

October 29, 2002

SECY-02-0193

For: The Commissioners  
From: John W. Craig, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO /RA/  
Subject: SECY-02-0193 WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK  
ENDING OCTOBER 25, 2002

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\*No input this week.

**/RA/**

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending October 25, 2002

Reactor Oversight Process

On October 9, 2002, a public meeting was held at NRC headquarters to discuss questions and comments generated by industry representatives regarding the proposed steam generator tube integrity significance determination process (SDP). The discussions included issues previously defined as part of the reactor oversight process and their applicability to the proposed SDP. Additionally, several comments were carried as open issues to be discussed at a public meeting to be held on December 19, 2002.

NRC Information Notice 2002-29, Recent Design Problems in Safety Functions of Pneumatic Systems dated October 15, 2002

The NRC is issuing this information notice to inform addressees of recent occasions when the controls or designs of safety-related systems incorporating non-safety-related air-operated controls was less than adequate. It is expected that recipients will review the information for applicability to their facilities and consider actions, as appropriate, to avoid similar problems.

Public Workshop on License Renewal

On October 22-23, 2002, the License Renewal and Environmental Impacts Program conducted a public workshop to solicit stakeholder comment on implementation of the license renewal rule and associated guidance documents. Over 110 persons attended the workshop including industry representatives, staff reviewers, supporting contractors, public interest representatives, and state representatives. Day one was focused on enhancing the license renewal application format to provide the most efficient review by the staff and enhance public confidence. Day two was focused on environmental review issues. The workshop provided participants with the opportunity to obtain information, ask questions, and make comments and suggestions for NRC consideration.

Early Site Permit (ESP) Meeting with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI)/ ESP Applicants

On October 16-17, 2002, representatives from NEI met with the NRC staff to discuss issues related to ESP applications and reviews. Representatives from Dominion, Exelon and Entergy were in attendance. As a follow-up to the September 25, 2002, ESP meeting, the staff and industry continued a discussion on the use of a plant parameter envelope (PPE) approach to meet regulatory requirements. NEI provided one example involving the use of the PPE approach in assessing the environmental effects of cooling water usage. In addition, the staff and NEI discussed (1) a staff comparison of the draft NRC ESP review standard table of contents (TOC) and the draft NEI ESP Application Template TOC; (2) the NEI Task Force seismic demonstration project; (3) NEI questions regarding quality assurance requirements for ESP applications; and (4) the realistic and reasonable role that staff pre-application and review standard development activities will play in developing the NRC nominal review schedule for ESP applications.

### Boiling Water Reactor Vessel and Internals Project Seminar

On October 17, 2002, the staff of the Materials and Chemical Engineering Branch (EMCB) sponsored a seminar on the boiling water reactor vessel and internals project (BWRVIP). The seminar was attended by the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR), the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES), and regional staff. The purpose of this seminar was to: (1) provide the staff with an overview of the BWRVIP program, (2) discuss program development, (3) provide an overview of non-destructive examination as it relates to the BWRVIP, (4) discuss BWRVIP inspection and flaw evaluation guidelines, and (5) discuss the aspects of structural evaluations in BWR internal components. The seminar was presented by VIP representatives from EPRI and Southern Nuclear Company.

### Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Unit 1

On October 10, 2002, the NRC staff issued a license amendment for Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Unit 1 which increased the maximum allowable thermal power level (licensed power level) by 1.7% from 3,833 megawatts thermal (MWth) to 3,898 MWth. The licensee's application took credit for the highly accurate feedwater flow determination provided by the Leading Edge Flow Meter technology utilized for plant calorimetric calculations.

### Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1

The inspection of the vessel head nozzles is continuing. To date, 49 of the 69 nozzles have had a volumetric examination. Thirty-one of the nozzles were cleared by Westinghouse, and due to a slower than expected examination rate, the balance of the nozzles are being examined by Framatome.

