

January 28, 2000

For: The Commissioners
 From: James L. Blaha, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO /RA/
 Subject: SECY-00-0019 WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING JANUARY 21, 2000

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ENCLOSURE A

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending January 21, 2000

Control Room Habitability Task Force

On January 13, 2000, representatives of the Probabilistic Safety Assessment Branch met with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) Control Room Habitability Task Force. The purpose of the public meeting was to discuss the scope and purpose of NEI 99-03, Control Room Habitability Assessment Guidance, its framework, the major issues associated with the document, identify subgroups to address the various issues associated with NEI 99-03, and establish a meeting schedule. Each of these areas was covered. Three subgroups, one each on systems, analyses, and licensing were established. Industry has assigned members to each team. Monthly working meetings have been set through April. The NEI schedule calls for submittal of NEI 99-03 to the staff on December 1, 2000.

Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station - License Termination Plan Issued

On January 17, 2000, Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company (MYAPC) submitted the License Termination Plan (LTP) for the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station. This action initiates the final phase of the decommissioning process. Review and approval of the LTP will be performed through the license amendment process. In addition, the staff will hold a public meeting in the vicinity of the plant in late spring to discuss the LTP process and interact with interested members of the public by responding to their questions and obtaining their input for staff consideration during its evaluation of the LTP.

In a press release issued January 18, 2000, MYAPC stated that even though federal and state standards provide for a site release criteria of 25 mrem per year from all sources, the Maine Yankee LTP proposes a cleanup of the site to a release criteria of 10 mrem per year for land and 4 mrem per year for groundwater, commensurate with standards strongly



encouraged by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The LTP also provides for the use of onsite concrete to fill building foundation holes once the buildings have been demolished, and it proposes a deed restriction on the site to ensure its continued use as an industrial site.

Reactor Oversight Process Improvements

On January 10 -13, 2000, the NRC conducted a Revised Reactor Oversight Process Pilot Program Lessons Learned Public Workshop in Washington, DC. The workshop was well attended by representatives from NRC, NEI, industry, public interest groups, federal and state agencies, and the public. During this workshop, NRC and industry representatives discussed pilot program lessons learned. The workshop consisted of sessions addressing performance indicators, baseline inspection program, significance determination process, enforcement and assessment, problem identification and resolution, and communications. Issues were discussed in detail with workshop participants during these breakout sessions, including their impact on implementation, priorities for implementation, and recommendations for their resolution. The Staff is taking actions to resolve issues that have been identified as requiring resolution before initial implementation later this spring.

As part of its ongoing effort to communicate with external stakeholders regarding the revised reactor oversight process, the Inspection Program and Regional staff conducted roundtable public meetings in the vicinity of both the Quad Cities, and Shearon Harris power plants on January 19, 2000 and January 20, 2000, respectively.

ENCLOSURE B

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending January 21, 2000

Meetings Regarding the Atlas Tailings Pile

On January 12-13, 2000, NRC staff from the Division of Waste Management and the Office of the General Counsel, along with representatives of Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP (PWC), the trustee responsible for the Atlas tailings site, participated in meetings in Moab, Utah.

On January 12, 2000, they participated in an "Atlas Stakeholders Group" meeting, which was organized by the state of Utah. The Atlas Stakeholders Group consists of diverse organizations and individuals with an interest in the reclamation of the Atlas mill tailings site, and serves as a forum for the exchange of ideas. At the meeting, participants identified issues for future discussion and created a small working group to address issues related to the cleanup of contaminated groundwater at the site. There was also discussion of the impending announcement (actually made on January 14) by the Secretary of Energy that he would seek legislative authority and appropriation to transfer the site to the Department of Energy (DOE **EXIT**) with the intent of moving the tailings to a location away from the Colorado River.

