

February 7, 2002

SECY-02-0026

For: The Commissioners
From: John W. Craig, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: SECY-02-0026 WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK
ENDING FEBRUARY 1, 2002

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*No input this week.

/RA/

John W. Craig
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
L. Scholl, OEDO

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 1, 2002

NRC Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) 2002-02: Lessons Learned Related to Recently Submitted Decommissioning Plans and License Termination Plans Dated January 16, 2002

This RIS informs addressees of lessons learned from reviews of recently submitted decommissioning plans (DPs) and license termination plans (LTPs). No specific action or written response is required.

NRC Information Notice 2002-07: Use of Sodium Hypochlorite for Cleaning Diesel Fuel Oil Supply Tanks Dated: January 28, 2002

The NRC is issuing this information notice (IN) to alert addressees to the potential problems related to the use of sodium hypochlorite solutions for cleaning diesel fuel oil supply tanks. Use of this chemical in higher concentrations can cause the release of significant amounts of chlorine gas. The NRC anticipates that recipients will review the information for applicability to their facilities and consider taking appropriate actions. However, suggestions contained in this IN do not constitute NRC requirements; therefore, no specific action or written response is required.

Staff Issues Turkey Point Units 3 and 4, Final Supplement 5 to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement on License Renewal

The staff issued the Final Supplement 5 to NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, Supplement 5, Regarding Turkey Point Units 3 and 4." This supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) includes the staff's final analysis that considers and weighs the environmental effects of the proposed action, the environmental impacts of alternatives to the proposed action, and mitigative measures available for reducing or avoiding adverse impacts. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is expected to issue the Notice of Filing of the Final SEIS in the Federal Register in February 2002. The NRC can then proceed with the renewal action after a 30-day period expires should no Federal agency refer matters in dispute in the Final SEIS to the Council on Environmental Quality.

Duke License Renewal Application for McGuire 1&2 and Catawba 1&2

In a Memorandum and Order issued January 24, 2002 (LBP-02-04), the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board issued its ruling on standing and the admissibility of contentions that were filed by Nuclear Information and Resource Service (NIRS) and the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League (BREDL), petitioners in the Catawba and McGuire license renewal proceeding. The Board ruled that both petitioners have standing and concluded that admissible contentions have been proffered. The Board reframed two contentions, the first of which pertains to the impact of anticipated mixed-oxide fuel use on aging and environmental issues. The second contention questions the completeness of the severe accident mitigation alternatives, which (1) did not consider information on particular station blackout vulnerabilities for ice condenser containments (described in NUREG/CR-6427), and (2) did not include an evaluation of a

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dedicated line from hydroelectric stations adjacent to the nuclear stations to mitigate station blackout risk. In addition, the Board has certified one question to the Commission, relating to the risks posed by terrorism to the Catawba and McGuire nuclear stations.

Reactor Oversight Process

The Inspection Program Branch (IIPB) staff conducted a Safety System Unavailability/Unreliability (UA/UR) Committee Pilot Program meeting with the industry and public on January 22-24, 2002, in Bethesda, MD. The meeting defined the objectives and success criteria for a pilot program for the proposed replacement unavailability/unreliability performance indicators (PIs), the scope of the pilot program (including pilot program participants), and the threshold of PIs. Open issues from previous UA/UR PI meetings were also discussed. The Committee has reached agreement on many of the major policy issues and the proposed pilot program activities. In order to finalize the draft UA/UR guideline documents and complete other pilot program related activities (including issuance of UA/UR Regulatory Issue Summary and a Temporary Instruction), the NRC/Industry working group decided to delay a workshop to June 2002 and start of the pilot by July 2002.

Station Blackout (SBO) Rule Scoping for License Renewal

A follow-up public meeting was held on January 15, 2002, between the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and NRC staffs to further discuss the issue of whether the structures and components involved in the recovery from SBO, specifically the equipment needed for restoration of offsite power, should be included in the scope of license renewal. This follow-up meeting was held to better understand each other's interpretation of the SBO rule requirements with regard to the offsite power system. NRC staff and NEI agreed to exchange written positions on this topic.

