

November 17, 1999

For: The Commissioners
From: James L. Blaha, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO /s/
Subject: SECY-99-270 - "WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 12, 1999"

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ENCLOSURE A

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 12, 1999

Regulatory Guidance for Implementation of 10 CFR 50.59

On November 4, 1999, the NRC staff provided comments to the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), on their proposed revision to NEI 96-07, Guidelines for 10 CFR 50.59 Evaluations," submitted on September 17, 1999. NEI plans to revise their document in response to these comments and comments from the industry, and to submit a revised version for NRC endorsement later in November. Following staff review of this revised submittal, the staff presently plans to issue a draft regulatory guide for public comment in January 2000, endorsing this document (with any clarifications that may be necessary).

The staff met with NEI on November 2, 1999, to discuss one aspect of the guidance relating to changing from one method of evaluation to another method that is "approved for the intended application," and in particular, for applying a method that was approved for one facility at another. The staff concluded that the existing guidance should be supplemented to assist the user in those cases where the approval was not on a generic basis.

The staff is scheduled to brief the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards on December 2, 1999, on the draft regulatory guide and on NEI 96-07.

Public Meeting on National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Test and Mockup Reactors Decommissioning

On November 3, 1999, the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) project manager participated in a public meeting on decommissioning of the NASA Test and Mockup Reactors. The meeting included a Community Workgroup roundtable meeting, information stations, and discussions with approximately 50 public participants.

Meeting with NEI on Operator Licensing Issues

On November 4, 1999, NRR and NRC regional office staff met with representatives of NEI's Initial Licensed Operator Task Force in a public meeting held at the NEI offices in Washington, DC. Representatives from each regional facility operator training organization and the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations also participated in the meeting. The meeting was convened to review issues that were identified during a series of operator licensing workshops conducted by each of the NRC regional offices and to promote the effective and efficient implementation of Revision 8 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." Those issues included the eligibility guidelines for senior operator licenses, the limits on the number of written examination questions that can be repeated from prior examinations and quizzes, and the documentation of examination quality issues in the NRC examination reports. Significant progress was made on resolving these issues in a manner that will maintain examination validity, enhance clarity and consistency, minimize unnecessary burden on facility licensees, and possibly increase the level of participation in the examination development process. NEI also discussed its plans for a national operator licensing workshop on February 17-18, 2000, to share lessons-learned during the early stages of implementing Revision 8 of NUREG-1021.

Nine Mile Point 1 and 2 (NMP1 and NMP2)

On September 30, 1999, the NRC published in the Federal Register, a notice regarding consideration of approval of the application by Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (sole owner of NMP1, 41% owner of NMP2, and exclusive operator of NMP1 and NMP2) and New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (one of the possession-only co-owners of NMP2 with an 18% interest) to transfer their ownerships and authorities under the operating license to AmerGen. The notice also provided an opportunity for a hearing. On October 22, 1999, the remaining three co-owners of NMP2 filed a petition for leave to intervene and request for hearing. The three co-owners requested that the NRC's hearing be deferred until completion of the ongoing New York Public Service Commission's proceeding or, in the alternative, until the co-owners' right of first refusal expires (for example, for Rochester Gas & Electric, this would be about January 4, 2000 at the earliest). The three co-owners requested that, if such a deferral cannot be granted, the NRC should exercise its discretion, pursuant to [10 CFR 2.1322\(d\)](#), to establish a full evidentiary hearing under Subpart G of the Rules of Practice. Also, on October 20, 1999, the New York Attorney General filed a petition for leave to intervene in the NRC's proceedings on the application.

Haddam Neck

Haddam Neck began shipping large components from containment the first week of November 1999. The steam generators were cut to remove the steam domes, which were only slightly contaminated. The steam domes are 12 feet in diameter, 20 feet long, and weigh 77 tons. The first steam dome was transferred from the site to the local railhead on November 2, 1999, via truck. Dose rates were less than 0.1 mrem/hr. A second steam dome was transferred to the railhead on November 4. Each was placed on a separate railcar. After additional preparation, they will be shipped by rail to GTS-Duratek in Tennessee for reprocessing with the rail trip taking 7 to 10 days. The licensee plans to remove all four steam generators from containment by the end of December 1999. However, the steam generator lower assemblies will be disposed of in the Barnwell, SC waste disposal facility. The shipping route to Barnwell is via barge on the Savannah River. Due to low water levels in the river, the shipping date for the lower assemblies cannot be scheduled at this time.