The licensee has also decided to perform a volumetric examination of the center nozzle. Previously, the licensee indicated (in its Bulletin 2002-02 response) that it did not desire to perform a volumetric examination of this nozzle due to various hardships.

To date, three nozzles appear to be candidates for repair (nozzles 56, 54 and 68). Nozzle 56 was the only leaker identified from the bare metal examination. Nozzle 56 was also the nozzle that was found to have leaked during the previous refueling outage and it was discussed in detail in a public meeting on October 16, 2002. Regarding the other two nozzles, the licensee is still collecting additional data on nozzle 54 to completely characterize its flaws, and the licensee currently believes that the indication seen in nozzle 68 is a weld reflection of a porosity dot in the weld material.

### North Anna Power Station, Units 1 and 2

A public meeting has been scheduled for October 29, 2002 between the staff and Virginia Electric and Power Company to discuss the reactor vessel head replacement project at North Anna, Unit 2. This meeting will provide the licensee an opportunity to present their plans to reconcile the differences between the replacement reactor vessel head and the currently installed head with respect to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code Section XI requirements. Any differences that can not be reconciled with the ASME Code would be screened through the 10 CFR 50.59 process. In addition, during this meeting the staff will discuss their oversight of this project.

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

As of the morning of October 22, 2002, 58 of the 65 control rod drive mechanism (CRDM) nozzles have been ultrasonically (UT) examined. Six nozzles have axial indications, none have circumferential indications; these 6 nozzles are in addition to the 7 nozzles that showed evidence of leakage during the visual examination (total of 13 nozzles). The UT on the remaining nozzles is expected to be completed by the evening of October 22, 2002. There were 4 nozzles that were repaired during the last refueling outage. These 4 nozzles were UT examined and the 2 previously-repaired nozzles, that were masked, were also examined by dye-penetrant testing. No indications were found in any of the 4 previously-repaired nozzles. Another call to discuss inspection results will be held before the end of October 2002 once the licensee has completed its volumetric examinations.

### Containment Significance Determination Process (SDP)

NRR held a three-day working meeting at Brookhaven National Laboratory (October 16-18) regarding improvements to the at-power SDP notebooks and processes, and a draft revision to the containment SDP (Appendix H to MC0609). This included detailed discussions with the members of the Operations Support Team (OST) concerning: the latest revision of the containment SDP tool, the interfaces between the Level 1 notebooks and the containment SDP, further improvements to the containment SDP, and possible benchmarking approaches. Comments received were generally favorable, and will be used to enhance the user friendliness of the Appendix H revision. SPSB is planning to present the revised containment SDP to the Senior Risk Analysts (SRA) at the upcoming SRA counterpart meeting the week of November 12, 2002.

### Meeting with Industry on Issues Related to Use of Potassium Iodide in Radiation Emergencies

On October 10, 2002, a publicly observed meeting was held between representatives of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), industry, Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), State agencies, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at NRC headquarters. The purpose of the meeting was to share information and to clarify expectations for prophylactic use of potassium iodide (KI) in radiation emergencies.

An FDA representative discussed that the FDA was looking at potential radiation dose recommendations for prophylactic use of KI. He explained that age was a factor considered in determining the potential radiation dose to be recommended. The potential radiation dose recommendation for an adult should be higher than it would be for a child. He said the FDA was looking at a potential 5 rem dose as meeting the needs of a child.

The group discussed the responsibility of a licensee in States which request that the licensee give them projected dose data and not provide them with a recommendation for prophylactic KI use. Some States believe that if such a recommendation is made that it will be misunderstood. The NRC pointed out that the licensees need to meet their obligation to identify to the State that they recommend KI be used in affected areas. This is an issue that the licensee must work out with the State.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending October 25, 2002

Trousdale County, Tennessee, County Commission Meeting

On October 21, 2002, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards staff met with Trousdale County, Tennessee, Commissioners, to respond to questions on the proposed Louisiana Energy Services gas centrifuge enrichment plant. The staff also answered questions on the project from the public (about 80 persons) who attended the meeting. Issues raised included depleted uranium tails disposition; effluent releases; transportation; Davis Besse inspection issues; Paducah gaseous diffusion plant groundwater contamination; changes in property values; and County zoning requirements.