Completion of the Staff's Evaluation of Phase 2 of the Westinghouse AP1000 Reactor Design

During the week of January 28, 2002, staff from the Reactor Systems Branch and Plant Systems Branch completed their evaluation for Phase 2 of the Westinghouse AP1000 reactor design. The draft evaluation is currently in final preparation. The Phase 2 review was intended to determine whether the scaling analysis provided by Westinghouse for AP1000 using the AP600 test results was sufficient to proceed with the AP1000 design development and whether the computer codes to be used for the analysis of accidents and transients were appropriate for the AP1000 design.

Based on the staff's review, it was determined that with two exceptions, Westinghouse had properly scaled the AP1000 from the AP600 design and that the computer codes proposed for use will adequately model post-accident and transient plant response. The staff met with Westinghouse on January 23, 2002, to discuss these issues. In response to the identified issues, Westinghouse agreed to further evaluate the effects of liquid entrainment on emergency core cooling system (ECCS) performance and core cooling during the fourth stage of blowdown from the automatic depressurization system, and to provide the results of an analysis of main steamline breaks. These issues will be addressed during the actual AP1000 design review conducted during Phase 3. The staff will meet with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) Subcommittee on Thermal Hydraulics on February 14 and 15, 2002, to discuss the results of its Phase 2 review.

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Millstone Unit 3 Nuclear Power Station

Pending before the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) was a motion, filed November 1, 2001, by the Connecticut Coalition Against Millstone and the Long Island Coalition Against Millstone, to reopen the record and accept a late-filed environmental contention dealing with the likelihood and consequences of potential acts of terrorism against the Millstone Unit 3 spent fuel pool.

By Memorandum and Order dated January 24, 2001, the ASLB rejected the contention on the basis of the prohibition against considering contentions of this sort set forth in 10 CFR 50.13. The ASLB referred the ruling on this to the Commission for its review and policy guidance.

There is still a motion before the ASLB that is currently in discovery and oral arguments are scheduled for April 2, 2002. This motion has to do with a contention concerned with whether the administrative controls necessary to implement the currently approved Unit 3 increased spent fuel pool capacity amendment would increase the risk of a criticality accident.

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Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 1, 2002

Meeting of West Valley Regulators

On January 29, 2002, NRC staff met with the Environmental Protection Agency Region 2, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and the New York State Department of Health to continue work on the development of a regulators' communication plan for West Valley site decommissioning. This plan will identify the various roles and clean-up requirements of Federal and State agencies involved with the West Valley site clean-up. The agencies completed a revision of the draft plan and discussed steps for finalizing the plan.

In this meeting, NRC staff also provided an overview of the Commission's policy statement prescribing decommissioning criteria for the West Valley Demonstration Project. The Department of Energy (DOE) and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) participated in this portion of the meeting via conference call. In addition, NRC staff stated that it planned to schedule a noticed meeting soon with DOE, NYSERDA, and the various regulators in the vicinity of the West Valley site to discuss the policy statement.

Proposed Amendment to 10 CFR Part 63

On January 25, 2002, a proposed amendment to 10 CFR Part 63, Regulations for disposal of high-level radioactive wastes in a potential geologic repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, was published in the Federal Register (67 FR 3628) for a 75-day public comment period. The proposed rule would specify the probability of occurrence for unlikely features, events, and processes in quantitative terms. The objective of the proposed rule is to clarify the types of features, events, and processes that should be excluded from analyses of human intrusion and ground-water protection standards.

Meeting with the Military Attaché of the Embassy of Mexico

On January 25, 2002, staff from the Offices of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Reactor Regulation, and International Programs met with two Mexican Army officers serving as the Defense Attaché and the Assistant Defense Attaché at the Embassy of Mexico, and one U.S. Army Officer serving on the Joint Staff, J-5, Strategic Plans and Policy Directorate, for discussions on security at nuclear facilities in the U.S.

Staff provided an overview of U.S. nuclear facility security regulations and explained how the staff implements security requirements at nuclear facilities, focusing on the application of security at nuclear power plants. The existing design basis threat, and how it is applied to protect against radiological sabotage, was discussed. There was also a short discussion on security enhancements incorporated since September 11, 2001. All discussions were unclassified.