The picture below shows #4 steam dome on the transporter in Cobalt, Connecticut, turning west at the intersection of State Routes 66 and 15. The load was transferred to a railcar in Portland, CT, about 10 miles from the Haddam Neck Plant.



Union Electric Company - Callaway Plant Restarting from 10th Refueling Outage

The Callaway Plant, Unit 1, in Callaway County, Missouri, has returned to full power after restarting from its tenth refueling outage that began October 2, 1999, and lasted 35 days. The plant went critical on November 4, 1999. The major work during the outage was the following: Electrosleeve repair of steam generator tubes, piping snubber reduction, steam generator feedwater check valve replacement, modifying motor-operated valve control circuits (hot short issue), Essential Service Water A pump replacement, and replacing Low Pressure Feedwater Heaters 1A and 1B.

Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station - Release of Land for Unrestricted Use

GPU Nuclear, Inc. informed NRC that the sale of part of its site and the combustion turbines will be postponed until early to mid-2000. The sale of part of the site and the combustion turbines was part of a \$1.7 billion transaction being negotiated between GPU and Stith. The other parts of the transaction will proceed in November. GPU Nuclear stated that the cause of the delay is that additional time is needed to continue discussions on the contract involving the site and control of the combustion turbines.

GPU intends to sell about 600 acres of the 755-acre owner-controlled site. The sale of the property will effectively reduce the current site boundary surrounding the Oyster Creek to enclose only about 152 acres of land. The NRC staff has been evaluating GPU's proposal to sell the property to determine if there are any concerns that have the potential to adversely affect public health and safety, impact the environment, or compromise the continued safe operation of Oyster Creek.

As requested by the NRC, on September 22, 1999, GPU submitted pertinent information regarding the sale, including the basis for concluding the property is suitable to be released in accordance with NRC regulations and the results of radiological surveys and assessment used for support of the conclusion.

Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station - Request for a Hearing

On November 5, 1999, Paul Gunter, Reactor Watchdog Project of Nuclear Information and Resource Service, filed a petition to intervene in a proposed license amendment for Oyster Creek. The proposed amendment requests approval to handle loads up to and including 45 tons using the reactor building crane during power operations. NRC Bulletin 96-02 indicates that plants that will perform "activities involving the handling of heavy loads over spent fuel, fuel in the reactor core, or safety-related equipment while the reactor is at power... and that involve a potential load drop accident that has not previously been evaluated in the FSAR," submit a license amendment request for NRC staff review. The staff could not make a determination of a no significant hazards determination when filing the notice of application for amendment for publication in the Federal Register.

Indian Point Nuclear Generating Units 2 and 3

In March 1999, while conducting Y2K reviews, Con Edison disabled a file within PROTEUS (the plant computer) that serves as the alarm function for rod deviation monitoring. This file was developed by Con Edison and placed within PROTEUS approximately six years ago when the first cycle specific rod/bank deviation limits were established. The alarm program is a file within PROTEUS that automatically changes the Individual Rod Position Indication (IRPI) vs. Bank limits when power range instruments reach 50%. When performing their Y2K reviews, Con Ed determined that the subject file was among 40 files that might be obsolete. These files were to be reviewed and a decision made as to whether or not they should be disabled. Due to an

oversight, the 40 files, including the rod deviation monitoring file, were disabled before a proper review was conducted.

During the most recent startup, operations and computer applications personnel at IP2 realized that the file had been disabled in error. The IP3 technical specifications require that rod indications are logged once per shift if rod deviation monitoring is unavailable. To meet the requirement, Con Ed verified the rod position was within +/- 12 steps every 6 hours during startup. Con Ed then reviewed and tested the Rod Deviation Monitoring file and found it to be Y2K ready. The file has been returned to service.

Con Ed has also reviewed the other PROTEUS files that were disabled and has determined that none were disabled in error. Con Ed is planning to submit a voluntary Licenses Event Report on this subject.


