe accident risk specific to the Callaway plant, will contribute to the technical basis for a decision on the Callaway amendment request. Other issues on materials, thermal hydraulics, and risk remain to be resolved in regard to the generic implementation of electrosleeve repairs for other PWRs. RES will continue to work closely with NRR on developing appropriate data and models for evaluating the generic applicability of electrosleeve repairs.

ENCLOSURE D

Incident Response Operations
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 7, 1999

Vermont Yankee Exercise

An IRO staff member participated with Region I staff members and representatives from FEMA, DOE/NV and USDA in a Vermont Yankee post-plume phase evaluated exercise at the State of Vermont Emergency Operations Center in Waterbury, Vermont, on April 27-29, 1999. This exercise was a required 6-year cycle ingestion exercise. NRC represented the Federal government's response to a postulated major nuclear power plant accident. Vermont found the NRC and other Federal participation very useful in increasing exercise realism.

Lost Source Exercise

On May 5-6, 1999, an IRO staff member and representatives from NRC Region II participated in a Lost Source exercise conducted in Smithfield, North Carolina. This exercise simulated orphan source material being found in a scrapyard, requiring the State to request Federal assistance. EPA served as the Lead Federal agency since the source owner was unknown at the time of discovery. NRC served in a support capacity. IRO acted as a facilitator for the development of the exercise. Lessons learned will be documented by the State of North Carolina.

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATIONS:

1. PNO-I-99-021, Duquesne Light Co., BEAVER VALLEY UNIT 1 SHUTDOWN GREATER THAN 72 HOURS

2. PNO-II-99-012A, Triad Engineering, Inc., RECOVERED TROXLER GAUGE
3. PNO-II-99-013, Delta Consulting Company, STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE
4. PNO-II-99-014, University Community Hospital, RADIATION THERAPY SEEDS INCINERATED
5. PNO-II-99-015, Duke Power Co., SHUTDOWN IN EXCESS OF 72 HOURS
6. PNO-III-99-026A, Sterogenics International, SOURCE RACK FOR POOL IRRADIATOR STUCK DUE TO CABLE CLUTCH

ENCLOSURE F

Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 7, 1999

Contract Awards

Contract No. NRC-10-99-151 for custodial management services including janitorial, grounds maintenance, recycling trash/waste removal, pest control and snow removal was awarded to Spotless Janitorial of Lanham, MD on May 4, 1999, as a result of a competitive solicitation (RS-ADM-99-142). The contract is a fixed price performance-based contract, and the period of performance runs from 5/4/99 to 11/30/99 with 4 one-year option periods. The total value of all years is \$4,568,509. The evaluation panel used simplified evaluation criteria to streamline the procurement process for this award.

Acquisition Training

On April 29, 1999, the Division of Contracts and Property Management conducted its Acquisition for Project Managers module, "Organizational Conflict of Interest" (COI). The training presentation included a discussion of what constitutes a conflict of interest and how the Agency regulations treat COI. Lectures also included the process for identifying and resolving COI situations for both contract awards to the private sector and DOE laboratory agreements. Class participants worked in groups to analyze situations to determine if COI existed and, if so, how to resolve the COI.

WFN Complex Restack Project

The Restack project is currently completing work on the 14th floor. The project is on schedule to finish all work on the floor by the end of May with employee moves occurring June 2 - 8. The next floor to be Restacked is the 15th floor with work beginning June 9.

Metabolic Solutions, Inc.; Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-32-5)

A document that requests public comment on a petition for rulemaking submitted by the Metabolic Solutions, Inc. was published in the Federal Register on May 4, 1999 (64 FR 23796). The petitioner requests that the NRC amend its regulations to extend a regulatory distribution exemption to the petitioner's product, an "Erythromycin Breath Test." That test uses a three-microcurie dose of carbon-14 (C14)-erythromycin to measure the rate of drug metabolism in the human liver. The petitioner believes that such an exemption would make the breath test more widely available and reduce the cost of clinical trials without increasing the radiation risk to the public. The comment period for this action closes July 20, 1999.

Disposal of High-Level Radioactive Wastes in a Proposed Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada (Parts 2, 19, 20, 21, 30, 40, 51, 60, 61, and 63)

A document that extends the public comment on a proposed rule that would establish licensing criteria for disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive wastes in the proposed geologic repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada was published in the Federal Register on May 5, 1999 (64 FR 24092). The comment period for this action has been extended until June 30, 1999.

