

INFORMATION REPORT

September 16, 2005

SECY-05-0165

For: The Commissioners
From: William M. Dean, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO /RA/
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2005

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*No input this week.

/RA/

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 9, 2005

Audit of the Palisades License Renewal Application

On September 2, 2005, NRR staff conducted a public exit meeting with the licensee for the Palisades nuclear power plant in South Haven, Michigan, to discuss the results of the subject audit. As part of its enhanced license renewal application review process, the staff audited the applicant's aging management reviews and the associated aging management programs that are identified in the application submitted on March 31, 2005. Approximately 20 members of the public attended the meeting.

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ENCLOSURE A

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 9, 2005

Submittal of Draft Waste Determination for the Idaho National Laboratory

On September 7, 2005, the Department of Energy (DOE) submitted a waste determination for high-level waste tank closure at the Idaho National Laboratory. This determination will be reviewed by NRC as part of its responsibilities under the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2005 (NDAA), which requires DOE to consult with NRC on waste determinations made pursuant to the NDAA.

NRC Staff Observation of the Bechtel SAIC Company, LLC Internal Quality Assurance Audit

On August 15-31, 2005, NMSS staff and its contractor observed an internal quality assurance audit at the Bechtel SAIC Company, LLC, (the Department of Energy's prime contractor for the Yucca Mountain repository project). The audit's objective was to evaluate the technical adequacy and defensibility of scientific investigations and models related to waste package and drip shield degradation. Specifically, the scope of the audit included an examination of a "vertical slice" of the scientific investigations and data inputs for two key technical products related to corrosion of the waste package and drip shield.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 9, 2005

Agreement between NRC and Tohoku University (TU)

On September 1, 2005, the NRC's Executive Director for Operations signed an international agreement with Tohoku University, in Japan, that defines the terms and conditions for the cooperative research project on non-destructive examination for primary water stress corrosion cracking in nickel-base materials and dissimilar metal welds. The insights gained through this cooperative project will enhance NRC's understanding of the aging and environmental effects on materials in nuclear power plants, and improve the quality of standards for in-service inspections for structural integrity. This Agreement will remain in effect through December 2007.

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ENCLOSURE C

Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 9, 2005

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-IV-05-012C, ENTERGY Operations, Inc. - FINAL UPDATE - EXIT OF THE NOTICE OF UNUSUAL EVENT AT WATERFORD-3.

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ENCLOSURE D

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 9, 2005

Denial of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-50-76)

On September 6, 2005, the NRC published a document in the Federal Register (70 FR 52893) that denied a petition for rulemaking submitted by Robert H. Leyse (PRM-50-76). The petitioner requested that the NRC's regulations concerning the specified evaluation models for emergency core cooling systems (ECCS) and associated guidance documents be amended to correct technical deficiencies in the correlations and data used for calculation of metal-water oxidation. The petitioner stated that the correlations and data do not consider the complex thermal-hydraulic conditions present during a loss-of-coolant accident (LOCA), including the potential for very high fluid temperature. The petition for rulemaking was denied because none of the specific technical issues raised by the petitioner have shown safety-significant deficiencies in the research, calculation methods, or data used to support ECCS performance evaluations and NRC's technical safety analysis demonstrates that current procedures for evaluating ECCS performance are based on sound science.

Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants (AG24 - Part 52, et al.)

On September 6, 2005, the NRC published a document in the Federal Register (70 FR 52942) announcing the availability of draft regulatory text for a contemplated amendment to the regulations governing early site permits, standard design certifications, and combined licenses. The proposed changes are intended to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the licensing process for future applicants.

Proposed Rule Associated with Disposal of High-level Radioactive Waste in Geologic Repository (AH68 - Part 63)

On September 8, 2005, the NRC published a proposed rule in the Federal Register (70 FR 53313) that would amend the regulations governing the disposal of high-level radioactive waste in a proposed geologic repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. The proposed rule implements the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) proposed revised standards issued on August 22, 2005 (70 FR 49014) in response to the July 9, 2004, ruling by the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. To address the court's decision, EPA is retaining the standards applicable to the first 10,000 years after disposal and proposes to add separate requirements for the peak radiation dose after 10,000 years and within the period of geologic stability. EPA also proposes to revise the approach for calculating doses, based on International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) recommendations, for the periods before and after 10,000 years. The comment period for this action closes November 7, 2005.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 9, 2005

