

INFORMATION REPORT

June 6, 2008

SECY-08-0079

For: The Commissioners  
From: Vonna L. Ordaz, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO  
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING  
MAY 30, 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/*

Vonna L. Ordaz  
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:  
S. Bagley, OEDO

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 30, 2008

Region IV Counterpart Meeting

On May 22, 2008, the Division of Inspection & Regional Support staff participated in the Region IV counterparts meeting. Staff presented on the current focus and daily activities of the Operating Experience Program, including the communication path from the region or resident inspectors to NRR management and the process used to collect, analyze and effectively apply operating experience. The Region IV staff and inspectors provided insights and improvement suggestions for the overall operating experience program.

SRA Counterpart Meeting

During May 28 - 29, 2008, the DIRS staff conducted the Senior Risk Analyst (SRA) counterpart meeting at the NRC Professional Development Center located in Bethesda, MD. The meeting agenda included training sessions on common-cause failure, parameter estimation, and several other risk-related topics. The attendees included SRA representatives from headquarters and the regional offices.

Reactor Core bottom Nozzle Testing at Continuum Dynamics Inc.

On May 19-21, 2008, the Division of Component Integrity and Division of Safety Systems staff, as well as staff from the Offices of NRR and New Reactors (NRO), visited Continuum Dynamics, Inc., in Ewing, New Jersey, to observe reactor core bottom nozzle testing. The tests evaluated the potential for post loss of coolant accident debris and chemical precipitate to collect in the bottom nozzle-protective grid region and impede flow to the core. This testing is being conducted to support resolution of Generic Safety Issue 191, "PWR Sump Performance," for Diablo Canyon Power Plant.

Wolf Creek Digital Upgrade Audit at CS International (CSI)

During May 12 - 15, 2008, the Division of Engineering staff visited the CSI office in Scottsdale, Arizona, to review development of the Field Programmable Gate Array based Main Steam and Feedwater Isolation System (MSFIS) proposed by Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation. The staff reviewed the MSFIS System Specification, the Advanced Logic System Level-I System Specification, detailed design documentation, V&V documentation, and the MSFIS System Test Plan as part of a thread audit.

Digital Instrumentation and Control (I&C) Task Working Group #5 Meeting

On May 21, 2008, the I&C Task Working Group #5, Highly Integrated Control Room - Human Factors conducted a public meeting with industry representatives. Topics discussed during the meeting included Unique Prompting Alarms, an industry white paper on Manual Operator Action, and Computerized Procedures.

### Oconee Digital Instrumentation and Control (I&C) Upgrade Audit

During May 19 - 22, 2008, the DE staff conducted an audit at the Oconee power plant site to support the Oconee Digital I&C upgrade license amendment request review. The audit was conducted to ensure that the licensee has properly considered the requirements for an effective digital system design and that the licensee properly evaluates engineering practices of their contractor in the development of the digital Reactor Protection System (RPS) and Engineered Safeguard Protection System (ESPS). Several major topics were discussed with the licensee's engineers and the staff reviewed related documents.

### Vendor Inspection of Invensys Process Systems (Triconex)

During May 19 - 22, 2008, DE staff participated in an NRO-led vendor inspection of Triconex, a unit of Invensys Process Systems, in Irvine, California. Triconex provides digital equipment for Safety Parameter Display Systems at nuclear power plants. Triconex plans to provide digital Reactor Protection Systems and Emergency Safety Features Actuation Systems for new reactors and as upgrades to current operating plants. The team identified one potential violation of 10 CFR Part 21 for inadequate procedures.