Support of Consultants Meeting at the International Atomic Energy Agency

During October 14-18, 2002, a staff member from the Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety attended a Consultants Meeting in Vienna, Austria, convened by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The meeting focused on the development of additional guidance, for the International Nuclear Event Scale (INES), to rate events involving radiation sources. This meeting was based on a recommendation, at the Biennial meeting of International Nuclear Event Scale National Officers, held February 26 through March 2, 2002, on the need to develop additional training and guidance on radiation/source events. This additional guidance will be written, based on a review of existing and draft guidance, developed by Member States, and source incidents, that have been rated in INES. This activity is part of IAEA's ongoing effort to expand the scope of the INES, to develop a universal tool for communicating the severity of events involving the civilian uses of nuclear power and radioactive materials. The IAEA has been systematically addressing specific issues and developing rating guidance for them. The Consultants also met with another Consultants group that was working on a TECDOC on the categorization of sources, and discussed issues of mutual interest.

Amendment to the Transnuclear, Inc., NUHOMS® MP-187 Multi-Purpose Spent Fuel Cask Transportation Certificate of Compliance

On October 18, 2002, NRC issued Amendment No. 8 to the NUHOMS® MP-187 Spent Fuel Cask Transportation Certificate of Compliance (71-9255). The amendment allows for an alternative to the ASME Code. The Code requires dye penetrant examination of the machined portion of the cask bottom forging. The approved alternative allows for flaw tolerance analysis. This Code alternative is approved for only one cask (Failed Fuel Dry Shielded Canister: FF-DSC Serial Number FF-13P-R21) to be used by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District. This action was to support fuel-loading operations at the Rancho Seco Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation.

Meeting with Electric Power Research Institute to Discuss Cladding Integrity under Transportation Accident Scenarios

On October 23, 2002, representatives from the Spent Fuel Project Office, the Electric Power Research Institute, Anatech, and industry attended a meeting to discuss technical issues associated with the transportation of high burnup spent fuel. This was a working-level meeting consisting of technical discussion on models and methods that could be used to evaluate the

response of spent fuel cladding to transportation accident scenarios. It was expected that one of the outcomes of the analysis would be an estimate of the spent-fuel rod-failure probability, under hypothetical accident conditions.

#### Staff Attends Forum on Stakeholder Confidence Workshop in Canada

On October 15-18, 2002, staff from the Division of Waste Management attended a site visit and workshop sponsored by the Forum on Stakeholder Confidence (FSC) and Natural Resources Canada (NRCCanada), an agency of the Canadian Government. FSC is a working party to the Radioactive Waste Management Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development's Nuclear Energy Agency. Delegates to FSC took part in a site visit at uranium processing waste disposal facilities in three communities in or near Port Hope, Ontario. Delegates were joined by a wide range of Canadian stakeholders, in Ottawa, for 3 days, to discuss issues affecting public confidence in radioactive waste management and disposal in Canada. As a member of the FSC core group, the delegate from the NRC staff facilitated three roundtable discussions and served as session moderator for one of three topical sessions. Topics included an overview of the Canadian context for radioactive waste disposal in Canada. Of particular emphasis was NRCCanada's efforts to address recent legislation that mandated explicit consideration of social acceptability and ethical considerations in the search for high-level-waste disposal options. Other topics included identifying social and community concerns, means for addressing those concerns, and the use and effectiveness of development opportunities and other community-incentive programs for building stakeholder confidence and social acceptance. The next FSC meeting is scheduled for May 2003, in Paris.