ENCLOSURE G

Chief Information Officer
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 7, 1999

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the 5-Day Period of April 30, 1999 through May 6, 1999:

MLTS database. (FOIA/PA 99-204)

Self, IG report and file. (FOIA/PA 99-205)

Nuclear material events database, 1998 to present. (FOIA/PA 99-206)

Named individual, radiation exposure record. (FOIA/PA 99-207)

Dosimeter results, Fort Greely, AK, MEDDAC, during 1990. (FOIA/PA 99-208)

OI authority to conduct criminal investigations, 6/25/82 memo, J. Fitzgerald, OI to M. Malsch, OGC. (FOIA/PA 99-209)

MLTS database (FOIA/PA 99-210)

Self, Radiation accident report (FOIA/PA 99-211)

Ammonia spill, Wadell, AZ, 11/3/97 (FOIA/PA 99-212)

IMPAC listing (FOIA/PA 99-213)

ENCLOSURE I

Office of Human Resources
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending May 7, 1999

Public Service Recognition Week Career Fair Attended

On May 6-8, 1999, Henry Rubin and Barbara Mack, from the Office of Human Resources, and Espanola Hughes, from the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, attended the Public Service Recognition Week Career Fair held on the National Mall. More than 70 Federal agencies participated in the event this year. The opening ceremony included remarks from G. Jerry Shaw, Chairman of the Public Employees Roundtable; Congressmen Stennie Hoyer and Jim Moran; and Congresswoman Connie Morella. The keynote speaker was the Honorable Rodney Slater, Secretary of Transportation.

Arrivals		
LANDAU, Robert	AUDIOVISUAL PRODUCTION SPECIALIST	ADM
PECKENPAUGH, Jon	ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER	NMSS
VON TILL, Rudolph	PROJECT MANAGER	NMSS
Retirements		
LEUNG, Vincent	MECHANICAL ENGINEER	RES
VUNCANNON, Lucille	SECRETARY (OA)	RII
Departures		
ANDERSON, Donna	SECRETARY (OA)	ACRS/ACNW
SIMPSON, Patrick	RESIDENT INSPECTOR	RIII/POINT BEACH

Associate Director for Training and Development Student Data

Month of: April 1999

Course	Location	Attendees			
		Total	Region	HQ	Other
Week of April 12					
Westinghouse Technology Review (R-904P)	TTC	8	8	0	0
Westinghouse Systems Technology Course (R-304P)	TTC	9	7	2	0
PRA Basics for Regulatory Applications (P-105)	HQ	21	1	18	2
Radwaste Management H-202	Region 1	14	14	0	0
Week of April 19					
PRA External Events Course(P-204)	HQ	8	1	7	0
Site Access Refresher (H-101)	HQ	24	0	24	0
Site Access	HQ	7	1	6	0
Radiation Worker (H-102)	HQ	3		3	

Week of April 26					
GE BWR/4 Simulator Refresher (R-704B)	TTC	5	5	0	0
NDE Technology and Codes (E-306)	East Lyme, CT	7	4	1	2
Transportation of Radioactive Materials (H-308)	TTC	30	4	11	15
MARSSIM (H-121)	HQ	29	5	17	7
B&W Simulator Refresher (R-706P)	TTC	6	4	2	0
PRA for Technical Managers Course (P-107)	HQ	11	7	4	0

ENCLOSURE M

Office of Public Affairs
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending May 7, 1999

Media Interest

There was media interest in the Commission periodic briefing on operating reactors and the termination of the "watch list."

There was interest in the GAO report on decommissioning funding.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
99-92	Prehearing Conference Scheduled on Shearon Harris Plant License Amendment
99-93	NRC Approves Transfer of Pilgrim Plant Operating License From Boston Edison to Entergy Nuclear
99-94	NRC Orders Payment of \$900,000 Fine From Thermal Science for Violations of NRC Requirements
99-95	Senior Managers Review Nuclear Power Plant Performance
99-96	NRC to Make Public Records Available Electronically, Change Public Document Room Program
Regions:	
IV-99-21	NRC Proposes \$17,600 Fine for International Radiography and Inspection Services, Inc.

