

INFORMATION REPORT

February 14, 2005

SECY-05-0031

For: The Commissioners
From: William M. Dean, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: SECY-05-0031 - "WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK
ENDING FEBRUARY 4, 2005"

Contents

Enclosure

Nuclear Reactor Regulation	A
Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards	B
Nuclear Regulatory Research	C*
Nuclear Security and Incident Response	D*
General Counsel	E*
Administration	F*
Office of Information Services	G
Chief Financial Officer	H*
Human Resources	I
Small Business and Civil Rights	J*
Enforcement	K*
State and Tribal Programs	L*
Public Affairs	M
International Programs	N*
Office of the Secretary	O
Region I	P*
Region II	P
Region III	P*
Region IV	P
Executive Director for Operations	Q*
Congressional Affairs	R

*No input this week.

/RA/

William M. Dean
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
T. Kim, OEDO

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 4, 2005

License Renewal Public Meetings for Browns Ferry and Brunswick

On January 25, 2005, the staff conducted two public meetings in Athens, Alabama, to solicit comments from the public on the draft supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) issued on December 3, 2004, related to the license renewal application for Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2, and 3 (BFN). The draft SEIS is a plant-specific supplement to the "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Power Plants" (NUREG-1437). Approximately 50 people attended the meetings, including members of the public, the licensee, and the local news media. Several members of the public expressed views opposing the renewal of the BFN licenses and presented questions and comments on TVA's safety practices, restart of Unit 1, radioactive waste management, and plant radiological effluent releases. The public comment period for the draft SEIS ends on March 2, 2005. At the conclusion of the comment period, the staff will evaluate the comments received, revise the draft SEIS as appropriate, and issue the final SEIS in July 2005.

Also on January 27, 2005, the staff conducted two public scoping meetings at the Southport City Hall in Southport, NC, to solicit comments from the public on the scope of the SEIS being prepared as part of the review of the license renewal application for the Brunswick Steam Electric Plant, Units 1 and 2 (BSEP). Approximately 35 people attended the meetings. Attendees included members of the public, representatives from CP&L, news media, and local government officials. Seven individuals spoke at the meetings. All of the public comments were in support of license renewal for BSEP. The opportunity to petition for hearing ends on February 4, 2005, and the scoping period ends on March 11, 2004. The draft SEIS is scheduled to be published in September 2005 and the final SEIS is scheduled to be published in April 2006.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 4, 2005

Meeting with the Metals Industry Recycling Coalition (MIRC)

On February 1, 2005, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) staff, along with staff members from the Office of the General Counsel and the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research met with representatives of the MIRC. The meeting was at MIRC's request, to discuss the status and schedule for the rulemaking on controlling the disposition of solid material. MIRC representatives restated the comments and position previously stated by the metals industry at the May 2003 workshop and in a comment letter, that radioactively contaminated scrap metal from impacted or restricted areas should not be released into the stream of commerce. MIRC supports disposal of this scrap metal in a Resources Conservation and Recovery Act subtitled landfill as a cost-effective disposition option that would isolate that material from the public. Other attendees at the meeting, which was open to the public, included representatives of the BWX Technologies, Inc., the Environmental Protection Agency, Nuclear Energy Institute, Steel Manufacturers Association, and Nuclear Information and Resource Service, as well as members of the public and the news media.

Staff Activities Related to Trojan Nuclear Plant Decommissioning

From January 24-27, 2005, NRC staff conducted an inspection at the Trojan Nuclear Plant (TNP). On January 28, 2005, the project manager and technical reviewer provided a briefing on the TNP decommissioning project to the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council at a scheduled public meeting. NRC staff provided an overview of the NRC decommissioning process and discussed NRC's review of TNP's Final Status Surveys.

Observation Audit of Department of Energy High-Level Waste Quality Assurance Activities

On January 24-28, 2005, Division of High-Level Waste Repository Safety and Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses staff observed a Department of Energy audit of its contractor's, the Bechtel SAIC Company, LLC, quality assurance activities. The audit was performance-based and evaluated critical processes in the development of the pre-closure safety analysis of the proposed Yucca Mountain repository. The audit focused on the areas of criticality, electrical systems, and ventilation systems.

