

INFORMATION REPORT

April 4, 2008

SECY-08-0047

For: The Commissioners
From: Vonna L. Ordaz, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
MARCH 28, 2008

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/

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 28, 2008

Task Working Group 5 of the Digital Instrumentation and Control (I&C) Project Meeting on Highly Integrated Control Room Human Factor Issues

On March 19, 2008, the Digital I&C Task Working Group (TWG) 5 held a meeting in Washington, DC to discuss current digital I&C issues relevant to proposed methods on manual operator action and guidance on minimum inventory. Meeting participants included NRC staff from NRR, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES), and the Office of New Reactors (NRO), as well as representatives of Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and the nuclear power industry. The next TWG 5 public meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2008.

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Thermal-Hydraulics Subcommittee Meeting

On March 19, 2008, the Division of Safety Systems and Division of Component Integrity (DCI) staff, along with representatives of the Pressurized Water Reactor Owners Group (PWROG), met with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) Thermal-Hydraulics Subcommittee to discuss the Topical Report, WCAP-16793, related to in-vessel effects of debris intrusion during a loss-of-coolant accident. The staff and PWROG agreed to obtain additional information to support a follow-up subcommittee meeting to address ACRS subcommittee member questions on April 8, 2008.

Meeting on International Steam Generator Tube Integrity Program Research

On March 19-20, 2008, the DCI and RES staff met with several international counterparts and Argonne National Laboratory representatives to discuss possible research to be performed under the next international steam generator tube integrity program. After presentations on work plans by each participant, an open discussion was held to highlight commonalities in the issues of concern and activities planned by each group.

ACRS Digital (I&C) Subcommittee Meeting

On March 20, 2008, NRC staff participated in a public meeting with the ACRS Digital I&C Subcommittee. Meeting participants included representatives of NEI, the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), and the nuclear power industry. The NRC staff presented information on Digital I&C Steering Committee activities, Interim Staff Guidance (ISG) documents for cyber security, the licensing process, and probabilistic risk assessments; as well as, operational experience and categorization, and future ACRS interactions. NEI representatives presented industry comments on the ISG. EPRI representatives presented an industry review of operational experience. Information on digital I&C activities will be presented to the full ACRS committee on April 11, 2008.

Joint Meeting of TWGs 2 and 3 of the Digital I&C Project on Risk Informing and Diversity and Defense in Depth

On March 21, 2008, the Digital I&C TWGs 2 and 3 held a joint meeting to discuss risk informing and diversity and defense in depth issues for digital I&C. Meeting participants included NRC staff from NRR, RES, NRO; as well as, representatives from NEI and the nuclear power industry. The next public meeting of these TWGs is planned for the end of April 2008.

Meeting on Multiple Spurious Actuation Resolution

On March 27, 2008, the Division of Risk Assessment staff met with NEI and industry representatives to discuss NEI's methodology and NRC staff's plan to resolve the multiple spurious actuation issue.

March 28, 2008

ENCLOSURE A

Office of New Reactors (NRO)
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 28, 2008

Public Scoping Meeting Regarding Environmental Review of Calvert Cliffs Combined License Application

On March 19, 2008, NRC staff held two public meetings in Solomons, Maryland, to solicit comments on the scope of the staff's environmental review of the combined license (COL) application for the Calvert Cliffs site. Approximately 200 people attended each meeting, including representatives of the NRC staff, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, UniStar, state and local governments, the nuclear industry, and members of the public. About 70 people provided comments. In addition, the NRC staff hosted an informal "open house" for one hour prior to each meeting to answer questions about the COL application review process.

The public comment period for scoping ends on April 14, 2008. After the conclusion of the comment period, the staff will evaluate the comments received, develop the scope of the draft environmental impact statement (EIS), and prepare the draft EIS. The draft EIS is currently scheduled to be published in the spring of 2009.

Bellefonte Inspection Report and Schedule Letter

On March 19, 2008, the staff issued an inspection report associated with the review of the computer programs used to calculate the design basis flood and to analyze potential dam failures at the Bellefonte site. The inspection report documents three violations of NRC requirements. Based on the problems identified during the inspection, and TVA's proposed schedule for providing a response to all parts of a seismic request for additional information, the staff informed TVA by letter that the Bellefonte review schedule will be reevaluated in July 2008. Both the March 19, 2008, inspection report and the March 25, 2008, letter have been released to the public.

Meeting with the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) to discuss Future Work on Alloy 690/152/52

On March 26, 2008, staff from NRO, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, and the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research participated in a meeting with representatives of EPRI to discuss current and future research on Alloy 690/152/52 and its resistance to primary water stress corrosion cracking. EPRI would like to work with the NRC and other international researchers to proactively address material degradation issues related to these alloys and reduce redundancy in research and testing efforts.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 28, 2008

Site Tour of Yucca Mountain Geologic and Hydrologic Features

On March 18-20, 2008, staff from NRC Headquarters, the On-Site Representative's Office in Las Vegas, Nevada and the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses participated in a tour of the Yucca Mountain Nevada site and the surrounding region. The visit focused on the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) proposed High-Level Waste Geologic Repository Operations Area and the surrounding geologic and hydrologic environments.

