

INFORMATION REPORT

May 16, 2008

SECY-08-0069

For: The Commissioners
From: Vonna L. Ordaz, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
MAY 9, 2008

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*No input this week.

/RA/

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 9, 2008

Beaver Valley Power Station License Renewal Schedule Modification

By letter dated April 25, 2008, FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company submitted a request to the NRC to modify the schedule for the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards subcommittee review of the Beaver Valley Power Station Safety Evaluation Report (SER). The staff plans to issue a revised license renewal review schedule to reflect the requested change.

Fuel Performance Issues

During April 28 - May 2, 2008, the Division of Safety Systems staff met with representatives of Global Nuclear Fuels (GNF) and several licensees at the GNF fuel facility in Wilmington, NC, to discuss fuel performance issues. This meeting was one of several periodic meetings the staff holds with nuclear power plant fuel vendors to gather information on fuel performance and exchange information on fuel operating experience and proposed changes in acceptance criteria for fuel integrity following accidents and transients. GNF also provided information on future topical reports they plan to submit on new fuel designs and analytical methods for prediction of fuel performance.

Oconee Digital Instrumentation & Control (I&C) Upgrade

On April 29, 2008, the Division of Engineering staff met with representatives of Duke and AREVA to discuss various issues identified in the acceptance review of a License Amendment Request to implement a digital computer based upgrade of the Reactor and Engineered Safeguard Protection Systems at the Oconee Nuclear Power Station (Oconee). The staff plans to conduct a site visit at Oconee during the week of May 19, 2008.

Indian Point Nuclear Generating Station Blackout Diesel Generator Installation

By letter dated April 30, 2008, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. informed the NRC that it had met its commitment to install and make operational a station blackout (SBO)/Appendix R diesel generator for the Indian Point Nuclear Generating, Unit No. 2 (IP2). Installation and operation of the diesel generator by April 30, 2008, was a condition of the schedule established by the staff in its acceptance of the license renewal application (LRA) for review. The letter also contained an amendment to the LRA to address the changes needed as a result of installation of the diesel generator. The diesel generator replaced IP2's gas turbine as the alternate ac source and updates IP2 to a configuration similar to IP3.

Safe Long Term Operation Program Peer Review of the Dukovany Nuclear Power Plant

During April 30 - May 1, 2008, the Division of License Renewal (DLR) staff supported an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) peer review of the Safe Long Term Operation program for the Dukovany Nuclear Power Plant in Czech Republic. The peer review team

consisted of IAEA staff and international experts in aging management and license renewal. The staff reviewed the original safety analyses for time limited assumptions, the current safety analyses, and licensing basis documents. An exit meeting was conducted with the power plant management, the Czech regulatory body, and the Nuclear Research Institute.

Wolf Creek Generating Station (WCGS) Metal Fatigue Analysis

On May 1, 2008, the DLR staff conducted a public meeting with Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation representatives to discuss the status of the metal fatigue analyses related to the WCGS SER with open items, dated February 1, 2008. The metal fatigue analyses were submitted in the WCGS LRA. The staff requested a confirmatory analysis (e.g., finite-element stress analysis) be performed which is the subject of an open item in the SER. The response to the SER open items is scheduled to be submitted by May 15, 2008.

Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) on Fatigue Analysis

On May 1, 2008, the NRC staff issued a Draft RIS in the *Federal Register* for public comment regarding Fatigue Analysis of Nuclear Power Plant components. The staff requested current license renewal applicants to perform confirmatory analyses of affected components. The staff will determine whether further actions are necessary for plants with renewed licenses. The comment period for the Draft RIS closes on June 16, 2008.

Licensing Acton Task Force (LATF) Meeting

On May 1, 2008, the staff conducted a public meeting with representatives of the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) LATF. The attendees discussed items of interest and possible process improvements associated with operating reactors' licensing issues. The staff plans to continue working group meetings with the LATF in the future. The next quarterly LATF meeting will be held in the summer of 2008.

Digital I&C Task Working Group 3 Meeting

On May 5, 2008, the Digital I&C Task Working Group 3 conducted a public meeting to discuss the NEI's comments on draft Interim Staff Guidance (ISG) #3, "Review of New Reactor Digital Instrumentation and Control Probabilistic Risk Assessments." Draft ISG #3 was issued for public comment on April 24, 2008. The staff will consider comments received before issuing the final ISG document.

Fire-Induced Circuit Failures Meeting

On May 7, 2008, the Division of Risk Assessment staff conducted a public meeting with representatives from the NEI to discuss feedback on the NRC's proposed closure plan for fire-induced circuit failures, including multiple spurious actuations. Attendees also discussed technical issues that will be addressed during implementation of the plan. The staff will continue to work with NEI to resolve remaining technical issues to bring the fire-induced circuit failure issue to closure.