Nuclear Utilities Software Management Group Fall Workshop

The NRC was represented by Electrical and Instrumentation and Controls Branch (EEIB) staff at the Nuclear Utilities Software Management Group (NUSMG) 1999 Fall Workshop, November 27-28, 1999. EEIB staff gave a presentation, "NRC - Update for Y2K," and answered several questions that were raised by the workshop attendees. Topics covered by the workshop included, final phase of Y2K readiness programs, software project management, software quality assurance (SQA), software configuration management, and applying SQA to embedded systems. EEIB staff provided clarification on NRC policy and positions as needed during the workshop which included various breakout sessions. The breakout sessions allowed for in-depth exploration and discussion of the workshop topics. Feedback from NUSMG participants indicated that EEIB staff participation was very important and greatly appreciated.

ENCLOSURE B

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 12, 1999

Environmental Protection Agency Provides Preliminary Comments on Uranium Recovery Commission Papers

On November 4, 1999, the Division of Waste Management staff received preliminary Environmental Protection Agency comments on three Uranium Recovery Program Commission Papers at a meeting of the Interagency Steering Committee on Radiation Standards' NORM Subcommittee. The three papers (SECY-99-011 , SECY-99-012, and SECY-99-013) address a new 10 CFR Part 41 for uranium mills, alternate feed materials and disposal of other than 11(e)2 byproduct material at tailings impoundments, and more efficient NRC regulation of in-situ leach uranium recovery facilities. The Chairman of the NORM Subcommittee will forward written comments to NRC staff in the next several weeks. Staff will provide these comments to the Commission for their consideration.

Public Meeting on Decommissioning of Sequoyah Fuels Corporation

On November 3, 1999, the NRC conducted a meeting to inform the public about the status of the decommissioning of the Sequoyah Fuels Corporation (SFC) facility near Gore, Oklahoma. Staff from the Division of Waste Management, Region IV, and the Office of the General Counsel met with approximately 25 members of the general public and interested groups including the Cherokee Nation, U.S. Geological Survey, Tulsa District of the Army Corps of Engineers, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, and the Oklahoma Attorney General's Office. The licensee also attended. The staff explained the steps planned for the SFC decommissioning effort that include reviewing the proposed decommissioning plan and conducting an environmental impact statement (EIS). NRC also committed to holding another meeting, in the first half of 2000, to solicit public comments on the SFC decommissioning plan and present preliminary information on the EIS.

Fuel Cycle Facilities Forum Meeting

On November 3, 1999, Division of Waste Management (DWM) staff attended the Fuel Cycle Facilities Forum (FCFF) meeting conducted in Gaithersburg, Maryland. Approximately 20 participants representing FCFF, National Mining Association, and consultants attended the meeting. A half-day was allotted for discussions with the NRC staff on important decommissioning issues. The NRC staff discussed and answered questions on the resuspension factor issue for dose modeling screening analysis and also discussed soil screening values for license termination. Participants were also interested in the use of available capacity in uranium mill tailing piles to dispose of waste from their facilities. DWM staff referred to public Commission Papers which have been available for comment and answered questions.

International Workshop on Geologic Isolation of High-level Waste

On November 4-5, 1999, the National Academy of Sciences' Board on Radioactive Waste Management (BRWM) sponsored an International Workshop on the Disposition of High-Level Radioactive Waste (HLW) through Geological Isolation in Irvine, California. Staff from DWM and the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses participated along with more than 200 others representing more than 20 countries in a series of plenary and working group discussions on the development, current status, and technical and policy challenges associated with HLW disposition. Points of particular interest to DWM include the importance of having standards and regulations in place early in the process, the difficulty of developing and maintaining stakeholder trust throughout the licensing process, the role of precedents from other countries and other waste management programs, the need to be prepared for "surprises" as site characterization and design progress, the importance of using multiple lines of reasoning to support licensing decisions, and the dilemma of making decisions in the face of residual uncertainty. The ultimate product of the workshop-a document updating the 1990 report "Rethinking High-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal" to be produced by the BRWM-will be completed in a little over one year. It is expected that this document will:

endorse the continuing need for deep geologic disposal as the principal option for HLW disposition; recognize that partitioning and transmutation will be, at best, an expensive, and only partial solution; highlight the need to develop techniques for addressing the social science aspects of repository development; recommend further consideration and development of a staged approval process which can be modified as experience is gained; and emphasize that the consequences of failing to act, and, as a result, leaving these wastes on the surface, need to be addressed and better understood.