#### NRC and Department of Energy Quarterly Quality Assurance and Management Public Meetings

On October 16-17, 2002, Division of Waste Management staff met with the Department of Energy (DOE) to discuss quality assurance (QA) and management issues on the DOE Yucca Mountain program. Both meetings were two-way videoconferences, hosted at the Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office, with connection to NRC Headquarters in Washington, DC. The Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses in San Antonio, Texas, took part by telecommunications. Both meetings were open to the public.

The purpose of the meetings was to discuss the status of the QA program at the potential repository site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. Presentations included the status of the Management Improvement Initiatives Implementation; status of the DOE QA Program; results of the DOE Semi-Annual Self-Assessment; and status of Key Technical Issue agreement items. As part of the meetings, the status of previous action items was presented by DOE and accepted by NRC. Also, DOE agreed to address several new action items by providing additional information requested by NRC. If necessary, DOE and NRC will have additional public meetings to address the new action items identified during the October 16-17, 2002, quarterly QA and management meetings.

#### The Fifth Nickel Development Institute Workshop on the Fabrication and Welding of Nickel Alloys and Other Materials for Radioactive Waste Containers

On October 16-17, 2002, Division of Waste Management (DWM) staff attended the Fifth Nickel Development Institute Workshop on the Fabrication and Welding of Nickel Alloys and Other Materials for Radioactive Waste Containers, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Nearly 100 representatives from industry, the Department of Energy (DOE), and the public attended the workshop. DOE and

industry representatives presented information on waste package (WP) design; material composition considerations; corrosion issues that may affect the predicted long life of the WP; welding techniques for closure of the WP; and stress relief of the final WP closure weld. The meeting was informative and timely in that it provided insight into some of DWM's Key Technical Issue Agreements on the Container Life for the proposed Yucca Mountain repository.

#### Staff Participates in Fuel Cycle Facilities Forum Meeting

On October 23, 2002, staff from the Division of Waste Management participated at the Fuel Cycle Facilities Forum (FCFF) meeting, held in Hartford, Connecticut. Staff provided the FCFF with an update or discussion on the following topics: (1) the Memorandum of Understanding between the Environmental Protection Agency and NRC; (2) the status of the Clearance Rule; (3) report to the Commission on results of the Decommissioning Pilot Program; (4) Draft NUREG-1761, "Radiological Surveys for Release of Solid Materials"; and (5) Proposed Rule: "Transfers of Certain Source Materials (0.05 percent by weight) by Specific Licensees to Persons Exempt from Licensing."

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending October 25, 2002

ACRS Review of "Guidance for Performance-Based Regulation"

On October 11, 2002, the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES), with the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) support, made a presentation to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) regarding the draft NUREG/BR, "Guidance for Performance-Based Regulation." The guidance document, which is "user-friendly," will assist NRC staff in developing less prescriptive or performance-based approaches to regulatory issues. The staff noted to the ACRS how it plans to integrate risk-informed and performance-based approaches to regulation under the "coherence" activities. The ACRS agreed with the staff's proposal to publish the guidance as a NUREG/BR document. A letter to the NRC Chairman dated October 17, 2002 has been issued providing the basis for the ACRS conclusions, and recommending that additional explanation be included in specific aspects of the guidance.

ACRS Presentation on Policy Issues for Future Non-LWR Reactors

On October 10, 2002, RES gave a presentation to the ACRS on the Technical Related Policy Issues for Future Non-Light Water Reactors. The briefing discussed the schedule and options for resolving the seven policy issues identified in SECY-02-0139, "Plan for Resolving Policy Issues Related to Licensing Non-Light Water Reactor Designs". The issues included: (1) expectations for safety, (2) defense-in-depth, (3) use of international codes and standards, (4) event selection, (5) source term, (6) containment vs. confinement, and (7) emergency preparedness. A public workshop addressing these seven issues will be held on October 22-23 at the Double Tree Hotel in Rockville, MD.

