

# INFORMATION REPORT

November 13, 2007

SECY-07-0199

For: The Commissioners  
From: Vonna L. Ordaz, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO  
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING  
NOVEMBER 2, 2007

## Contents

## Enclosure

Nuclear Reactor Regulation	A
New Reactors	B
Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards	C
Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs	D*
Nuclear Regulatory Research	E
Nuclear Security and Incident Response	F
Administration	G
Information Services	H
Chief Financial Officer	I*
Human Resources	J
Small Business and Civil Rights	K*
Enforcement	L*
Public Affairs	M
International Programs	N*
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/*

Vonna L. Ordaz  
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:  
A.C. Ridge, OEDO

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending November 2, 2007

Meeting with LaSalle on Spent Fuel Pool Storage and Boraflex Degradation

On October 20, 2007, a public meeting was held between the NRC staff and Exelon's LaSalle County Station (licensee) to discuss spent fuel pool (SFP) storage and Boraflex degradation, and to present an overview for a pre-submittal license amendment request (LAR). The licensee made a presentation summarizing Exelon's integrated approach to resolution, describing its criticality analysis, and indicating its plan to submit the LAR to change the Technical Specification limit on SFP storage capacity in the fourth quarter of 2007.

Meeting with Nuclear Energy Institute to Discuss GSI-191, Chemical Effects Testing

On October 24, 2007, the staff participated in a public meeting with representatives from the Nuclear Energy Institute and the Pressurized Water Reactor Owners Group regarding chemical effects and other issues related to containment sump performance regarding GSI-191 and Generic Letter 2004-02. The meeting featured presentations by two vendors describing their chemical effects test plans and a presentation by the staff describing recent results from confirmatory testing at the Argonne National Laboratory. Other topics included industry comments on draft staff review guidance to support reviews of licensee supplemental responses to Generic Letter 2004-02, "Potential Impact of Debris Blockage on Emergency Recirculation during Design Basis Accidents at Pressurized-Water Reactors."

Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) Ruling for Pilgrim License Renewal

On October 30, 2007, the ASLB for Pilgrim License Renewal issued a ruling granting Entergy's Motion to dismiss Pilgrim Watch Contention 3 regarding Severe Accident Mitigation Alternatives.

Meeting with Government Accountability Office Regarding Fire Protection Safety at Nuclear Power Plants

On November 1, 2007, the staff provided an information briefing to the United States Government Accountability Office (GAO) staff on fire protection safety at nuclear power plants. This is the first meeting requested by GAO with NRR staff to discuss questions related to GAO's selection criteria for upcoming plant visits, power reactor fire events, and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 805 transition fire probabilistic risk assessment expertise resource issues for industry and NRC.

Public Meeting with the Technical Specifications Task Force Regarding Administrative Processing of Generic Changes to the Standard Technical Specifications

On November 1, 2007, the Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) and NRC staff conducted a public meeting regarding generic changes to the Standard Technical Specifications (Travelers). NRC and the TSTF discussed NRC administrative processes associated with TSTF Travelers, and reviewed the status of TSTF Travelers formally proposed by industry. The TSTF also presented and solicited NRC feedback on Travelers under consideration for submission to the NRC.

Office of New Reactors (NRO)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending November 2, 2007

North Anna Public Outreach Meetings

On October 24, 2007, the staff conducted outreach meetings in Louisa County, VA regarding the anticipated North Anna combined operating license (COL) application. The meetings were the latest in the series pertaining to new reactors. The staff conducted an afternoon meeting in Louisa, VA with local county and town officials and conducted an evening public meeting in Mineral, VA. Approximately 150 people attended the public meeting, which included a two-hour question and answer session and received media coverage.

Public Meeting with U.S. Advanced Pressurized Water Reactor (US-APWR) Design Centered Working Group (DCWG)

On October 29, 2007, the staff met with the US-APWR DCWG (Mitsubishi and Luminant) to discuss the site specific seismic methodology that will be used at Comanche Peak, the environmental assessment plan for the transmission line corridors, and Luminant's lessons learned program that will be incorporated into the COL application. As a result of this meeting, the staff and the US-APWR DCWG have agreed to hold meetings during the spring of 2008 on emergency planning, geology and seismic analysis, security planning, and on the detailed standardization matrix (Regulatory Issue Summary 2007-08) that will address what portions of the design certification will be implemented into the COL application.

Receipt of Bellefonte Combined License Application

On October 30, 2007, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) submitted an application for a COL for two AP1000 advanced passive pressurized water reactors in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR Part 52. TVA intends to designate the reactors as Bellefonte Units 3 and 4. These units are proposed to be located at the existing Bellefonte facility near the town of Scottsboro in Jackson County, Alabama. In accordance with the agency's design centered review approach, the Bellefonte COL application has been designated as the reference plant COL application for the AP1000 design.