Office of New Reactors (NRO)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 9, 2008

Site Audit and Public Scoping Meeting for William States Lee III, Units 1 and 2 (Lee) Combined License (COL) Site

During the week of April 28, 2008, NRC staff toured the proposed Lee COL application site in Cherokee County, South Carolina as well as three alternative site locations. The staff also conducted a site audit and held discussions with Duke Energy and their contractors to review documentation related to the Environmental Report submitted as part of the COL application. On May 1, 2008, the staff conducted a public scoping meeting in Gaffney, South Carolina to solicit comments from the public to help identify significant environmental issues related to the COL, and to provide the opportunity to interested members of the public to submit comments or suggestions on these environmental issues and the proposed scope of the staff's environmental review. The public comment period for scoping ends on May 20, 2008.

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ENCLOSURE B

Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 9, 2008

Uranium Recovery (UR) Workshop

On April 29-30, the staff from the Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection and representatives for the National Mining Association co-hosted a UR Workshop in Denver, Colorado. Over 250 individuals attended, including representatives from industry, State/Federal agencies, Indian Tribes, citizen groups, and a delegation from Namibia. Presentations included: a UR program overview, UR risks, updates on the generic environmental impact statement related to in-situ UR, updates on the in-situ leach rule, United States NRC licensing, and UR in Namibia. Thirteen sidebar meetings were held by the NRC staff to discuss UR facility licensing. Attendees at these sidebar meetings included representatives of applicants, licensees, the United States Department of Energy, and State agencies.

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ENCLOSURE D

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 9, 2008

Completion of Fuel Cladding Research on Acceptance Criteria for Loss-of-Coolant Accidents (LOCA)

On May 5, 2008, after delays resulting from the closure of a hot-cell facility at Argonne National Laboratory, the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research has completed all testing in support of the revision of 10 CFR 50.46(b). The final testing was conducted on irradiated ZIRLO and M5 cladding from high burn-up commercial fuel rods. The tests were performed in steam under the high temperature conditions of a LOCA. The results of these recent tests confirm previous results with Zircaloy cladding and demonstrate the need to revise the LOCA acceptance criteria. Results and implications of these tests will be described in a Research Information Letter to be issued in June.

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ENCLOSURE E

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 9, 2008

Award for Quality Assurance Training Course

On May 7, 2008 a competitive contract was awarded to Booz Allen Hamilton under a full and open competition (contract number NRC-38-08-700). The contractor will design and present a training course on Quality Assurance for NRC inspectors. The period of performance is a 12-month base period and four one-year option periods. The total price of the contract, including the base period and four option periods, is \$733,285.

Fitness for Duty Programs: Final Rule, Correction (RIN 3150-AF12, Part 26)

On April 22, 2008, the Office of the *Federal Register* published a notice (73 FR 21690) correcting a printing error made in a final rule the NRC published on March 31, 2008 (73 FR 16966), concerning NRC's Fitness for Duty Programs.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 9, 2008

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period
of May 2, 2008 through May 8, 2008:

Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) license and certificate for named individual, time frame 1985-86	FOIA/PA-2008-0211
Former Governor Mark Warner, all records, 2002-2006	FOIA/PA-2008-0212
SAPHIRE software, source code and executable, electronic copy	FOIA/PA-2008-0213
Metal fatigue and the simplified method used for calculating it, copy of document released April 11, 2008, to nuclear power plant operators	FOIA/PA-2008-0214
Contract NRC3303341, awarded to Information Manufacturing Corp., original RFP, all related attachments and modifications	FOIA/PA-2008-0215
AINS Inc., contract, communications, notes, invoices, payments, etc.	FOIA/PA-2008-0216
NRC Personnel Manual, Handbook and Directives, updates from September 2006 through April 2008	FOIA/PA-2008-0217
Recent employment reference information on named individual	FOIA/PA-2008-0218
RFP for RFQ ASB 04-232	FOIA/PA-2008-0219
Deputation of the Office of Investigations staff, all communications between NRC and the U.S. Marshals Service, January 1, 2007 through May 7, 2008	FOIA/PA-2008-0220

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 9, 2008

Arrivals		
ALLEN, LINDA	SECRETARY (OA)	OIS
ASHLEY, CLINTON	REACTOR SYSTEMS ENGINEER	NRO
CLARKE, JAMES	STUDENT CLERK	ACRS
CUADRADO, LEIRA	SCIENTIST (NSPDP)	FSME
FAIRBANKS, ABIN	REACTOR ENGINEER (NSPDP)	RIV
FEIZOLLAHI, DAVOUD	SECRETARY (OA)	NMSS
FREEMAN, ERIC	STUDENT ENGINEER	NMSS
GREEN, MATTHEW	IT SPECIALIST TRAINEE (CO-OP)	ADM
HIMMELBERG, JUDE	HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST	HR
JARDANEH, MAHMOUD	STRUCTURAL ENGINEER	NRO
KERN, LUDWIG	STUDENT ENGINEER	NRR
KILLIAN, MICHELLE	STUDENT ENGINEER	RES
KONDURI, INDU	IT SPECIALIST (SYSANALYSIS)	NRR
MENDEZ GONZALEZ, SANDRA	STUDENT ENGINEER (COOP)	RII
ORF, TRACY	PROJECT MANAGER	NRR
RASK, TONI	STUDENT ENGINEER	NMSS
SAKREKOFF, MATTHEW	SR MANAGEMENT ANALYST/SR AUDITOR	OIG
SINKS, DONNA	QUALITY ASSURANCE SPECIALIST	NRO
STURZEBECKER, KARL	COMPUTER SOFTWARE ENG. (DIGITAL I&C)	RES
TAKACS, MICHAEL	PROJECT MANAGER	NRO
TETTER, KEITH	RELIABILITY AND RISK ANALYST	NRO
TOKUHIRO, AKIRA	NUCLEAR ENGINEER (SUMMER FACULTY)	RES
WAGNER, KATHERINE	GENERAL ENGINEER (NSPDP)	RES
Departures		
PARISH, MARGARET ANNE	LAW CLERK	ASLBP
SMITH, JOHN	ELECTRICAL ENGINEER	NRO