U.S./Russian Federation Bilateral Meeting

On January 24-27, 2005, staff from the Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards participated in a Bilateral Meeting with the Department of Energy (DOE)/National Nuclear Security Administration and the Nuclear, Industrial, and Environmental Regulatory Authority of Russia (Rostekhnadzor). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the status of the current efforts and upcoming regulatory/licensing activities relevant to U.S./ Russian Federation (R.F.) Surplus Weapons-Grade Plutonium Disposition Program. DOE is supporting regulatory development activities associated with the R.F. Plutonium Disposition Program. The status of the U.S. licensing reviews and NRC planning for the U.S. Mixed-Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility construction inspection program were discussed. Also discussed was the upcoming construction inspection workshop that NRC staff will present to Rostekhnadzor. This workshop will be held in April 2005, in Tomsk, Russia.

February 4, 2005

ENCLOSURE B

Office of Information Services
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending February 4, 2005

Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Requests Received During the Period of
 January 31, through February 3, 2005:

VA Medical Center, Philadelphia, PA, violations and inspections (Referral by U. S. Merit Systems Protection Board)	FOIA/PA-2005-0121
Millstone Nuclear Power Station Unit 2, fire on 1-14-05, all correspondence, reports, provide by Dominion Nuclear, the Town of Waterford, and CT Department of Environmental Protection	FOIA/PA-2005-0122
Allegation RI-2004-A-0126	FOIA/PA-2005-0123
NRC I.M.P.A.C. credit card holders	FOIA/PA-2005-0124
NUREG/CR-2792, "An Assessment of Residual Heat Removal & Containment Spray Pump Performance Under Air & Debris Ingesting Conditions," Sept. 1982	FOIA/PA-2005-0125
Department of Energy SAR dated 3-31-98, docket no. 71-9098	FOIA/PA-2005-0126
NTEU-represented bargaining unit employees, specific information	FOIA/PA-2005-0127
Allegation NRR-2003-A-0017, any and all records	FOIA/PA-2005-0128
Kerr McGee Tech. Center, Oklahoma City, OK, decommissioning plan, 4-5-2001, docket 040-08006	FOIA/PA-2005-0129
Potential gamma and x-ray exposures associated with the use of relocatable VACIS Inspection System, US NRC No. CA-215-D-104B, and Portal VACIS unit, US NRC No. CA-215-D-102G	FOIA/PA-2005-0130
Contract NRC 3303314 held by Ruland & Associates & Contract NRC2600307 held by DigitalNet Government Solutions (FKA Gentronics), SOW, Section B, COTR name, etc.	FOIA/PA-2005-0131

Office of Human Resources
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending February 4, 2005

Arrivals		
Tom Allen	Security Specialist	NSIR
Norbert Carte	I&C Engineer	RES
Jill De La Garza	IT Specialist	R-IV
Denise Lockhart-Reeves	Secretary (OA)	NRR
David J. Hesch	Senior Accountant	OCFO
Bernadette Madison	Site Secretary	RIV
Nancy Salgado	Project Manager	NRR
Retirements		
Carroll Armstrong	Secretary (OA)	R-I
Elaine S. Brummett	Health Physicist	NMSS
Lawrence Danziger	IT Specialist	OCIO
Jane E. Fogg	Secretary (OA)	NMSS
David J. Lange	Sr. Regional Coordinator/Program Engineer	OEDO
George F. Lanik	Sr. Reactor Systems Engineer/Team Leader	RES
Howard Larson	Special Assistant	ACRS
Patricia G. Norry	Dep Exec Dir For Management Services	OEDO
Eileen S. Peyton	Licensing Assistant	NRR
Kathleen E. Ruhlman	Reference Librarian	OCIO
Departures		
Robert Ems	IT Specialist/Team Leader	R-II
Gerald D. Toms	Consultant	NSIR

Office of Public Affairs
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 4, 2005

Media Interest

The Office of Public Affairs (OPA) received significant media inquiries on the following:

A possible reactor to supply electricity to Galena, Alaska.

The final environmental impact statement on a proposed mixed oxide facility in South Carolina.