Quarterly Management Meeting on Yucca Mountain

On March 25, 2008, NRC and DOE staff members held a public Quarterly Management Meeting, in Las Vegas, Nevada. At the meeting, participants provided program updates and exchanged information on the NRC license application organizational review structure; NRC application review schedule; post-license application interactions; and handling of sensitive unclassified, classified, DOE, and proprietary information.

Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME)
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 28, 2008

Onsite Observation Visit to Savannah River Site, Saltstone Facilities

During the week of March 24, 2008, NRC staff in coordination with the State of South Carolina, held an Onsite Observation Visit at the U.S. Department of Energy Savannah River Site, Saltstone facilities as part of the NRC's overall monitoring responsibilities. The primary purpose of the visit was to follow up on issues identified during the Onsite Observation Visit in October 2007. The specific items that the staff and the State of South Carolina officials focused on were Saltstone grout formulation, grout placement, and disposal vault construction defects.

Termination of the Cabot Reading Source Material License

On March 24, 2008, FSME terminated the Cabot Reading source material license SMC-1462. The site was released for unrestricted use in accordance with the license termination rule criteria of less than 25 millirem per year (10 CFR Part 20, Subpart E) and As Low As is Reasonably Achievable. Decommissioning activities included long-term erosion stabilization and final status surveys at the site. NRC staff inspections verified proper installation of the erosion barrier and confirmed the sites radiological conditions were protective of the health and safety of the public and the environment, and that the site was acceptable for unrestricted release.

Governor Edward G. Rendell Signs Three Formal Agreements

On March 26, 2008, Governor Edward G. Rendell signed the three formal Agreements, as authorized by Section 274b of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, which provides for the Commission to discontinue its regulatory authority and for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to assume regulatory authority over certain radioactive materials within Pennsylvania. The effective date of the Agreement is March 31, 2008.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending March 28, 2008

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of March 21, 2008 through March 27, 2008:

Materials Licensing Tracking System database, active and retired facilities	FOIA/PA-2008-0151
Access to ML071430006, regarding TRACE Code	FOIA/PA-2008-0152
Current medical use licenses in Michigan and Indiana	FOIA/PA-2008-0153
Complaint from Raymond Martin, Martin Industrial Testing Inc., Sandston, Virginia, to NRC on or about March 10-18, 2008, regarding Fedex, and letter from NRC to Department of Transportation, all related documents/correspondence	FOIA/PA-2008-0154
License 32-23858-01E	FOIA/PA-2008-0155
License 04-23959-01E	FOIA/PA-2008-0156
Correspondence between Senator Hillary Clinton and NRC; copies of FOIA requests for this information from 1992 to present; copies of FOIA requests for Senator Barack Obama's correspondence, 2005 to present	FOIA/PA-2008-0157
Materials License Application ML031960431 dated July 7, 2003 (29-28056-01)	FOIA/PA-2008-0158
FOIA/PA Request 2003-0275	FOIA/PA-2008-0159

Requests Completed:

2008-0080 (No PDR)
 2008-0126 (No PDR)
 2008-0149 (No PDR)

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 28, 2008

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following:

Swearing-in of Commissioner Kristine L. Svinicki

Bellefonte nuclear plant's COL application

Cyber-security and ways to secure and protect data

NRC staff's paper to the Commission on options for reporting results from state-of-the art reactor consequence analysis

NRC's response to recommendations from an independent review panel following the Government Accountability Office sting report on materials licensing

Impact of global warming and drought conditions on nuclear power plants

Three Mile Island 1 nuclear plant's performance assessment of greater than "green" finding from the security inspection report

Indian Point nuclear plant's recent scram

Ginna nuclear plant's performance assessment of greater than "yellow" finding

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
08-063	NRC Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste and Materials to Meet in Rockville, Maryland, April 8-10 (3/25)
08-064	NRC Advisory Committee on Medical Uses of Isotopes to Meet April 28-29 (3/25)
08-065	Licensing Board to Hear Public Comments April 27-28 in Vogtle Early Site Permit Application Proceeding (3/25)
08-066	Hearing Regarding Pilgrim Plant License Renewal Application Scheduled for April 10 In Plymouth, Massachusetts (3/25)
08-067	NRC Adds Sequoyah Plant to Initial Scope of State-of-the-Art Reactor Consequence Analysis (3/25)
08-068	Commissioner Kristine L. Svinicki Takes Oath of Office at NRC (3/28)
08-069	NRC Invites Nominations for the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (3/28)