Implementing Agreement Between the NRC and the Nuclear Regulatory Authority of the Slovak Republic (UJD SR) Relating to UJD SR Participation in the USNRC Thermal-Hydraulic Code Applications and Maintenance Program (CAMP)

On September 27, 2002, the Executive Director for Operations signed an Implementing Agreement with the Nuclear Regulatory Authority of the Slovak Republic (UJD SR). It was subsequently countersigned by Marta Ziakova, Chairman, UJD SR on October 7, 2002.

This Implementing Agreement defines the terms and conditions by which the NRC and the UJD SR will continue their cooperation in the NRC thermal-hydraulic code applications and maintenance program on the basis of mutual benefit and reasonable equity and reciprocity. As part of its participation, the UJD SR will provide a cash contribution plus one code assessment report per year for the duration of this Implementing Agreement. This Implementing Agreement will enter into force upon signature, with effect from August 31, 2002, and remain in force for a period of five years.

Nuclear Security and Incident Response  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending October 25, 2002

Silent Vector Emergency Exercise (Tabletop)

On October 17-18, 2002, the Acting Deputy Director of the Division of Incident Response Operations observed "Silent Vector," a strategic-level emergency exercise organized and conducted by the ANSER Institute for Homeland Security in conjunction with the Center for Strategic and International Studies. The players during the exercise included a former U.S. Senator; a former Virginia Governor; former department and agency heads; former senior military leaders; and a former NRC Chairman. Industry representatives, the media, Congressional staff, and others observed the exercise.

NATO to use RASCAL Code

The Division of Incident Response Operations provided NRC's RASCAL emergency response dose assessment code to a U.S. representative on a North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) project to assess the consequences.

National Response Team

NSIR/DIRO staff attended the National Response Team (NRT) meeting on October 24, 2002, at the Environmental Protection Agency Emergency Operations Center. The topics of discussion included the NRT effort to reconcile the coordination issues between the four major response plans (Federal Response Plan, National Contingency Plan, U.S. Government Interagency Domestic Terrorism Concept of Operations Plan, Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan) during terrorist events.

TOPOFF 2 National Seminar

On October 16-17, 2002, Nuclear Security Incident Response and Region IV Response Coordination Branch staff participated in the TOPOFF 2 National Seminar with other emergency response functional area leaders from Federal, State, and local departments and agencies, and the Canadian Government in Seattle, Washington. Top Officials (TOPOFF) 2 is a Congressionally-mandated, national combating Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) terrorism exercise series designed to provide training for Federal, State and local top officials and responders, and demonstrate coordinated national crisis and consequence management capabilities. The co-chairs of TOPOFF 2 are the Departments of Justice and State. This seminar focused on improving the nation's capability to provide a horizontally and vertically-integrated and effective response.

Diablo Canyon Exercise

On October 23, 2002, NRC Headquarters and Region IV staff participated in an emergency preparedness exercise with Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant in California. Multiple Federal agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Office of Homeland Security, DOE, and Federal Emergency Management Agency participated. NRC activated its Headquarters Operations Center, Region IV's Incident Response Center, and sent a team to the site as part of the exercise. The exercise was unique in that it was the first FEMA-evaluated licensee exercise

that featured an integrated response, including aspects of the Concept of Operations Plan and the Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan.

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-I-02-019, Testwell Laboratories, Inc., STOLEN AND RECOVERED PORTABLE GAUGE.

Office of Administration  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending October 25, 2002

Meeting of the Interagency Procurement Executive Council

On October 24, 2002, a representative of the Division of Contracts, attended a meeting of the interagency Procurement Executive Council. The meeting included an update on the status of schedules and anticipated interagency resources for several projects included among the President's e-Government Initiatives. The projects under discussion seek ways to exploit potential benefits of emerging electronic technologies for federal procurement processes.

Memorandum of Understanding Between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Consultation and Finality on Decommissioning and Decontamination of Contaminated Sites

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the NRC and EPA was published in the Federal Register on October 24, 2002 (67 FR 65375). The MOU is intended to identify the interactions of the two agencies for the decommissioning and decontamination of NRC-licensed sites and indicate the way in which these interactions will occur.