Unistar Nuclear Letter Addressing Acceptance Review Issues of Calvert Cliffs, Unit 3 Partial Combined License Application

By letter dated October 30, 2007, UniStar Nuclear provided its plan for addressing the issues that the NRC staff identified during the acceptance review of Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 3 partial COL application. The letter also provides the proposed changes to address some of the specific issues raised by NRC staff.

### Meeting with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

On October 31, 2007, NRO met with representatives from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) and briefed them on the NRC's environmental review process and the proposed rule on consideration of aircraft impacts for new nuclear power reactor designs. The CNSC presentations addressed the Canadian licensing process, emergency planning, and plant security.

November 2, 2007

ENCLOSURE B

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending November 2, 2007

Nuclear Energy Agency, Integrated Group for the Safety Case Meeting

From October 24 to 26, 2007, the President of the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses participated in the 9th Meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Nuclear Energy Agency Integrated Group for the Safety Case in Paris, France. Information was exchanged on various topics, including thermodynamic databases and geologic stability related to the disposal of high-level waste.

November 2, 2007

ENCLOSURE C

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending November 2, 2007

Meeting at the Seabrook Station Concerning Shutdown Probabilistic Risk Analysis (PRA) Model

From October 24 to 26, 2007, the staff met with Seabrook Station personnel to discuss Standardized Plant Analysis Risk Shutdown (SPAR-SD) models. The purpose of this meeting was to review the Seabrook-specific SPAR-SD model produced by the staff and to gather information on Seabrook's operations and procedures. In addition, the licensee described its shutdown PRA and modeling methods. The insights gained from this meeting will be used by the NRC to improve SPAR-SD model development.

November 2, 2007

ENCLOSURE E

Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending November 2, 2007

PNO-IV-07-008C, Southern California Edison Co.

UPDATE – SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRUSH FIRES AND SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR  
GENERATING STATION (SONGS) STATUS

PNO-IV-07-008D, Southern California Edison Co.

FINAL UPDATE – SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRUSH FIRES AND SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR  
GENERATING STATION STATUS

PNO-III-07-013, Karmanos Cancer Center

MEDICAL EVENT

PNO-III-07-012A, Byron Station Unit 1 and 2

UPDATE TO DUAL UNIT SHUTDOWN

Office of Administration (ADM)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending November 2, 2007

10 CFR 72 List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: TN-68 Revision 1, Confirmation of Effective Date (AI21)

On October 26, 2007, the NRC published a document in the Federal Register (72 FR 60760) confirming the effective date of a direct final rule that amended the NRC's regulations to revise the TN-68 cask system listing to include Amendment No. 1 to Certificate of Compliance (CoC) No. 1027. The direct final rule became effective October 30, 2007.

November 2, 2007

ENCLOSURE G

Office of Information Services (OIS)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending November 2, 2007

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of October 26 through November 1, 2007:

SECY-06-0073, "Summary of Decommissioning Funding Status Reports for Nuclear Power Reactors"	FOIA/PA-2008-0024
Standards used to select Administrative Law Judges, application for vacancy, and why named individual was not selected	FOIA/PA-2008-0025
Rushmore Air Force Station, maintenance activities involving nuclear weapons, 1952-62, radiological contamination	FOIA/PA-2008-0026
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's pre-licensing work on the advanced converter reactor (Referral by Department of State)	FOIA/PA-2008-0027
Seismic reference probability value for Central & Eastern United States (CEUS) nuclear power plants; nine letters to Dr. A. J. Murphy; Evaluation of 2002 USGS National Seismic Hazard Assessment Final Report and Revised Report; USGS report to NRC dated 11-30-04	FOIA/PA-2008-0028
Contract OIS-07-373, IV & V of NRC Systems, current contract, Statement of Work, work plan, and related documents	FOIA/PA-2008-0029

November 2, 2007

ENCLOSURE H

Office of Human Resources (HR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending November 2, 2007

<b>Arrivals</b>		
LIZARDI, JONATHAN	REACTOR INSPECTOR NSPDP	RII
<b>Retirements</b>		
KANE, WILLIAM	DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR REACTOR AND PREPAREDNESS PROGRAMS	EDO
NAIDU, KAMALAKAR	SENIOR REACTOR ENGINEER	NRO
<b>Departures</b>		
HUBBARD, VANESSA LYNN	STUDENT MANAGEMENT ANALYST (COOP)	CFO
REBER, ERIC	PROJECT MANAGER	NMSS
SKARPAC, ERIC	SECURITY ANALYST	NSIR

November 2, 2007

ENCLOSURE J

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending November 2, 2007

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following Topics:

Palo Verde security incident involving a pipe bomb.

Inattentive guards incident at Peach Bottom nuclear plant.

“No Fly Zone” proposal for Indian Point nuclear plant in New York.