Department of Energy and Nuclear Regulatory Commission Public Meetings on Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Yucca Mountain

On November 9, 1999, staff from the DWM, the Office of the General Counsel, and the Spent Fuel Project Office observed two Department of Energy (DOE) public meetings on DOE's draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for a geologic repository for the disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste at Yucca Mountain, Nye County, Nevada. DOE held the public meetings in Caliente, Nevada, located about 200 kilometers (120 miles) northeast of Yucca Mountain. The meetings were very well attended. Speakers included representatives from the Office of the Governor for the state of Nevada (Nevada Agency for Nuclear Projects); elected and appointed local government officials from Lincoln County and the city of Caliente; a representative for U.S. Representative Jim Gibbons of Nevada; and citizens. Concerns were expressed over a wide range of issues, including: transportation; stigma effects; mitigation measures; use of locally developed information; socioeconomic impacts; and emergency preparedness. Additional DOE public meetings on the DEIS are scheduled for eight other locations (five within Nevada). The staff plans to observe as many of the public meetings in Nevada as possible, without impacting their review of the DEIS.

The NRC held a public meeting in Caliente, Nevada, at the request of local officials, to discuss NRC's role relating to the DEIS. NRC's public meeting was held during a break between the two DOE public meetings. The mayor of Caliente, Nevada, provided a written statement that included several questions about NRC's role with respect to the DEIS. The NRC staff committed to providing a written response to his questions. The staff received a request to provide the public with an opportunity to have input into NRC's review process, including an opportunity to comment on the results of NRC's DEIS review. The topics of interest to the public included: standards for adopting the EIS; the schedule for adopting the EIS; public involvement in the NRC review process; transportation issues; NRC's relationship to DOE; and differences in the NRC and Environmental Protection Agency regulations and standards.

Forum on Department of Justice "Five-Year Interagency Counter-Terrorism and Technology Plan"

On November 8-9, 1999, a special forum was held addressing issues of special interest to state and local authorities associated with the Administration's Five-Year Interagency Counter-Terrorism and Technology Plan. The Five-Year Plan states the Administration's baseline strategy for coordination of national policy and operational capabilities to combat terrorism in the U.S. and against U.S. interests abroad. Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards (FCSS) staff participated in the working groups developing the basis for the plan and NRC has been recently tasked with responding to several areas identified in the plan. Many of the issues identified in the plan concern the preparedness of state and local authorities to respond to consequences of a terrorist incident.

As part of the yearly update of the plan, a small group of 26 state and local law enforcement, public safety, and health professionals were invited to participate in discussions. A similar number of federal officials, including an FCSS staff member, were also invited to participate as a resource and provide support for the state and local attendees. The participants were asked to consider the goals, scope, and issues identified in the plan to assist in determining whether the strategy reflects an appropriate response to the needs of state and local officials. Intensive discussions were held and several significant areas of improvement were identified. On the second day, a roundtable discussion was held with the state and local officials and senior federal officials, including Attorney General Reno, Federal Emergency Management Agency Director Witt, Deputy Secretary of Defense Hambre, Treasury Assistant Secretary Eizenstat, and Federal Bureau of Investigation Deputy Assistant Director Watson. The senior federal officials were extremely responsive to the views expressed and concurred in many of the recommendations. A written report on the forum will be issued in a few weeks. Although the general topic of Weapons of Mass Destruction was a major focus of the forum, participants did not raise any specific issues involving nuclear materials or facilities.

Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses Technical Assistance to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission

The Spent Fuel Project Office is continuing to seek technical assistance from the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses (Center) at the Southwest Research Institute in San Antonio, Texas. For Fiscal Year 2000, the Center will be supporting the staff with new tasks which include assistance in licensing reviews for independent spent fuel storage installations (ISFSI) at Pacific Gas and Electric's Humboldt Bay and Diablo Canyon locations. The Center will also assist the staff in the licensing review for the second ISFSI at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) which will store spent fuel from Peach Bottom, as well as TRIGA fuel from various locations. Over the last several years, the Center supported the staff's licensing and environmental reviews of the ISFSI for Three Mile Island Fuel Debris at the INEEL; the ongoing licensing review for the proposed Private Fuel Storage Facility on the Reservation of the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians; and the ongoing reviews of the Department of Energy's topical reports on Central Interim Storage and the Dry Transfer System. This new work has been determined to fall under the Center's Charter based on the nexus between the proposed work for these ISFSIs and NRC responsibilities under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act.