Employee dismissals at Salem/Hope Creek following the merger of PSE&G and Exelon.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
05-018	NRC Seeks Public Comment on Revised Guidelines for Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal Applications (2/1)
05-019	NRC to Hold Public Conference on Licensing Process for Storage and Transportation of Spent Nuclear Fuel (2/2)
05-020	NRC Meeting with Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority (2/3)
05-021	Note to Editors: NRC to Conduct FY2006 Budget Briefing Feb. 7 in Rockville, Maryland (2/3)
05-022	NRC Restores Web-Based Access to Online Library (2/4)
Regions:	
I-05-006	NRC Finalizes 'White' for Vermont Yankee Nuclear Plant Over Tone Alert Radios (2/2)
II-05-004	NRC Issues Confirmatory Order to USEC on Employee Protection Training at Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Kentucky (2/1)
II-05-005	NRC Schedules Regulatory Conference to Discuss Summer Nuclear Plant Concern (2/1)
II-05-006	NRC Schedules Public Meeting on Monday, February 7 to Discuss Honeywell Specialty Chemicals Plant Performance (2/2)
III-05-004	NRC Announces New Senior Resident Inspector at Point Beach Nuclear Power Station (2/4)

Office of the Secretary
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 4, 2005

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SECY-04-0226	11/30/04	Denial of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-20-22) Submitted by the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
SRM on 04-0226	12/20/04	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 04-0226	12/20/04	(same)
2. SECY-05-0017	1/18/05	Proposed Rule - AP1000 Design Certification
3. SECY-05-0019	1/19/05	Proposed Revision to NRC's Relocation Policy
Information Papers		
1. SECY-05-0013	1/12/05	Semiannual Update of the Status of New Reactor Licensing Activities and Future Planning for New Reactors
2. SECY-05-0014	1/14/05	Submission of the Annual Freedom of Information Act Report
3. SECY-05-0025	2/1/05	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending January 14, 2005
4. SECY-05-0027	2/3/05	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending January 21,2005

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Rod Paige, Secretary of Education, dated January 25, 2005, provides NRC's FY 2004 Annual Federal Performance Report on Executive Agency Actions to Assist Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
2. Letter to Congress, dated January 26, 2005, provides an invitation to the NRC's 17th Annual Regulatory Information Conference.

February 4, 2005

ENCLOSURE O

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste, Meeting on Planning and Procedures, notice of meeting (02/23/05).
2. Application for a License to Export High-Enriched Uranium.
3. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, revised 519th ACRS notice of meeting (02/10-11/05).
4. Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste, 157th notice of meeting (02/23-25/05).
5. Establishment of Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, All Tech Corporation, Pocatello, Idaho (Civil Monetary Penalty), Docket No. 30-35321-CivP, ASLBP No. 05-836-02-CivP.

February 4, 2005

ENCLOSURE O

Region II
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 4, 2005

Visit by the Chairman and Executive Director for Operations

On February 1, 2005, the Chairman and the Executive Director for Operations visited the Region II offices to meet with the regional staff.

Congressional Outreach Program

On February 3, 2005, as part of the Congressional Outreach Program, the State Liaison Officer visited the local office of U. S. Congressman Spratt (5th District, South Carolina) located in Rock Hill, SC, and met with his staff to discuss Commission programs and other matters of mutual interest. On the following day, the State Liaison Officer also visited the local office of U. S. Senator, Lindsey Graham located in Columbia, SC, and met with his staff.

Region IV
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 4, 2005

Deputy Regional Administrator Visit to Palo Verde

On February 3, 2005, the Deputy Regional Administrator, Region IV, visited Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station to meet with resident inspectors and a plant tour. Later on the same day, he attended an Operator Licensing Certificate Presentation ceremony for the recently qualified group of reactor operators.

February 4, 2005

ENCLOSURE P

Office of Congressional Affairs
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending February 4, 2005

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, <u>NO. 5</u>					
OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Shane/Combs	02/10/05 2123 RHOB	9:30am	FERC, DOE, NRC (Reyes), NEI, USPIRG, and others	Energy Policy Act of 2005	Reps. Hall/Boucher Energy and Air Quality Subc Energy and Commerce
Keeling	Tentative for March 15	TBD	Chairman Diaz, DOE, Exelon CEO, IBEW rep, City Council rep near Grand Gulf	DOE's NP 2010 Program	Senators Domenici/Bingaman Energy and Natural Resources

February 4, 2005

ENCLOSURE R