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ENCLOSURE J

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 9, 2008

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following:

U.S. low-level wastes imports/exports

Spent fuel issues after a recent hydrogen ignition during cask loading at Columbia Generating Station near Richland, Washington

NRC regulation of medical devices

Recent petition on the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant's partial cooling-tower cell collapse last August.

Upcoming citizens' group meeting on health effects from Indian Point.

Other Public Affairs Items

Office of Public Affairs (OPA) facilitated an interview with Los Angeles Times and Chairman Klein to discuss new reactors, MOX, and international cooperation.

Chairman Klein spoke at the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) conference in Chicago and answered questions on various topics from trade publication and local media afterwards.

OPA participated in a public forum organized by Citizens Information Network to discuss tritium at the Braidwood nuclear plant, near Joliet, Illinois.

OPA participated in a three-day national exercise involving a hurricane on the east coast with other federal agencies to practice continuity of operations.

OPA launched the revised the Radiation Protection Web page.

OPA regional staff assisted in numerous end-of-cycle meetings.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
08-089	NRC to Hold Public Meeting May 12 in Paducah to Discuss Recertification of USEC Enrichment Plant (5/6)
08-090	Nuclear Regulatory Commission Honors Employees on June 2 in Rockville, Maryland (5/9)
Regions:	
I-08-030	NRC to Discuss Vermont Yankee Nuclear Plant Annual Assessment at Public Meeting Set for May 12 in Brattleboro, Vt. (5/6)
I-08-031	NRC to Discuss Oyster Creek Nuclear Plant Annual Assessment at Public

	Meeting Set for May 15 in Toms River, N.J. (5/8)
III-08-018	NRC to Discuss 2007 Performance Assessment for Palisades Nuclear Power Plant (5/5)
III-08-019	NRC to Discuss 2007 Performance Assessment for Clinton Nuclear Power Plant (5/9)
IV-08-017	NRC Names New Resident Inspector at River Bend Station (5/9)

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ENCLOSURE M

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending May 9, 2008

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SECY-08-0056	4/22/08	Estimated Costs for Broadcasting Public Meetings Over the Internet (Web Streaming)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-08-0057	4/22/08	Agency Long-Term Research Activities
Memoranda		
1. M080430C	5/8/08	Staff Requirements Memoranda – Periodic Briefing on New Reactor Issues, 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 30, 2008, Commissioners' Conference Room, One White Flint North, Rockville, Maryland (Open to Public Attendance)

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congress, dated April 30, 2008, provides a semiannual report on the status of NRC's licensing and other regulatory activities.
2. Letter to Susan Duley, Office of Management and Budget, dated April 28, 2008, provides NRC's FY 2008 Regulatory Plan.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Regulation of Advanced Nuclear Power Plants; Draft Statement of Policy -- Issuance of draft policy statement and notice of opportunity for public comment.

Region II (RII)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 9, 2008

North-American Young Generation Nuclear Workshop

On May 5, the Regional Administrator conducted a short presentation as part of a panel at the North-American Young Generation Nuclear Workshop. The title of the presentation was Bridging the Generation Gap.

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ENCLOSURE P

Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
Week Ending May 9, 2008

Senior Management Changes at South Texas Project

On April 30, the licensee for South Texas Project announced the following senior management changes effective June 1, 2008. Ed Halpin, currently Site Vice President, will be named Chief Nuclear Officer, and Dave Rencurrel, currently Vice President of Engineering and Strategic Projects, will be named Site Vice President.

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ENCLOSURE P

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending May 9, 2008

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 15					
OCA Contact	Date & Place	Time	Committee	Subject	Witnesses
Kron	05/08/08 342 DSOB	10:00	Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia (Senators Akaka / Voinovich)	Federal Hiring Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NRC • Others TBD
Decker	05/20/08 TBD	TBD	The House Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality (Representatives Boucher / Upton)	Importing Low Level Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD
Shane/Dacus	05/15/08 406 DSOB 07/16/08 (Tentative)	TBD	Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety (Senators Carper / Voinovich)	New Reactors and License Renewal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NRC Commission • Others TBD