International Atomic Energy Agency Safeguards Inspection at the BWX Technologies Highly Enriched Uranium Downblending Facility

On January 23-25, 2002, an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards inspection was held at the BWX Technologies (BWXT) Highly Enriched Uranium Downblending Facility. Staff from the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards was present to facilitate both the inspection and the discussion of safeguards implementation issues. The operator will prepare a report and the NRC will submit it to the IAEA.

NAC-UMS Spent Fuel Storage System Amendment Approved for Maine Yankee

On January 23, 2002, the NRC staff issued Amendment No. 2 to Certificate of Compliance No. 1015 for the NAC International UMS Universal Spent Fuel Storage System. The amendment is intended primarily for use at Maine Yankee, and includes: (1) changes to authorized contents to allow Maine Yankee to store various components associated with the spent fuel assemblies; (2) a Technical Specification change to delete the requirement to place a transportable storage canister in the transfer cask if the associated vertical concrete cask's vents cannot be unblocked; and (3) editorial clarifications, administrative changes and correction of discrepancies in the Technical Specifications.

Meeting with Pacific Gas and Electric to Discuss the Diablo Canyon Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation Application

On January 24, 2002, the NRC staff and representatives of Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) held a meeting to discuss PG&E's plans for licensing an independent spent fuel storage installation at the Diablo Canyon Power Plant. This meeting was conducted at the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analysis (Center) in San Antonio, Texas, so that technical staff from the Center could attend. The Center will assist NRC with the site-specific technical review of the application. PG&E staff discussed what documents were contained in the application and how the documents incorporated other information previously docketed by NRC, such as the Holtec HI-STORM 100 Safety Analysis Report (as amended through December 2001), and past seismic evaluations performed for the Diablo Canyon Power Plant. The NRC staff currently is performing an acceptance review of the application.

FuelSolutions™ Spent Fuel Management System Amendment Approved for Big Rock Point (W74 Canister)

On January 24, 2002, the NRC staff issued Amendment No. 2 to Certificate of Compliance (CoC) No. 1026 for the FuelSolutions™ Spent Fuel Management System. This amendment became effective January 28, 2002. Amendment No. 2 to CoC No. 1026 constitutes approval of the following changes to the FuelSolutions™ Spent Fuel Management System: (1) revision to clarify the description of the other non-fissile material permitted to be in the fuel assembly; (2) change of temperatures to correspond to the liner thermocouple; and (3) change of technical specifications for certain required actions.

Amendment 2 affects the W74 canister only, which will be used by Big Rock Point for storage of spent fuel as part of its decommissioning.

NAC Multi-Purpose Canister Amendment Approved for Yankee Rowe

On January 23, 2002, the NRC staff issued the formal Certificate of Compliance for Amendment No. 1 (Yankee Rowe) to the NAC Multi-Purpose Canister. The amendment is intended primarily for use at Yankee Rowe and includes the following: (1) an alternate fuel basket design with enlarged fuel tubes in the corner locations of the basket; (2) an increase in the operational time limits for canister loading, closure, and transfer provided in the Technical Specifications, that allow for canister heat loads that are lower than the design basis heat load; (3) revisions to the Technical Specifications for canister surface contamination to maintain doses to workers as low as reasonably achievable; and (4) minor revisions to some of the drawings to reflect changes identified during cask and component fabrication.

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Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
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International Cooperative Agreement between the USNRC and the Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe GmbH of the Federal Republic of Germany (FZK) Relating to Cooperation in the Severe Accident Research Program

On January 24, 2002, the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) forwarded an international cooperative agreement to Germany that defines the terms and conditions by which the USNRC and the FZK will establish continued cooperation in the area of severe accident research on the basis of mutual benefit and reasonable equity and reciprocity. FZK will provide in-kind technical information in related research. This implementing agreement will become effective upon signature of both parties, and will remain in effect for 5 years.