On January 13, 2000, an NRC public meeting was held at the county junior high school to provide citizens with an update on the actions completed or underway relative to tailings and site reclamation, introduce PWC's representative, and answer questions. Approximately two hours of questions and answers followed the NRC and PWC presentations. About half of the questions fell into three categories: (1) PWC's role and future activities at the site; (2) the adequacy of funding for site remediation; and (3) concerns about radioactive materials that may be present onsite or near-site, but outside of the tailings pile. Other questions related to the adequacy of environmental transport models, the use of sample analysis results, the extent to which currently planned work would be impacted by the DOE-proposed efforts to relocate the tailings, pile dewatering and capping plans and procedures, and the status of current court cases and hearings regarding the Atlas tailings.

Paducah Seismic Modifications

The U. S. Enrichment Corporation had proposed two alternate schedules for completion of the seismic modifications and characterization of the DOE Material Storage Areas (DMSA) for criticality to two cascade buildings at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant: (1) an integrated schedule which would have completed the seismic modifications by September 30, 2000, and the DMSA characterization by July 5, 2000; and (2) a schedule which would have stressed completion of the DMSA characterization over completions of seismic modifications, resulting in completion of DMSA work by June 20, 2000, and seismic modifications by January 2001. On January 19, 2000, DOE informed the Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, that it would now accept option (1), the option supported by the NRC.

ENCLOSURE F

Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending January 21, 2000

Acquisition Training

On January 20, 2000, the Division of Contracts and Property Management conducted "Overview of the Acquisition Process." This training module is a primer for other workshops in the acquisition training program. The work familiarizes participants with the entire NRC acquisition process including Federal Acquisition Regulations applicability, commercial contracts and DOE

Chief Information Officer
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending January 21, 2000

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the 5-Day Period of January 14, 2000 through January 20, 2000:

- Materials licensee site listing for New York and California issued by the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). (FOIA/PA 2000-0104)
- M.L.T.S. database on disk. (FOIA/PA 2000-0105)
- Contracts, Information Handling Services (IHS), Inc., all contracts for past 2 years including NRC-33-98-177. (FOIA/PA 2000-0106)
- M.L.T.S. database printout. (FOIA/PA 2000-0107)
- Millstone, Salem, Brunswick, Calvert Cliffs, and Indian Point power plant sites, all fish and/or marine life records for 1994 through 1999, including communications to/from the plants respective state environmental office. (FOIA/PA 2000-0108)
- Agency guide or reference material for requesting records and information under the FOIA. (FOIA/PA 2000-0109)

Office of Human Resources
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending January 21, 2000

Arrivals		
YANG, Vicky	ACCOUNTANT	OCFO

Office of Public Affairs
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending January 21, 2000

Media Interest

The Raleigh (N.C.) News & Observer and some trade press attended the Shearon Harris ASLB hearing.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
00-14	NRC Proposes to Amend Regulations to Add NAC Fuel Storage Cask Design to Approved List
00-15	NRC Announces Policy on Timing Release of Documents to the Public
Regions:	
I-00-5	NRC to Provide Results of Oyster Creek Radiological Review
I-00-6	NRC to Hold "Roundtable Discussion" on New Reactor Oversight Program at Public Meeting in Pennsville, NJ
I-00-7	Note to Editors: NRC-NEAC Meeting Postponed
I-00-8	Haddam Neck Decommissioning Work to be Discussed on Jan. 27
II-00-4	NRC Sends Special Inspection Team to Sequoyah Nuclear Plant to Review Shutdown
III-00-4	New NRC Region III Public Affairs Officer

Office of the Secretary
Items of Interest
Week Ending January 21, 2000

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Information Papers		
1. SECY-00-0005	1/5/00	Annual Report on Commission Adjudication

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congress dated January 12, 2000, responds to questions raised regarding corrective action program issues identified in two recent inspection reports at Millstone Unit 2.
2. Letter to Congressman Gejdenson dated January 12, 2000, responds to concerns about reports of reductions in inspections at our nation's nuclear power plants as part of the revised reactor oversight process.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Staff Meetings Open to the Public; Proposed Policy Statement.
2. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Meeting of the Subcommittee on Plant License Renewal; Revised Agenda.