### Halden Program Group Meeting

From May 18-23, 2008, the Division of Safety Systems staff attended the Enlarged Halden Program Group meeting in Loen, Norway. Technical sessions detailed ongoing research programs at the Halden research reactor, as well as other international programs. In addition, DSS staff attended two separate Halden Program meetings for voting participants only. Discussions included prioritizing in-pile phenomena for future Halden research programs and the ongoing in-pile LOCA test program, IFA-650. This meeting is conducted approximately every 18 months and is a focal point for international fuel performance research programs.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 30, 2008

Nuclear Materials Management and Safeguards System (NMMSS)

On May 20-23, 2008, the annual training meeting for the users of NMMSS, the national database for tracking special nuclear materials, was held in San Antonio, Texas. Approximately 120 attendees participated in the meeting. Staff from the Office of NMSS provided training sessions on reporting nuclear materials to the database, the Additional Protocol Treaty that the President signed in February and recent rulemaking by the NRC that impacts licensees possessing a gram or more of special nuclear material. NRC staff from the Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs also made a presentation on the National Source Tracking Database. Additional sessions were made by representatives of industry, staff who operate the NMMSS database and the United States Department of Energy (DOE). The NMMSS database is owned by DOE and NRC utilizes the database through an agreement with DOE.

International Visits Associated with the U.S. DOE's Global Nuclear Energy Partnership

From May 19-22, 2008, the NMSS staff attended a four-day international conference in Montpellier, France, in which ongoing work related to spent nuclear fuel (SNF) reprocessing technologies were presented by various international organizations and research facilities. Prior to attending the conference on May 13, 2008, the same staff participated in a technical tour of the SNF reprocessing facility in Sellafield, United Kingdom. On May 15, 2008 and May 23, 2008, the staff participated in technical tours of AREVA's SNF reprocessing facility in LaHague, France, and the mixed oxide fuel fabrication facility in Marcoule, France, respectively. All facility tours and attendance at the conference were coordinated and funded by DOE in accordance with the DOE and NRC reimbursable agreement for the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership.

Visit from the Australian Government Representatives

On May 28, 2008, the NMSS staff coordinated a meeting with representatives from the Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office, based in Cambridge, Australia, and the Australian Embassy in the United States. The Australian representatives met with the NRC staff from NMSS and the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response to exchange information about nuclear industry developments in the United States and Australia, regulatory requirements, and the administrative process for import/export compliance between the United States and Australia.

Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 30, 2008

GE-Hitachi's Plans for Application of Nuclear Fuel-Americas Site

On May 28-29, staff from the Office of FSME, and the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) held a series of meetings with elected local officials in Wilmington, NC and surrounding counties to discuss the NRC's licensing process for an enrichment facility, including both safety and environmental reviews. GE- Hitachi recently announced plans to apply for a Nuclear Fuel-Americas site in Wilmington, North Carolina.

National Academy of Sciences Nuclear and Radiation Studies Board Meeting

On May 29, the Division of Materials Safety and State Agreements, FSME, participated in the National Academy of Sciences Nuclear and Radiation Studies Board meeting, speaking on "Sponsor Perspectives: Radiation Source Use and Replacement Study". The session was chaired by former NRC Chairman Richard Meserve.

Environmental Protection Agency Meeting

On May 30, FSME staff met with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) office of Enforcement and Division of Radiation Protection to discuss EPA's interpretation of Subpart W of the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants applicability to In-situ leach (ISL) facilities. NRC Staff has requested clarification from EPA on its understanding of the applicability of 40 CFR 61.250 to evaporation ponds as well as tailings impoundments at ISL facilities.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Presentation

On May 28, FSME made a presentation to the IAEA in Vienna, Austria, on the National Academies report on Radiation Source Use and Replacement Study.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 30, 2008

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research Publication of Draft Regulatory Guide 1195 (DG-1195)  
“Availability of Electric Power Sources”

On May 22, 2008, the staff issued the subject draft regulatory guide to provide an opportunity for public comments. The draft guide addresses safe nuclear power plant operation in the event of the loss of onsite and offsite power sources. DG-1195 is available on the NRC website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/reg-guides/power-reactors/draft-index.html>.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research Publication of Draft Regulatory Guide 1175 (DG-1175)  
“Seismic Qualification of Electric and Active Mechanical Equipment, and Functional  
Qualification of Active Mechanical Equipment for Nuclear Power Plants”