ENCLOSURE C

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 12, 1999

Seminar on Research Needs of the Nuclear Industry

The Deputy Director of the Office of Research participated in a seminar on Research Needs of the Nuclear Industry, which was sponsored by the Nuclear Safety Center of Penn State University on November 8, 1999. The objective of the seminar was to provide a forum to explore the future research needs of the nuclear industry and their effects. Discussions examined these needs from regulatory, design, and operational perspectives. The meeting included presentations from five utilities, two universities, DOE, EPRI, NRC, and one consulting firm followed by a facilitated discussion. Several utilities and EPRI indicated that the direction of NRC's research program is on target with safety and industry's needs. They urged continued open interaction between DOE, EPRI, and NRC regarding the planning of research that is consistent with the different roles of these organizations. EPRI emphasized the need to anticipate emerging issues when cooperation on the planning of research to gain fundamental data can contribute to early resolution of issues.

Issues discussed by the utilities that require a sound technical basis for regulatory decisions include the move to high burn-up fuel for fuel cycle cost optimization, the use of MOX in commercial reactors, the need for improvement in steam generator tube inspection technology, an assessment of the impact on risk of human performance issues, and aging issues such as reactor vessel internals performance. Also, concerns were expressed about the ability to maintain both an experimental infrastructure in the United States that is prepared to address issues as they arise and an educational base that is adequate to ensure the availability of future employees for the industry.

Meeting of the OECD/CSNI IWG on Sump Clogging

On October 28 and 29, 1999, RES hosted the second meeting of the International Working Group (IWG) of the Committee on the Safety of Nuclear Installations (CSNI) of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Rockville, Maryland. The goals of the working group are to:

1. Assemble a "knowledge base" report that summarizes experimental and analytical efforts made by government and private organizations in various countries to assess the sump/strainer clogging concern.
2. Provide a survey of actions taken in the various countries as a result of the sump/strainer clogging concern.

The purpose of the knowledge base report is to record in a single report the numerous activities conducted in various countries for the use of utilities or regulators that have not yet begun or completed their assessments. Also, the knowledge base report is intended to provide future researchers and analysts a firm understanding of the work that has been completed to date. Since the NRC's assessment of the significance of sump clogging in pressurized water reactors is in progress, the IWG provides an excellent forum to collect and assess the experimental data and analytical methods that have been applied in other countries for applicability to pressurized water reactors in the United States.

The participants in the working group include countries that have completed their assessment of the concern (Sweden, Finland, and Germany) and countries that are still actively investigating the concern (the United States and France).

During the meeting, technical presentations were made by representatives from Canada, France, Sweden, and the United States. In addition to the technical presentations, the writing committee of the working group discussed the structure and content of the report, revised milestones and deadlines, and reviewed draft sections of the report.

ENCLOSURE D

Incident Response Operations
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 12, 1999

Y2K Exercise at the Department of State

Two IRO staff members participated in a high level Y2K related exercise at the Department of State on November 18, 1999. The exercise was conducted in a Tabletop format and included senior agency officials from all major Federal agencies including the White House. The Tabletop was classified "Secret" as some subjects discussed were not for public dissemination. The scenarios were designed to promote interaction among Federal agencies on disposition of resources in response to requests from other nations regarding problems generated by the Y2K computer bug. Staff actively participated by providing descriptions of NRC's role on issues surfaced by the scenario.

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATIONS:

1. PNO-1111-99-049, Forest Park Hospital, MEDICAL MISADMINISTRATION
2. PNO-IV-99-052, Deaconess Billings Clinic, MEDICAL MISADMINISTRATION
3. PNO-IV-99-053, Barry L. Moore & Associates, Inc., STOLEN PORTABLE MOISTURE/DENSITY GAUGE
4. PNO-IV-99-054, Colorado Eng. & Instrumentation, STOLEN PORTABLE MOISTURE/DENSITY GAUGE

ENCLOSURE F

Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 12, 1999

Contract Award

On November 8, 1999, the Division of Contracts and Property Management awarded contract No. NRC-10-00-005 as a result of a competitive solicitation (RS-ADM-00-005) for custodial management services including janitorial, recycling trash/waste removal, and pest control. The contract award was made to Olympus Building Services of Doylestown, PA. The contract is a fixed price type contract, and the period of performance runs from November 8, 1999, to November 30, 2000, with 4 one-year option periods. The total value of the contract, including all option years is \$4,080,482.28. The following procurement streamlining methods were applied to this requirement and helped reduce the procurement lead time to 103 days: use of oral presentations in lieu of written technical proposal; simplified evaluation criteria; and award without discussions.