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Incident Response Operations
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IRO Interactions with the Operations Center for the Office of Homeland Security

On January 28, 2002, Incident Response Operations Management visited the recently established 24-hour Coordination Center for the Office of Homeland Security (OHS). The primary purpose was to confirm the protocol and logistics for transmitting security related information between the NRC and OHS Centers. The Director of the OHS Coordination Center described the mission and capabilities of the OHS Center, and was interested in visiting the NRC Operations Center to gain a better understanding of NRC's capabilities. Additionally, the Director of IRO offered to routinely provide any pertinent information that would support the OHS mission and extended an invitation to observe the conduct of an exercise.

Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee Meeting

On January 30, 2002, staff from Incident Response Operations (IRO), and the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) attended the bimonthly Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee (FRPCC). At the meeting, the FRPCC members agreed to a request from IRO staff to adopt the One-Voice White Paper prepared by the staff. In addition, the members agreed that the next steps on the one-voice effort would be a tabletop exercise tentatively scheduled for May 2002. Other activities at the meeting were: 1) routine updates from subcommittees, including a status report on potassium-iodide; 2) a status report by the transportation subcommittee on its letter to FRPCC members requesting funding to update the good/some/none instrument table for transportation accidents; 3) an update by the Protection Actions Guidelines (PAG) subcommittee on its schedule for completing the PAGs by December 2002. The PAG subcommittee noted that an interim draft of the water PAG would be provided to FRPCC agencies within the next week, and the Environmental Protection Agency was anticipating discussions with other agencies on the interim draft after the Olympics. Following the FRPCC meeting, IRO and NRR staff attended an executive session to discuss operational matters of the committee.

Meeting with the Department of Justice (DOJ) on Tabletop Scenarios

Staff from Incident Response Operations (IRO) participated in a meeting with representatives from the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), the organization in DOJ that deals with local and state governments. OJP indicated that it would like to work with the staff to develop a tabletop exercise that would help OJP work with local governments on their readiness for nuclear events. The OJP staff is especially interested in those local governments that are not routinely involved in nuclear emergency planning. IRO staff committed to help OJP by developing one or two scenarios and it was agreed that OJP and IRO would meet February 27, 2002, to discuss some initial thoughts on potential scenarios.

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-I-02-001, Earth Engineering, Inc., STOLEN AND RECOVERED PORTABLE GAUGE.

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2. PNO-II-02-003, Nuclear Fuel Services (Erwin), UNPLANNED MEDICAL TREATMENT AT A MEDICAL FACILITY OF A CONTAMINATED OPERATOR.

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Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 1, 2002

Acquisition Training

On January 28-31, 2002, a Division of Contracts and Property Management (DCPM) representative attended the conference, "Electronic Procurement - Acquisition for the Digital Workforce." This comprehensive conference, sponsored by the Council for Electronic Government, was attended by procurement, finance, and information technology representatives of federal agencies and state and local governments, as well as private contractors. The conference programs focused on integrating procurement/financial operating systems to improve regulatory compliance and overall procurement/finance operations. The conference also presented case studies by civilian and defense organizations on what system integration efforts have worked, what system integration remains, and what future system integration efforts are being planned.

Robert H. Leyse: Supplement to a Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-50-73A)

A document announcing the receipt of a supplement to a petition for rulemaking submitted by Robert H. Leyse (PRM-50-73A) was published in the Federal Register on January 29, 2002 (67 FR 4214). In this supplement to his earlier petition (PRM-50-73), the petitioner requests that the NRC amend its regulations on the acceptance criteria for emergency core cooling systems to address the impact of severe crud deposits on the capability to cool fuel bundles during the normal operation of a light-water reactor. The comment period on this action closes April 15, 2002.

Decommissioning Criteria for the West Valley Demonstration Project (M-32) at the West Valley Site: Final Policy Statement

A document issuing a final Commission policy statement concerning decommissioning criteria for the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) at the West Valley site was published in the Federal Register on February 1, 2002 (67 FR 5003). The Commission is prescribing the license termination rule (10 CFR Part 20, Subpart E) as the decommissioning criteria for the WVDP. The policy statement became effective on February 1, 2002.