Uranium boom and the potential revitalization to local economy.

Low-level waste strategic assessment.

Unavailability of the public part of ADAMS via the Web.

Other Public Affairs Items:

OPA conducted an in-person interview with a Japanese newspaper regarding the communication aspects of emergency preparedness.

A Region III Public Affairs Officer participated in a taped interview for the Rockford Public Radio station and answered questions about the Byron nuclear plant pipe rust issue and the NRC’s special inspection.

<b>Press Releases</b>	
<b>Headquarters:</b>	
07-142	NRC to Hold Public Meetings on Nuclear Power Plant Security and Emergency Preparedness in Rockville, Maryland (10/29)
07-143	NRC to Discuss Proposed Aircraft Impact Assessment Rule November 15 in Rockville, MD (10/31)
07-144	NRC’s William Travers to Become Advisor at the International Atomic Energy Agency (10/31)
07-145	NRC Executives Honored with Presidential Awards (11/01)
07-146	NRC Publishes Strategic Assessment of Low-Level Radioactive Waste Regulatory Program (11/02)

<b>Regions:</b>	
I-07-056	NRC Assigns New Senior Resident Inspector to Beaver Valley (10/31)
II-07-051	NRC Issues a "Yellow" Finding to Farley Nuclear Plant for Valve Test Failures (11/01)
IV-07-040	NRC Conducting Special Inspection at Arkansas Nuclear One (10/31)
IV-07-041	NRC to Hold Regulatory Conference with Omaha Public Power District on Fort Calhoun Nuclear Plant (11/01)

November 2, 2007

ENCLOSURE M

Office of the Secretary (SECY)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending November 2, 2007

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
<b>Decision Documents</b>		
1. Commission Voting Record on SECY-07-0162	11/02/07	Final Rule to Amend 10 CFR Parts 19, 20, and 50: Occupational Dose Records, Labeling Containers, and the Total Effective Dose Equivalent (RIN 3150-AH40)
<b>Information Papers</b>		
1. SECY-07-0187	10/25/07	Weekly Information Report – Week Ending October 12, 2007
2. SECY-07-0188	10/26/07	Weekly Information Report – Week Ending October 19, 2007
3. SECY-07-0180	10/17/07	Strategic Assessment of Low-Level Radioactive Waste Regulatory Program
<b>Memoranda</b>		
1. M071102	11/02/07	Staff Requirements: Affirmation Session: I. SECY-07-0162 - Final Rule to Amend 10 CFR Parts 19, 20, and 50: Occupational Dose Records, Labeling Containers, and the Total Effective Dose Equivalent (RIN 3150-AH40)

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congressman Edward Markey, dated October 25, 2007, responds to letter concerning a recently awarded NRC contract to Information Systems Laboratories, Inc.
2. Letter to S.K. Sharma, India, dated October 23, 2007, responds to invitation to visit the Atomic Energy Regulation Board and India.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste and Materials, notice of 184<sup>th</sup> meeting (11/13 to 11/15, 2007).
2. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, Subcommittee Meeting on Power Upgrades (Susquehanna), notice of meeting (11/14/2007).

Office of the Executive Director for Operations (EDO)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending November 2, 2007

During the week of October 29, 2007, the EDO approved a final rule which incorporates by reference Revision 34 of Regulatory Guide 1.84, "Design, Fabrication, and Materials Code Case Acceptability, ASME Section III," and Revision 15 of Regulatory Guide 1.147, "Inservice Inspection Code Case Acceptability, ASME Section XI." These regulatory guides list ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel (BPV) Code Cases that the NRC has approved for use as alternatives to the requirements in the ASME BPV Code. This action permits NRC licensees to apply these Code Cases without obtaining prior NRC approval.

November 2, 2007

ENCLOSURE Q

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending November 2, 2007

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 35

OCA Contact	Date & Place	Time	Committee	Subject	Witnesses
Powell	10/31/07 406 Dirksen	10:00	Senate Environment and Public Works (Senators Boxer / Inhofe)	Examination of the Licensing Process for the Yucca Mountain Repository	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senator Harry Reid (D-NV)</li> <li>• Senator John Ensign (R-NV)</li> <li>• Senator Jim DeMint (R-SC)</li> <li>• Jim Gibbons – Governor, State of Nevada</li> <li>• Catherine Cortez Masto – Attorney General, State of Nevada</li> <li>• Edward Sproat – Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, DOE</li> <li>• Robert Meyers – Principal Deputy, Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation, EPA</li> <li>• Michael Weber – Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, NRC</li> <li>• James Kerr – President, National Association of Regulatory Utilities, and Commissioner, North Carolina Utilities Commission</li> <li>• Ken Cook – President, Environmental Working Group</li> </ul>

November 2, 2007

ENCLOSURE R