

INFORMATION REPORT

July 18, 2007

SECY-07-0119

For: The Commissioners
From: Vonna L. Ordaz, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
JULY 13, 2007

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*No input this week.

/RA/

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 13, 2007

Technical Exchange with the French Nuclear Safety Authority, "Autorite de Surete Nucleaire"

From July 10-12, 2007, the staff participated in a technical exchange of information with the French Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN). Information was exchanged on steam generator tube integrity, aging management for reactor pressure vessels, dissimilar metal welds, experience with alloy 690 materials in reactor vessel head penetrations, and stress corrosion cracking in stainless steel. The staff also discussed principles of inservice inspection programs versus risk-informed inservice inspection programs for piping, reactor pressure vessels, steam generator tubes, and steam generator shells.

Presentation to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) on Advanced Finite Element Analyses of Pressurizer Nozzle Weld Flaws

On July 11, 2007, NRR and RES made a presentation to the ACRS on the status of their review and confirmatory analyses of the industry's advanced finite element fracture mechanics analyses. Industry is performing these analyses to address NRC staff concerns regarding primary water stress corrosion cracking in pressurizer nozzle welds. Industry representatives provided a summary of their analysis methodology and results. ACRS members provided comments on an area of the work that the staff will recommend that industry address and which the staff will take into consideration during its review.

South Texas Project Visit

From July 9-12, 2007, NRR and RES staff conducted a site visit at the South Texas Project. The staff gathered information regarding the control of work hours for personnel performing safety-related functions during refueling outages. The information will be used in the regulatory analysis for the Part 26 Fitness for Duty Programs rulemaking.

Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME)
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 13, 2007

Staff Educates Children on Health Physics

On July 12, staff participated in the South Washington/West of the River Collaborative's summer enrichment program for children during their "Careers in Science Week." During the presentation, which focused on Health Physics and radiation protection, staff answered questions, provided interactive demonstrations relative to Health Physics and radiation protection, and provided details of the skills and education necessary for a career with the NRC. The presentation also detailed the NRC's mission and the key Agency functions performed under its mission.

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ENCLOSURE D

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 13, 2007

Arrivals		
ABBOTT, COLEMAN	REACTOR INSPECTOR	R-II
JONES, III, FANGIE	NUCLEAR SYSTEMS ENGINEER	R-IV
WATKINS, ROBERT	CONSULTANT	OIG
Retirement		
GRANT, GEOFFREY	DEPUTY REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR	R-III
Departure		
None		

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ENCLOSURE J

Office of Small Business and Civil Rights (SBCR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 13, 2007

NRC's 7th Annual Diversity Day Event

SBCR, the Employees Welfare and Recreation Association, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory Committees sponsored NRC's 7th Annual Diversity Day event on July 11, 2007. Dr. Suchindran Chatterjee, world renowned businessman and motivational speaker, provided an inspiring, captivating and timely keynote message on diversity, teamwork and strategies regarding continued success for the individual, NRC and the world! The program also featured ethnic food for sale, arts and craft vendors and cultural performers including world renowned violinist Alfredo De La Fe, the Quiet Fire Band and the NRC Chorus. The information and interaction among employees was outstanding and will serve as a benchmark in NRC's history. NRC is the "Best Place to Work!"

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ENCLOSURE K

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 13, 2007

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

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) sting on moisture density gauges received nationwide attention via the Congressional hearing, ABC/NBC interviews with Commissioner McGaffigan, and various editorials and responses.

NRC's response to the Official Use Only (OUO) policy review stemming from the Nuclear Fuel Services (NFS) high-enriched uranium (HEU) spill, March 2006; an Order to the NFS is to be released.

Attorney General Andrew Cuomo brief to support the challenge of NRC license renewal rule-making.

New concrete slabs to house spent uranium fuel at St. Lucie to address the lack of remaining underwater storage space; production in August.

Other Public Affairs Items:

License inquiries for the irradiation of blue topaz and who can lawfully sell the product.

The Economist to publish an extensive article on nuclear history; coordinating with the NRC historian, Sam Walker.

NRC declined an interview on the Glenn Beck show on CNN Headline News and submitted a written statement instead; subject included illegal aliens working in critical infrastructure.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
07-084	NRC Invites Public to Submit Nominations for the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste and Materials (7/10)
Regions:	
II-07-036	NRC Schedules Conference with SCE&G to Discuss Apparent Violation at Summer Nuclear Station (7/9)
I-07-038	NRC Issues Draft Environmental Report for James A. Fitzpatrick License Renewal Application, Announces August 1 st Public Meetings (7/10)
I-07-039	NRC Assigns New Resident Inspectors to Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant (7/12)
II-07-037	NRC to Discuss Results of License Renewal Inspection at Harris Nuclear Power Plant (7/12)
I-07-040	NRC Cites University of Pittsburgh for Violation (7/13)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 13, 2007

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. COMSECY-07-0015	4/30/07	Path Forward for Rulemaking on Groundwater Protection at In Situ Leach Uranium Extraction Facilities
SRM on COMSECY-07-0015	6/8/07	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 07-0015	6/8/07	(same)
2. SECY-07-0104	6/25/07	Proposed Rulemaking–Alternate Fracture Toughness Requirements for Protection Against Pressurized Thermal Shock Events (RIN 3150-AI01
3. SECY-07-0105	6/27/07	Enhancement to the Vendor Inspection Program within the Office of New Reactors
Information Papers		
1. SECY-07-0111	7/6/07	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending June 29, 2007
Memoranda		
1. SRM-M070530C	6/22/07	Staff Requirements - Discussion of Security Issues (Closed–Ex. 1)

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congress, dated July 3, 2007, informs that the NRC was recognized as a “Best Diversity Company” by the readers of Diversity/Careers in Engineering and Information Technology.
2. Letter to Hiroshi Inoue, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd, dated July 2, 2007, responds to letter which noted that TXU Power has selected the U.S. Advanced Pressurized Water Reactor as its technology of choice for construction of two or more plants.

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ENCLOSURE O

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes: Call for Nominations.
2. 10 CFR Part 50, Docket No. PRM-50-86, Sherwood Martinelli; Denial of Petition for Rulemaking.

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ENCLOSURE O

Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
Week Ending July 13, 2007

San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station End-of-Cycle Meeting

On July 12, the NRC staff held a public meeting in San Clemente, California, with representatives of Southern California Edison to discuss the annual performance assessment results for San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station for 2006. The meeting was attended by about 40 people including 5 members of the general public. There was one local newspaper reporter at the meeting.

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ENCLOSURE P

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending July 13, 2007

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 23

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	WITNESSES
Decker	07/12/07 342 Dirksen	9:00	Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations (Senators Levin / Coleman)	"Dirty Bomb Vulnerabilities: Fake Companies, Fake Licenses, Real Consequences"	Panel 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Eugene Aloise – Director, Nuclear and Nonproliferation Issues, GAO ▶ Gregory Kutz – Managing Director, Forensic Audits and Special Investigations Unit, GAO ▶ John Cooney – Assistant Director, Forensic Audits and Special Investigations Unit, GAO Panel 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Edward McGaffigan Jr. – Commissioner, NRC
Decker	07/12/07 2359 Rayburn	10:00	House Appropriations Committee (Representatives Obey / Lewis)	Earmark Package for the FY2008 Energy-Water Appropriations Bill	▶ N/A
Schmidt / Keeling	07/17/07 406 Dirksen	10:00	Senate Environment and Public Works Committee (Senators Boxer / Inhofe)	Nomination Hearing	▶ Kristine Svinicki