Chief Information Officer
Items of Interest
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Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the Period of
January 25, 2002 through January 31, 2002:

American Electric Power (AEP) and Crane Nuclear Services, records related to 7/24/01 predecisional enforcement conference held in Region III. (FOIA/PA-2002-0111)

OI investigative file no. 3-2000-025. (FOIA/PA-2002-0112)

Radiation exposure records on named individual. (FOIA/PA-2002-0113)

NRC comments to House-Senate Conferees regarding language in Energy & Water 2002 Appropriations regarding 10 CFR Part 35, use limitations for diagnostic nuclear medicine. (FOIA/PA-2002-0114)

Moab Uranium Mill, Moab, UT, all records related to transfer and expenditure of funds under Surety Instrument Performance Bond No. 5652, issued by Acostar Insurance Co. (FOIA/PA-2002-0115)

Chief Financial Officer
Items of Interest
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Commission Paper on FY 2002 Fee Rule

On January 31, 2002, the CFO issued a SECY paper to the Commission for their approval on the FY 2002 proposed fee rule and partial response to the Chairman's August 9, 2001, tasking memorandum.

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Office of Human Resources
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Arrivals		
SURI, Renu	PROGRAM ANALYST	OCFO

Office of Public Affairs
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Media Interest

A tip from an al Qaeda operative suggesting terrorists might be planning to attack an American nuclear plant using a hijacked commercial airliner, prompted the government to issue an advisory last week, but was later deemed "non-credible," according to media reports.

There was continuing media interest discussions by state and local officials about the adequacy of emergency evacuation plans for the area surrounding New York's Indian Point nuclear plant.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
02-010	NRC to Revise Meeting Policy to Enhance Public Participation
02-011	NRC Issues Final Policy Statement on Decommissioning Criteria for West Valley
02-012	NRC Announces Opportunity for Hearing for License Renewal Application for St. Lucie Units 1 and 2
Regions:	
II-02-001	NRC Staff to Meet with Progress Energy/CP&L to Discuss Fire Protection Issues at Harris Nuclear Plant
II-02-002	NRC Staff to Meet with Puerto Rico Hospital to Discuss Apparent Violations of Radioactive Material Regulations
IV-02-003	NRC Dispatches Inspection Team to Callaway

Office of International Programs
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US/Canada/Mexico Trilateral Initiative

In response to COMJSM-01-0001, arrangements have been finalized for the inaugural meeting on the US/Canada/Mexico Trilateral Initiative at Headquarters on February 5, 2002 (9:00-4:30 in O4B6). Eight representatives are expected from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) and two from the Mexican Comision Nacional de Seguridad Nuclear y Salvaguardias (CNSNS). Topics to be covered include notification of lost or stolen sources near borders, institutional controls for large volumes of long-lived radioactive materials, the Joint Convention on Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Management, and security of facilities and trans-boundary shipments.

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Office of the Secretary
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Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. COMSECY-01-0037	12/20/01	CSN Request for NRR Support on Implementation of Risk-Informed Inspection Activities
SRM on 01-0037	1/29/02	(same)
Commissioner comments on 01-0037	1/29/02	(same)
2. COMNJD-02-0001	01/08/02	Assessment of Impact of NRC's Activities on Licensees' Operations
SRM on COMNJD-02-0001	01/30/02	(same)
Commissioner comments on 02-0001	01/30/02	(same)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-02-0015	01/25/02	SECY-02-0015 Weekly Information Report - Week Ending January 18, 2002
2. SECY-02-0011	1/15/02	Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Briefing
3. SECY-02-0008	1/14/02	Status Report on Developing a Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Department of Energy for a Decision Process Regarding Potential Site Transfers Under Section 151(b) of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act

Memoranda		
1. M020130A	1/30/02	Staff Requirements-Affirmation Session: I. SECY-02-0006-Dominion Nuclear Connecticut Inc. (Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Units 2 and 3) Petition for Reconsideration of CLI-01-24; II. SECY-02-0014-Duke Cogema Stone & Webster (Savannah River Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility); Georgians Against Nuclear Energy's Motion for Reconsideration of CLI-01-28