Chief Information Officer  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending October 25, 2002

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the period of  
October 18, 2002 through October 24, 2002:

CARES Computer Code Version 1.1 for PC (FOIA/PA-2003-0016)

OI Report 3-2001-005, all records and transcripts (FOIA/PA-2003-0017)

Davis Besse, significance determination process for the reactor vessel head degradation (FOIA/PA-2003-0018)

Material Licensing Tracking System, all active licenses (FOIA/PA-2003-0019)

Allegation, RIV-2001-A-0172 (FOIA/PA-2003-0020)

Organizational chart for NRC (FOIA/PA-2003-0021)

Organizational charts and telephone directory for NRC (FOIA/PA-2003-0022)

Fermi plant, all records related to an incident occurring on 4-25-00 (FOIA/PA-2003-0023)

Allegation, Report 1-97-A-0145 and all supporting documents (FOIA/PA-2003-0024)

Communications from 9/1/99 to present between or among named NRC individuals regarding named individuals, and any investigation concerning the conduct of named NRC individuals, not captured under OIG/EEO investigation (FOIA/PA-2003-0025)

OIG Report 02-27H, FY2002 1<sup>st</sup> quarter report, and supporting documents (FOIA/PA-2003-0026)

Region IV Operating Plan Quarterly Performance Review reports 1/1/98 through present (FOIA/PA-2003-0027)

OIG audit reports of Operating Plan Quarterly Performance Review reports for all regions, 1/1/98 through present (FOIA/PA-2003-0028)

Communications between or among named NRC individuals regarding the Region IV FY2002 Operating Plan First Quarter Performance Review and/or a specifically named individual (FOIA/PA-2003-0029)

N.V.T. Technologies, all contracts and supplements since 01/2000; any annual or quarterly reports or audits re: NVTs work; any congressional correspondence re: NVT since 1998 (FOIA/PA-2003-0030)

STARFIRE records on self, specific pay periods (FOIA/PA-2003-0031)

Pebble Bed modular reactor, all documents (FOIA/PA-2003-0032)

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ENCLOSURE G

OIG Case No. 02-15H, final report (FOIA/PA-2003-0033)

OI Report 1-2002-005, full report without exhibits (FOIA/PA-2003-0034)

OI Report 3-2001-005, excluding exhibits (FOIA/PA-2003-0035)

Exhibits of OI Report 3-2001-005 (FOIA/PA-2003-0036)

October 25, 2002

ENCLOSURE G

Office of Human Resources  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending October 25, 2002

<b>Arrivals</b>		
CROUCH, Howard	NUCLEAR SYSTEMS ENGINEER	NSIR
MURPHY, Martin	MATERIALS ENGINEER	NRR
TURNER, Larry	REACTOR OPERATIONS ENGINEER	NRR

Office of Public Affairs  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending October 25, 2002

Media Interest

There was continued media interest in Davis Besse and NRC's Lessons Learned Task Force Report.

South Carolina's request for potassium iodide renewed media interest in this subject.

A dozen advanced journalism students from George Washington University posed as mock reporters in the NRC news center during the October 23 Diablo Canyon exercise.

OPA participated, with other members of NSIR and approximately 10 other federal agencies, in the October 24 Office of Homeland Security Radiological Dispersal Device Preparedness Working Group Subgroup on Communications.

The Discovery Channel is working on a piece, to air at years end, on the security of the nation's infrastructure.