Region I
Items of Interest
Week Ending January 21, 2000

Susquehanna 1 and 2

On January 19, 2000, Pennsylvania Power and Light (PP&L) announced the following management changes effective January 21, 2000.

Robert F. Saunders, Vice President-Nuclear Operations, at PP&L's Susquehanna Steam Electric Station will leave PP&L to become the President of the FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company in Ohio.

Bryce Shriver, the General Manager at the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, will replace Mr. Saunders as the Vice President-Nuclear Site Operations.

PP&L will use a selection process to fill the General Manager position vacated by Mr. Shriver.

Robert Byram, PP&L Senior Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer, will no longer have duties associated with fossil generation and environmental management to allow him to focus PP&L efforts on improving performance at Susquehanna. Frank Long, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, will assume the duties associated with fossil generation and environmental management.

Meeting with First Selectman of Waterford, CT

Region I managers and staff met with the First Selectman of the Town of Waterford, CT, Mr. Paul B. Eccard, on January 13, 2000. Attendees from Region I included the Director, Millstone Inspection Staff, the Branch Chief of the Decommissioning and Laboratory Branch, the senior resident inspectors for Millstone Units 2 and 3, and the resident inspector for Millstone Unit 1. The NRC staff discussed the functions of the site staff and the Regional staff, the inspection process, the differences in the operating units versus the shutdown Unit 1, and the new regulator oversight process. Mr. Eccard asked to be on distribution for all Millstone inspection reports, and also asked about his interface with the NRC at the Emergency Operations Facility during the upcoming Millstone emergency preparedness exercise scheduled for March 15, 2000. Mr. Eccard expressed appreciation for the visit and the information exchange, and indicated he looked forward to a continuing dialogue with the NRC in his role as First Selectman.

Region II
Items of Interest
Week Ending January 21, 2000

Florida Power Corporation - Crystal River

On January 18, 2000, the Regional Administrator visited the Crystal River Nuclear Plant. The purpose of the visit was to tour the physical plant and to discuss current plant status and NRC reactor oversight with licensee management and the NRC resident inspectors.

Carolina Power and Light Company - Harris

On January 20, 2000, Region II and the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation held a public meeting at the Homewood Suite Hotel, in Cary, NC, a location near the Harris plant. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the NRC's new reactor oversight process. The meeting included a "roundtable" discussion with invited community leaders and other members of the public.

Tennessee Valley Authority - Sequoyah Unit 2

On January 18, 2000, Sequoyah Unit 2 experienced an automatic reactor trip and injection of water into the reactor coolant system via the safety injection system. The actuation signal occurred during modifications on a vital power supply inverter. During the event, there were some equipment failures. As a result, Region II dispatched two inspectors to assist the Senior Resident Inspector in a special inspection. The licensee investigated the causes of the event and equipment problems, completed short term corrective actions and restarted the unit on January 20. The special inspection team findings supported the restart.

State of Georgia - Radiation Working Group Meeting

On January 19, 2000, the Regional State Liaison Officer participated in a meeting of the Georgia Radiation Working Group in Atlanta. Other participants included government officials from the States of Georgia and Alabama; and representatives from the Southern Nuclear Operating Co., DOE, Savannah River Site, and the Southern States Energy Board.

The principle agenda topics included status updates for plants Farley, Hatch and Vogtle; Savannah River Site programs, Emergency Preparedness, Y2K activities, and the NRC's new reactor oversight program.

ENCLOSURE P

Region III
Items of Interest
Week Ending January 21, 2000

Public Roundtable Meeting at Quad Cities

On January 19, 2000, members of the Region III and Headquarters staffs conducted a public roundtable meeting in Moline, Illinois, to discuss the new reactor oversight process being conducted on a pilot basis at the Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station. Local and state officials and a representative of an Illinois environmental group participated.