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act Requests Received During the Period of
September 1 through September 8, 2005:

Specific NUREG reports in electronic format.	FOIA/PA-2005-0346
Release of potentially radioactive materials into sanitary sewer system located in Frederick, Maryland	FOIA/PA-2005-0347

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ENCLOSURE G

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
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Arrival		
CARPENTIER, MARCIA	LAW CLERK	ASLBP
HELM, WENDY L.	SECRETARY (OA)	R-IV
SMITH-MAIDEN, MICHELLE L.	SECRETARY (OA)	CSU
Departure		
CAMPBELL, TISON AMEDEN	STUDENT LAW CLERK (SUMMER)	OGC

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ENCLOSURE I

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

The Commission's decision to authorize a license for the proposed Private Fuel Storage Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation in Utah.

The aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and the restart of the Waterford nuclear plant in Louisiana.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
05-123	NRC, States to Coordinate Increased Controls Over Radioactive Materials (9/6)
05-124	NRC Proposes to Change Regulations on Yucca Mountain to be Consistent with EPA Changes (9/7)
05-125	NRC Receives Award for Excellence in Performance and Accountability Reporting (9/9)
05-126	NRC Denies Utah's Final Appeals, Authorizes Staff to Issue License for PFS Facility (9/9)
05-127	NRC Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste to Hold Meeting in Las Vegas, Nev., Sept. 20-22 (9/9)
Regions:	
I-05-045	New Senior Resident Inspector Named at Indian Point 2 (9/9)
I-05-046	NRC to Discuss Apparent Violations at Lancaster, Pa., Hospital (9/9)
III-05-038	NRC Staff Proposes \$3,250 Fine Against Columbia, Mo., Hospital for Inadvertent Loss of Medical Radiation Sources (9/8)
IV-05-032	Waterford Nuclear Plant Terminates Unusual Event (9/8)
IV-05-033	NRC Authorizes Restart of Waterford Nuclear Plant (9/9)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 9, 2005

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SECY-05-0113	6/29/05	Denial of a Petition for Rulemaking to Revise Appendix K to 10 CFR Part 50 and Associated Guidance Documents (PRM-50-76)
SRM on 05-0113	8/5/05	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 05-0113	8/5/05	(same)
2. SECY-05-0151	8/23/05	Proposed Rule: 10 CFR Parts 30, 31, 32, and 150 - Exemptions from Licensing, General Licenses, and Distribution of Byproduct Material: Licensing and Reporting Requirements (RIN 3150-AH41)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-05-0153	8/23/05	Agencywide Documents Access and Management System: Semi-Annual Progress Report for January-June 2005
Memoranda		
1. M050909	9/9/05	Affirmation Session: (1) SECY-05-0157 - PFS (ISFSI) Review of Utah Contention K (Aircraft Crash Hazards) Rulings

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW), notice of 163rd meeting (9/20-21/05).
2. ACNW, meeting on Planning and Procedures, notice of meeting (9/20-22/05).
3. Joseph Scarpelli, Mayor of Brick Township, New Jersey; Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking.

Region II (RII)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 9, 2005

Browns Ferry - Management Meeting with Tennessee Valley Authority

On September 7, 2005, Region II management met with representatives from the Tennessee Valley Authority in the Regional Office to discuss the Browns Ferry nuclear plant's operating performance for Units 2 and 3.

Shearon Harris - Management Meeting with Carolina Power and Light Company

On September 8, 2005, Region II management met with representatives from the Carolina Power and Light Company in the Regional Office to discuss the Shearon Harris nuclear plant's operating performance.

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ENCLOSURE P

Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
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Palo Verde - Selection of New Vice President

Arizona Public Service Company announced the selection of Mr. Cliff Eubanks as its Vice President of Nuclear Production at the Palo Verde nuclear generating station (PVNGS). This position was recently created as part of organizational realignment of PVNGS. Formerly, Mr. Eubanks held the position of General Manager - Plant Operations, at Arkansas Nuclear One nuclear power plant.

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Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
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CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 30

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Keeling	09/22/05 SD-406	2:30	Ed McGaffigan, Jr.	Confirmation hearing for Ed McGaffigan, Jr. to be NRC Commissioner	Senators Inhofe/Jeffords Environment and Public Works
Madden	TBA	TBA	Conference	FY 2006 Energy and Water Development Appropriations	House/Senate Appropriations Committee conferees

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ENCLOSURE R