ENCLOSURE G

Chief Information Officer
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 12, 1999

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the 5-Day Period of November 5, 1999 through November 11, 1999:

Callaway, OI report #3-93-032R and related enforcement action documents.	(FOIA/PA 2000-0037)
Goodyear Atomic Corp., Wingfoot Lake, Suffield Township, OH, transportation &/or disposal of radioactive materials, 1966 to present.	(FOIA/PA 2000-0038)
Sierra Army Depot, Herlong, CA, license permit.	(FOIA/PA 2000-0039)
Industrial Excell Landfill, Uniontown, OH, (a.k.a., IEL, Kittinger Landfill, Kittinger Dump).	(FOIA/PA 2000-0040)
Westinghouse Electric Co., license and inspection files, license # SUC-509 (retired) and SNM-338 (retired).	(FOIA/PA 2000-0041)
Bravo thermonuclear test of Operation Castle performed in the Marshall Islands in 1954.	(FOIA/PA 2000-0042)
Radioactive waste disposal, 1951 through 1964, by ships or personnel of Military Sea Transportation Service.	(FOIA/PA 2000-0043)
Self, transcripts related to an OI case.	(FOIA/PA 2000-0044)
Koeburg nuclear station, South Africa, any incidents, 12/82 to present.	(FOIA/PA 2000-0045)
Maywood Chemical Co. and/or Stepan Chemicals, Maywood, NJ.	(FOIA/PA 2000-0046)

ENCLOSURE L

Office of State Programs
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 12, 1999

National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Passes Waste Resolutions

NARUC held its Annual Convention on November 7-10, 1999 in San Antonio, Texas. NARUC adopted two resolutions of interest to the NRC. The first concerns the DOE Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. The resolution, among other things, suggested that the Secretary of Energy recommend Yucca Mountain as suitable to the President and Congress as soon as possible and that Congress and DOE ensure that resources are dedicated to taking all steps necessary to make an operational repository a reality without further delay. The second resolution concerns the proposed radiation standards for Yucca Mountain. The resolution recommended that a radiation standard for Yucca Mountain needs to be established in a timely manner so that the license application can proceed; that the repository should be required to meet a standard that protects public health and safety, yet must also be realistically attainable; and that NARUC convey to the Environmental Protection Agency that the standard proposed by the NRC is the most appropriate standard, based on the scientific inputs of the National Academy of Science, as well as other national and international bodies. Copies of the resolutions are available at the Office of State Programs.

ENCLOSURE M

Office of Public Affairs
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 12, 1999

Media Interest

CBS Evening News has expressed interest in NRC's response to the letter on recycling of radioactive materials from Congressmen Dingell, Klink and

Markey and will be televising a report next week.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
99-240	NRC Confirms that all Nuclear Power Plants are Y2K-Ready
99-241	NRC Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste to Meet in Rockville, Maryland
99-242	NRC Schedules Public Workshop to Discuss Programs to Manage Equipment Aging
99-243	NRC Schedules Public Meeting to Discuss New Document Management System
Regions:	
I-99-94	NRC Names New Senior Resident Inspector at Hope Creek Nuclear Plant
II-99-54	NRC Commissioner to Visit Oconee Nuclear Plant November 16

ENCLOSURE N

Office of International Programs
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 12, 1999

Visit of Leonid Bolshov, Director, Nuclear Safety Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences

Dr. Leonid Bolshov, Director, Nuclear Safety Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (known by the Russian acronym, IBRAE), met on November 8, 1999, with Chairman Meserve, Commissioners Diaz, Merrifield and McGaffigan, as well as EDO William Travers. Dr. Bolshov also met with Ashok Thadani and the RES staff. Dr. Bolshov discussed the need for a continuation of nuclear safety research in order to maintain the "nuclear option".

ENCLOSURE O

Office of the Secretary
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 12, 1999

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SECY-99-256	10/29/99	Rulemaking Plan for Risk-Informing Special Treatment Requirements
Memoranda		
1. Memo to W. Travers fm Comm. Diaz	11/9/99	Request for Information re: Effects of Industry Consolidation on NRC Oversight

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Pilot Program Evaluation Panel; Meeting Notice for November 16 and 17, 1999.
2. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Subcommittee Meeting on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena; Notice of Meeting on November 17, 1999.
3. Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3; Facility Operating License NPF-49); Docket No. 50-423-LA-3; Notice of Prehearing Conference on December 13 and 14, 1999.