ENCLOSURE N

Office of International Programs
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending May 7, 1999

Program Review Meeting at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL)

On May 5, 1999, Jack Ramsey and Gordon Fowler traveled to Brookhaven National Lab (BNL) to conduct a program review meeting for Armenian, Kazakh, Russian and Ukrainian regulatory assistance activities. Particular emphasis was placed on near-term activities in Armenia and Kazakhstan, including safe shutdown and decommissioning of the BN-350 reactor.

11th Regular Meeting on Nuclear Safety Regulatory Matters Between NRC and the Japan Ministry of International Trade and Industry

On May 6-7, the NRC hosted the 11th Regular Meeting on Nuclear Safety Regulatory Matters with the Japan Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI). Representatives from the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Office of Regulatory Research, and OIP met with representatives from MITI and the Nuclear Power Engineering Corporation (NUPEC) to exchange information on licensing issues including: Recent Significant Events; Aging Management; Mixed Oxide Fuels (MOX); and, Quality Assurance and Quality Control. Both sides were pleased with the quality of the information that was shared and agreed to continue the dialog, including new topics such as Intermediate Storage of Spent Fuel and Y2K.

ENCLOSURE O

Office of the Secretary
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 7, 1999

Documents Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SRM on SECY-93-065	4/30/93	Proposed Enforcement Action Regarding Harassment, Intimidation and Discrimination at Northeast Utilities Against Mr. P. Blanch and Untimely Processing of Substantial Safety Hazard Evaluation (OI Report 1-90-009) (EA 92-212)
2. SECY-99-096	3/30/99	Staff Proposal to Amend Supplement 1, "Reactor Operations," of the Enforcement Policy by Adding Examples of Violations Involving the Compromise of an Application, Test, or Examination Required by 10 CFR Part 55
SRM on SECY-99-096	5/4/99	(Same)
Commission Voting Record on SECY-99-096	5/4/99	(Same)
3. SECY-99-101	3/31/99	Proposed Rule - AP600 Design Certification
SRM on SECY-99-101	5/4/99	(same)
Commission Voting Record on SECY-99-101	5/4/99	(same)
REVISED SRM on SECY-99-101	5/6/99	(same)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-99-117	4/19/99	Use of Industry Operational Experience in Lieu of Information Notices
2. SECY-99-121	4/21/99	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending April 16, 1999
Memoranda		
1. Memo from W. Travers to Commissioners	4/30/99	Maintenance Rule Briefing Package

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to the President, dated April 28, 1999, concerns the proposed Protocol to Extend the U.S.-Canada Agreement for Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation.
2. Letter to Congress, dated April 28, 1999, provides NRC comments on S. 746, the "Regulatory Improvement Act of 1999."
3. Letter to Charles A. Judd, Envirocare of Utah, Inc., dated April 28, 1999, concerns NRC jurisdiction over 11e.(2) byproduct material produced as a result of processing ore before November 1978 (incoming dated January 12, 1999, also released).
4. Letter to F. William Valentino, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, dated April 28, 1999, concerns comments on SECY-99-057, regarding decommissioning criteria for West Valley (incoming dated April 6, 1999, also released).
5. Letter to Raymond C. Vaughan, Coalition on West Valley Nuclear Wastes, dated April 28, 1999, concerns the comments of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority on the decommissioning criteria for West Valley (incoming dated April 7, 1999, also released).
6. Letter to Thomas C. Leisten, dated April 28, 1999, expresses congratulations on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout (incoming from Thomas Fix, dated March 30, 1999, also released).
7. Letter to Small Business Administrator Aida Alvarez, dated April 26, 1999, provides the NRC Fiscal Year 1998 Procurement Preference goal achievements.
8. Letter to Congress, dated April 26, 1999, provides the NRC quarterly report on the denial of safeguards information.
9. Letter to Leigh Ing, Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, dated April 26, 1999, concerns the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers plan to ship waste containing source material and lead to a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)-permitted disposal facility in Texas

(Incoming dated March 18, 1999, also released).