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Mary Lampert, Massachusetts citizens for Safe Energy, Duxbury Nuclear Advisory Committee, dated January 22, 2002, concerns the security of nuclear power plants in the wake of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.
2. Letter to Robert Grant, Numanco, L.L.C, dated January 18, 2002, concerns Notice of Violation.
3. Letter to Senator Richard J. Durbin dated January 18, 2002, concerns the reinstatement of "no-fly zones" over the Nations's nuclear facilities.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Decommissioning Criteria for the West Valley Demonstration Project (M-32) at the West Valley Site; Final Policy Statement.
2. Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Plant License Renewal; Notice of Meeting.
3. Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes; Meeting Notice.
4. Tennessee Valley Authority; Sequoyah Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2; Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, Unit 1; Docket Nos. 50-327-OLA, 50-328-OLA, & 50-390-OLA; Establishment of Atomic Safety and Licensing Board.
5. Duke Energy Corporation (McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2); Docket Nos. 50-369-LR, 50-370-LR, 50-413-LR, and 50-414-LR; Notice of Hearing.

Region I
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Superbolt Site Visit and Management Meeting

On January 31, 2002, members of the Region I Decommissioning and Laboratory Branch visited the Superbolt, Inc. site in Carnegie, PA. Superbolt is the site of a former AEC licensed facility (Superior Steel Co.) which was authorized to use unlimited quantities of uranium for commercial atomic power plant research studies in the 1950's and 1960's. During its review of terminated licenses, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) identified this site as one containing residual contamination that required further evaluation. During the site visit the NRC representatives met with Superbolt management representatives to discuss the status of remediation and evaluate the possibility of releasing selected buildings for unrestricted use. Surveys of portions of Building 23 were performed and low levels of unidentified radioactive material was identified. This building had not previously been surveyed. Soil samples were obtained and sent to the NRC's sample analysis contractor, ORISE, for evaluation. A representative of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) attended the meeting.

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Region II
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Carolina Power and Light Company - Brunswick Nuclear Plant

On January 30, 2002, the Acting Deputy Regional Administrator made a presentation to the Annual Nuclear Assurance Group meeting for the four Progress Energy sites at the Carolina Power and Light Company's Brunswick Nuclear Plant in Wilmington, N.C. He discussed the reactor oversight process and insights from problem identification and resolution inspections.

Supervising Human Resources Training Course

On January 28-February 1, 2002, the Supervising Human Resources Training Course was held in the Region II office. The training was presented by Resolution Dynamics, Inc. and senior managers in Region II. The course was attended by senior resident inspectors and team leaders.

State of Florida Periodic Meeting

On January 28, 2002, the Director, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, the Agreement State Officer, and representatives of the Office of State and Tribal Programs participated in a periodic meeting with the State of Florida to review the status of Agreement State Programs.

Carolina Power and Light Company - Harris Nuclear Plant

On January 31, 2002, the Region held two conferences with the licensee. One was a regulatory conference to discuss the risk significance of an apparent violation for a degraded fire wall between two safety system trains, which resulted in the wall not being able to perform its intended function. This conference was lead by the Director of the Division of Reactor Safety in Region II. The second was an enforcement conference to discuss an apparent violation for determining that the degraded fire wall was acceptable by analysis without NRC approval. This conference was lead by the Acting Regional Administrator.

Region IV
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Nebraska Public Power District

The NRC staff, representing Region IV and the Offices of Enforcement and Nuclear Reactor Regulation, held a regulatory conference with representatives of Nebraska Public Power District on February 1, 2002. The purpose of the regulatory conference was to discuss the risk significance of a potential White finding, the associated apparent violation involving a compromise of the 2000 licensed operator requalification biennial examinations and corrective action deficiencies addressed in NRC Inspection Report 50-298/01-12. The regulatory conference was open to public observation. Members of the public and the news media attended either in person, by telephone, or by video conference.

Regional Administrator Visits South Texas Project

The Regional Administrator visited the South Texas Project (STP) facility on February 1, 2002. Activities included a plant tour and general discussions with senior managers of STP Nuclear Operating Company.