<b>Press Releases</b>	
<b>Headquarters:</b>	
02-122	NRC Invites Public to Submit Nominations for Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste
02-123	NRC Announces Availability of Guidance on Licenses for Medical Uses of Radioactive Material
02-124	NRC Announces Meeting on Memorandum of Understanding With EPA on Cleanup of Radioactively Contaminated Sites
02-125	NRC Announces Extension of Opportunity to Comment on Louisiana Energy Services' White Papers
<b>Regions:</b>	
I-02-063	NRC Seeks Public Input on Environmental Statement for Proposed R.E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal
I-02-064	NRC Proposes \$43,200 Fine Against Easton, PA Company for Deliberate Violations of NRC Requirements

Office of the Secretary  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending October 25, 2002

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
<b>Decision Documents</b>		
SECY-02-0133	7/15/2002	Control of Solid Materials: Options and Recommendations for Proceeding
SRM on 02-0133	10/25/2002	(same)
Voting Record on 02-0133	10/25/2002	(same)
<b>Information Papers</b>		
1. SECY-02-0187	10/17/2002	SECY-02-0187 Weekly Information Report - Week Ending October 11, 2002

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congress dated October 15, 2002 provides the status of NRC's fee collection activities for fiscal year 2002.
2. Letter to Congress dated October 15, 2002 provides August report on the status of NRC's licensing and regulatory duties.
3. Letter to the Honorable Christine Todd Whitman, Administrator, EPA, dated October 15, 2002, expresses appreciation for EPA's efforts in completing the MOU between NRC and EPA concerning "Consultation and Finality on Decommissioning and Decontamination of Contaminated Sites."
4. Letter to Edwin Lyman, President, and Alan J. Kuperman, Senior Policy Analyst, NCI, dated October 10, 2002, concerns the request by Nordion, Inc. to amend the license authorizing the export of highly-enriched uranium targets for medical isotope production using the Canadian MAPLE 1 and 2 reactors and the New Production Facility.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Meeting of the Subcommittee on Plant License Renewal - Notice of Meeting.
2. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Subcommittee Meeting on Planning and Procedures - Notice of Meeting.
3. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Subcommittee Meeting on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena (GSI-189) - Notice of Meeting.

4. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Subcommittee Meeting on Safety Research Program - Notice of Meeting.
5. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Joint Meeting of the Subcommittees on Reliability and Probabilistic Risk Assessment and on Plant Operations - Notice of Meeting.
6. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Subcommittee Meeting on Safeguards and Security - Notice of Meeting.
7. Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes - Meeting Notice.
8. NRC Seeks Qualified Candidates for the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste - Request for resumes.
9. MOU between NRC and EPA on Consultation and Finality on Decommissioning and Decontamination of Contaminated Sites - Notice of Issuance.

Region I  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending October 25, 2002

Issuance of License Amendment to ABB Prospects, Inc.

On October 17, 2002, Region I issued a license amendment (Amendment No. 53) to ABB Prospects, Inc permitting the licensee to dismantle and deconstruct the buildings of Building Complexes 2, 5, and 17 down to the building slabs and foundations at grade level only. The amendment does not authorize below grade work on sub-surface structures or soil. The amendment further requires that Region I review and approve final radiological survey plans and survey data for the buildings prior to dismantlement and deconstruction. Additionally, the licensee will submit a site-wide Decommissioning Plan that would lead to license termination and unrestricted release of the site. An Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact were prepared for this amendment and published in the Federal Register on October 17, 2002. Input from several state agencies in Connecticut was considered in the preparation of the supporting documents for this licensing action.

Region I Management Visit to Grand Gulf Plant and Entergy Corporate Offices

On October 23 and 24, 2002, the Regional Administrator, Director and Deputy Director of Reactor Projects, Region I, and the Project Director, Nuclear Reactor Regulation, visited the Grand Gulf plant and Entergy Corporate Offices outside Jackson, Mississippi. The visit provided insights regarding Entergy-South corporate office support to both the northern "fleet" (de-regulated plants) and corporate office in White Plains, NY, and to the southern "fleet" (all regulated plants). The corporate visit included a general discussion of how plant performance issues and challenges are addressed corporately and at individual sites utilizing corporate processes and resources. Entergy senior management present at the corporate office visit included the Chairman and CEO, Jerry Yelverton; President, John McGaha; Sr. VPs and Chief Operating Officers, Gary Taylor and Mike Kansler, and Sr. VP John Herron.