ENCLOSURE P

Region I
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 12, 1999

Millstone

As part of the NRC's heightened oversight of Millstone activities, the Region I Administrator visited the facility on November 8 and 9, 1999. The Regional Administrator toured Units 2 and 3 with the NRC resident inspectors, and held discussions with selected licensee managers.

Emergency Planning Conference

On November 8 to 10, 1999, approximately 80 emergency preparedness and radiological health professionals met in Mystic, Conn., to coordinate and establish an integrated emergency exercise schedule for evaluated state/utility exercises through 2005. These professionals represented all of the NRC Region I utilities and Virginia Power, NEI, all 11 NRC Region I states and Virginia and Ohio, two towns in the Pilgrim emergency planning zone, [USDA](#) [EXIT](#), [USDOT](#) [EXIT](#), [FEMA](#) [EXIT](#) Regions I, II, III, and IV, NRC Regions I and II, NRR, and the Incident Response Office. The conference was co-hosted by NRC Region I, FEMA Region I, Connecticut Office of Emergency Management, and Northeast Utilities.

In addition, the conference featured presentations and discussions on a wide range of topics, ranging from preparations for Y2K, potassium iodide (KI) considerations, and response to severe weather events, to the new NRC Oversight program and implications for EP. The Region I Administrator delivered the opening remarks, stressing the need for full coordination and communications with all responding organizations to ensure uniformity of action to effect the protection of the public.

ENCLOSURE P

Region II
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 12, 1999

Chairman Meserve visit to the Region II Office

On November 12, 1999, Chairman Meserve visited the Regional office to meet with Region II management and tour the office.

Carolina Power and Light Company - H. B. Robinson

On November 8, 1999, the Director of the Division of Reactor Safety toured the H. B. Robinson plant and attended an Operator Licensing Certification Presentation during an evening ceremony.

Representatives from Carolina Power and Light Company presented an incident response overview to the NRC participants in the H. B. Robinson exercise scheduled for December 7, 1999.

Joint FEMA/NRC Emergency Preparedness Workshop Conference

On November 8-10, 1999, the Regional State Liaison Officer participated in a joint FEMA/NRC Emergency Preparedness Workshop Conference in Mystic, Connecticut.

Western Soil Pre-Decisional Enforcement Conference

On November 9, 1999, the Regional Administrator and regional staff conducted a pre-decisional enforcement conference in Ponce, Puerto Rico with representatives of Western Soil of Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. The conference was held to discuss the licensee's failure to adequately secure portable gauges and a resultant theft of a gauge in June 1999. The gauge was subsequently recovered. The licensee acknowledged the violations and discussed corrective actions. There were press representatives from three newspapers and one radio station at the conference.

Victor Rivera and Associates Pre-Decisional Enforcement Conference

On November 9, 1999, the Regional Administrator and regional staff conducted a pre-decisional enforcement conference in Ponce, Puerto Rico with representatives of Victor Rivera and Associates. The conference was held to discuss the licensee's failure to adequately secure and to adequately store portable gauges. The licensee acknowledged the violations and discussed corrective actions. There were press representatives from three newspapers and one radio station at the conference.

University of Puerto Rico Health Sciences Center

On November 10, 1999, the Regional Administrator and Chief of the Materials Licensing/Inspection Branch 2, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety attended a routine inspection exit meeting and met the new Dean of Administration.

ENCLOSURE P

Region III
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 12, 1999

Commissioner Merrifield Visits Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant

Commissioner Jeffrey Merrifield, accompanied by the Regional Administrator, visited the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant on November 12, 1999. Senator Jim Bunning (Kentucky) and members of his staff also participated in the plant visit.

ENCLOSURE P

Region IV
Items of Interest
Week Ending November 12, 1999

Waterford-3 Meeting

On November 10, 1999, the Regional Administrator and members of the Region IV staff met with representatives of Waterford-3 (Entergy Operations, Inc.) at the NRC Region IV office in Arlington, Texas. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss physical security problems identified in NRC Inspection Report 50-382/99-17. The licensee provided its perspectives on the security program, emphasizing corrective actions to resolve the access control, equipment/ hardware, organizational, and tabletop performance problems identified in the recent inspection.