Regions:	
I-08-011	NRC to Discuss Three Mile Island 1 Nuclear Plant Assessment at Public Meeting Scheduled for April 3 in Middletown, Pennsylvania (3/27)
I-08-012	NRC to Discuss Annual Assessment for Fitzpatrick Nuclear Plant at Public Meeting Scheduled for April 3 in Fulton, New York (3/28)
II-08-011	NRC to Discuss 2007 Performance at Saint Lucie Nuclear Power Plant (3/24)
II-08-012	NRC to Discuss 2007 Performance Assessment for Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant (3/25)
II-08-013	NRC to Discuss 2007 Performance of Summer Nuclear Power Plant (3/27)
III-08-006	NRC Responds to Unusual Event at the Byron Nuclear Plant (3/26)
III-08-007	NRC to Discuss 2007 Performance Assessment for LaSalle Nuclear Power Plant (3/27)
III-08-008	NRC to Discuss 2007 Performance Assessment for Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant (3/27)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending March 28, 2008

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SRM-SECY-07-0167	03/26/08	Revisions of Policy Statement on Regulation of Advanced Reactors
Commission Voting Record on SECY-07-0167	03/26/08	(same)
2. SRM-SECY-08-0031	03/26/08	Proposed Rule: Expansion of National Source Tracking System
Commission Voting Record on SECY-08-0031	03/26/08	(same)
3. COMSECY-07-0039	12/19/07	Policy and Procedures for Implementation of Authority to Waive Pension Offset
SRM-COMSECY-07-0039	03/27/08	(same)
Commission Voting Record on COMSECY-07-0039	03/27/08	(same)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-08-0037	03/20/08	SECY-08-0037 – Weekly Information Report – Week Ending March 14, 2008
Memoranda		
1. M080220	03/26/08	Staff Requirements – Periodic Briefing on New Reactor Issues
2. M080327A	03/27/08	Staff Requirements – Affirmation Session: I. SECY-08-0021 – Pa’ina Hawaii, LLC (Materials License Application) Atomic Safety and Licensing Board’s Decision on Environmental Contentions (Dec. 21, 2007); II. SECY-08-0025 – Pacific Gas and Electric Co. (Diablo Canyon ISFSI), Docket No. 72-26-ISFSI, San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace’s Response to NRC Staff’s Vaughn Index, Request for Leave to Conduct Discovery Against the NRC Staff, Request for Access to Unredacted Reference Documents, and Request for Procedures to Protect Submission of Sensitive Information; III. SECY-08-0030 – Motion to Quash OI Subpoena Filed by Daryl Shapiro
3. M080318	3/27/08	Staff Requirements – Briefing by Independent

March 28, 2008

ENCLOSURE O

		External Panel to Identify Vulnerabilities in the U.S. NRC's Materials Licensing Program
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Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congress, dated March 21, 2008, provides information on NRC's review of the DOE's regulatory processes for the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant.
2. Letter to Congress, dated March 21, 2008, submits NRC's FY 2007 Annual Report on the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation (No FEAR) Act of 2002.
3. Letter to Senator Barbara Boxer, dated March 11, 2008, responds to letter regarding the NRC licensing process for the proposed Yucca Mountain repository.
4. Letter to Professor Elegba, Nigeria, dated March 10, 2008, responds to invitation to speak at the Second National Seminar on Nuclear Power Programme.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, Subcommittee Meeting on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena, notice of meeting (4/8/2008).
2. Establishment of Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc. (Millstone Power Station, Unit No. 3).

Region II (RII)
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 28, 2008

North Anna Nuclear Plant Annual Assessment Meeting

On March 24, 2008, the Annual Assessment for the Hatch Nuclear Plant was held at the Information Center in Mineral, VA. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the NRC Reactor Oversight Process at the site.

Sequoyah Nuclear Plant NRC Operator License Banquet

On March 26, 2008, the Acting Regional Administrator attended the Sequoyah Nuclear Plant NRC Operator License Banquet in Chattanooga, TN.

March 28, 2008

ENCLOSURE P

Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 28, 2008

Palo Verde Regulatory Conference Public Meeting

On March 25, 2008, the Regional Administrator and members of Region IV and Headquarters staff conducted a public Regulatory Conference meeting with Arizona Public Service Company management in Arlington, Texas. Arizona Public Service Company representatives discussed one apparent White finding for the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station related to the identification and timely correction of an emergency preparedness performance weakness associated with the correct classification of one emergency action level. Several members of the public attended the meeting.

March 28, 2008

ENCLOSURE P

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending March 28, 2008

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 9					
OCA Contact	Date & Place	Time	Committee	Subject	Witnesses
Powell	04/03/08 TBD	TBD	House Energy and Commerce Committee Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations (Representatives Stupak / Whitfield)	Selling the Department of Energy's Depleted Uranium Stockpile: Opportunities and Challenges	• TBD
Shane/Dacus	05/15/08 (Tentative)	TBD	Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety (Senators Carper / Voinovich)	New Reactors and Relicensing of Current Reactors	• NRC Commission • Others TBD
Powell	Spring 08 TBD	TBD	House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations (Representatives Stupak / Whitfield)	Inattentive Guards at Peach Bottom and other Security Related Topics	• TBD

Note: The Senate is in recess until March 31, 2008.
 The House is in recess until March 31, 2008.