10. Letter to Senator Frank Murkowski, dated April 22, 1999, responds to seven questions for the record of the March 24, 1999, Committee hearing regarding Nuclear Waste Storage and Disposal Policy, including S. 608, the "Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1999."
11. Letter to Don W. Miller, dated April 16, 1999, expresses appreciation for his service on the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. 10 CFR Part 9; Government in the Sunshine Act Regulations.

ENCLOSURE P

Region I
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 7, 1999

Pre-Decisional Enforcement Conference with Coriell Institute for Medical Research

On May 3, 1999, Region I conducted a Predecisional Enforcement Conference with Coriell Institute for Medical Research (CIMR). This meeting was held to discuss a Department of Labor Administrative Review Board decision that an individual employed by CIMR was discriminated against for raising a safety concern in 1996. The CIMR representatives presented their perspectives on the circumstances surrounding the 1996 events and provided information for the NRC to consider in determining the appropriate enforcement action. In addition CIMR discussed corrective actions taken to ensure that those events and associated DOL decisions have not caused a "chilling effect" on other CIMR employees.

ENCLOSURE P

Region II
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 7, 1999

Carolina Power and Light Company - Robinson

On May 4, Regional staff met with representatives of H. B. Robinson concerning the Plant Performance Review after which the staff met with media representatives and State and local government officials.

Partnership Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia

The Regional Partnership Committee participated in two-days of training on Interest-Based Bargaining presented by the Federal Mediation Service in Atlanta, Georgia.

Lost Source Exercise - State of North Carolina

Region II and headquarters staff observed and participated in a two-day exercise conducted by the State of North Carolina simulating the discovery of a portable gauge at a metal recycling facility. On the first day, State response activities at the participating metal recycling facility and at a local hospital were observed. On the second day, followup activities were discussed and planned during a table top exercise conducted at the local county Emergency Operations Center.

ENCLOSURE P

Region III
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 7, 1999

Management Meeting with Wisconsin Public Service Corporation - Kewaunee

On May 3, 1999, a management meeting was conducted in Carlton, Wisconsin, between management representatives from Wisconsin Public Service Corporation and members of the NRC staff. The meeting discussion focused on the recent Plant Performance Review of the Kewaunee Nuclear Plant. Region III Deputy Regional Administrator James Caldwell participated in the meeting.

On April 30, 1999, the utility announced that the replacement of the Kewaunee nuclear plant's two steam generators will likely be rescheduled 18 months later than planned. The steam generators are being manufactured in Italy and may not be completed in time to meet the existing schedule. The work was scheduled for the spring of 2000 but Wisconsin Public Service now expects to complete the project in the fall of 2001.

Management Meeting with Wisconsin Electric Company - Point Beach

On May 4, 1999, a management meeting was conducted in the Region III Office, Lisle, Illinois, between management representatives from Wisconsin

Electric Company and members of the NRC staff. The meeting discussion focused on the implementation of improvement initiatives in the engineering area and the recent challenges faced by control room operators at the Point Beach Nuclear Power Station. Region III Deputy Regional Administrator James Caldwell participated in the meeting.

ENCLOSURE R

Office of Congressional Affairs
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending May 7, 1999

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 18

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Keeling	TBA 2322 RHOB	TBA	TBA	Security at DOE Laboratories	Reps. Bliley/Dingell Commerce
Keeling	05/12/99 SH-216	9: 30	TBA	Alleged Chinese Espionage	Senators Murkowski/Bingaman Energy and Natural Resources
Madden	05/13/99 2318 RHOB	TBA	Markup	H.R. 1656, DOE Commercial Application of Energy Technology	Reps. Morella/Barcia Technology Science
Gerke	05/13/99 2154 RHOB	10: 00	TBA	Federal Employees Health Benefits Program	Reps. Scarborough/Cummings Civil Service Government Reform
Gerke	05/13/99 342 DSOB	10: 00	Markup	S. 746, Regulatory Improvement Act; S. 59, Regulatory Right-to-Know	Senators Thompson/Lieberman Governmental Affairs
Gerke	05/13/99 2123 RHOB	10: 00	TBA	Electricity Competition: The Role of Federal Electric Utilities	Reps. Barton/Hall Energy and Power Commerce
Gerke	05/25/99 366 DSOB	9: 30	TBA	State Progress in Retail Electricity Competition	Senators Murkowski/Bingaman Energy & Natural Resources