Region I Meeting with the State of New Jersey

On October 22, 2002, the Regional Administrator, and members of his staff met with Jill Lipoti, Assistant Director, Radiation Protection Programs, and members of her staff from the State of New Jersey. The meeting was requested by New Jersey to discuss insights regarding the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station. The state representatives also discussed the status of their other ongoing programs in New Jersey, such as developing high level waste transportation routes from the nuclear stations in New Jersey to Yucca Mountain.

Region II  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending October 25, 2002

Carolina Power and Light Company (Progress Energy)

On October 22, 2002, the Regional Administrator accompanied Commissioner Diaz, who participated in the presentation of NRC operator license certificates to newly licensed operators from the Shearon Harris Nuclear Plant. Commissioner Diaz provided insights on what it means to have an NRC operator license.

On October 23, 2002, the Regional Administrator accompanied Commissioner Diaz on a visit to the Shearon Harris Nuclear Plant. The visit included a tour of the facility, observation of NRC and licensee security activities at the site, and a discussion on current topics with licensee representatives and NRC resident inspectors.

American Nuclear Society Meeting

On October 23, 2002, the Regional Administrator made a presentation to attendees at an American Nuclear Society meeting in Raleigh, NC. The presentation included a discussion of challenges facing the industry and the NRC.

Florida Power and Light Company (FP&L) - St. Lucie License Renewal Program Meeting

On October 25, 2002, the Deputy Director, Division of Reactor Safety and other staff members held a public meeting with the licensee near the site in Florida. The purpose of the meeting was for the NRC to present the results of the NRC's first inspection of the FP&L St. Lucie license renewal program. The inspection encompassed a review of whether the licensee's program for monitoring and correcting material aging issues was of adequate scope.

Differing Professional View - Oconee

On October 16, 2002, Region II completed a decision and response to two Differing Professional Views (DPVs). The DPVs were submitted to the Regional Administrator on July 2, 2002 in response to the closure of two unresolved items in an NRC Inspection Report (Report), issued to the licensee on May 31, 2002. The DPVs requested review of the decisions to close these unresolved items, which are related to the licensee's tornado mitigation strategy. The first DPV questioned the correctness of the Report conclusion that the licensee's pressurizer code safety valves would be operable during certain postulated tornado mitigation conditions. The second DPV questioned the correctness of the Report conclusion that the steam generator atmospheric dump valves were not required to be protected from certain tornado conditions.

Region II convened an *ad hoc* review panel (Panel) to review the issues in both DPVs in accordance with Management Directive 10.159. The Panel was co-chaired by individuals from Region II and the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR), since the DPVs involved matters under the jurisdiction of both Offices. The panel issued a report to the Regional Administrator on October 9, 2002. The Panel concluded that the issues raised by the submitter have merit and recommended certain actions be taken by the Regional Office and NRR. The Regional

Administrator accepted the Panel's conclusions and recommendations and initiated actions to follow up on October 16, 2002.

October 25, 2002

ENCLOSURE P

Region IV  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending October 25, 2002

Meeting with Envirocare of Utah

The Director, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, along with other members of the NRC staff, conducted a meeting on October 22, 2002, with both the Senior Vice President and Radiation Protection Manager of Envirocare of Utah. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss current events, including Envirocare's organization and compliance functions, review of license status and pending license amendments, recent SERP activities, and unimportant quantities of source material.

Drop-in Visit with Nuclear Management Company Representatives

On October 25, 2002, representatives from Nuclear Management Company met with the Region IV regional administrator to discuss general items of interest.

Office of Congressional Affairs  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending October 25, 2002

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 71

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Combs	Tentative	TBD	Dr. Paperiello, DOE, DOD, DOS	Combating Terrorism: Preventing Nuclear Terrorism	Reps. Shays/Kucinich Natl Security, Veterans' Affairs and International Relations Government Reform

Note: Congress is in recess until Tuesday, November 12.