On May 27, the staff issued the subject draft regulatory guide to provide an opportunity for public comments. The draft guide contains proposed revisions to the NRC’s guidance in the area of seismic qualification of electric and active mechanical equipment, and functional qualification of active mechanical equipment. DG-1175 is available on the NRC website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/reg-guides/power-reactors/draft-index.html>.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research Publication of Regulatory Guide 1.45, Revision 1,  
“Guidance on Monitoring and Responding to Reactor Coolant System Leakage”

On May 28, the staff published the subject regulatory guide revision. The regulatory guide describes methods that the staff considers acceptable for use in implementing regulatory requirements for light-water-cooled reactors with regard to selecting reactor coolant leakage detection systems, monitoring for leakage, and responding to leakage. Regulatory Guide 1.45 is available on the NRC website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/reg-guides/power-reactors/active/>.

Office of Administration (ADM)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 30, 2008

National Resources Defense Council; Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-50-90)

On May 27, 2008, the NRC published a document (73 FR 30321) in the *Federal Register* requesting public comment on a petition for rulemaking submitted by the Natural Resources Defense Council (PRM-50-90). The petitioner requests that the NRC amend its regulations governing production and utilization facilities and the regulations governing special nuclear material. The petitioner requests the NRC to establish a date after which it will no longer license the use or export of highly enriched uranium except for restricted use by a few specialized facilities. The comment period on this action closes August 11, 2008.

Administrative Changes: NRC Region IV Address Changes and the Office of Information Services (OIS) Headquarters Phone Number and E-mail Address Changes (AI39 – 10 CFR Ch. I)

On May 28, 2008, the NRC published a final rule (73 FR 30456) that made a number of administrative changes to its regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I. The changes updated the address for the Region IV office and updated the phone number and E-mail address for requesting NRC forms from the OIS. The final rule became effective May 28, 2008.

Office of Information Services (OIS)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 30, 2008

Fermi I, Michigan, incident in 1966, testing for leakage or radiation levels in local communities	FOIA/PA-2008-0235
Credit card holders names & e-mail addresses at GSAAdvantage.gov (Referral by GSA)	FOIA/PA-2008-0236
Referral by United States Department of Justice - blanket deputation for special agents of the NRC, all records	FOIA/PA-2008-0237
Pilot PRA referred to by Commissioner Jaczko's speech of May 13, 2008, "Thoughts on Spent Fuel Storage"	FOIA/PA-2008-0238

May 30, 2008

ENCLOSURE H



Office of Human Resources (HR)  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending May 30, 2008

<b>Arrivals</b>		
ALEXANDER, STEPHEN	REACTOR ENGINEER	NRR
ARTZ, MARK	STUDENT MANAGEMENT ANALYST	OIG
DIGIOVANNA, ERIC	STUDENT CLERK	ACRS
HASTINGS, NICOLE	STUDENT LAW CLERK	OGC
NORSWORTHY, MARK	STUDENT ENGINEER	NSIR
RIFFLE, ASHLEY	STUDENT SCIENTIST (COOP)	FSME
WASHINGTON, BRITTNEY	STUDENT CLERK	ADM
WOROSILO, JANNETTE	PROJECT ENGINEER	R-II
WYNN, COURTNEY	STUDENT CLERK	IP
<b>Retirements</b>		
KOO, WILLIAM	SENIOR MATERIALS ENGINEER	NRR
LE, NGOC	SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER	NRR
<b>Departure</b>		
TOMS, GERALD	EMERGENCY RESPONSE COORDINATOR	NSIR

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 30, 2008

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following:

Oyster Creek nuclear plant, Toms River, New Jersey, license renewal.

Peach Bottom nuclear plant, Lancaster, Penn., "Safety Conscious Work Environment" inspection report.

Effects of the recent Chinese earthquake on their civilian nuclear sites and materials

NRC human capital issues.

Groundwater contamination issues at Indian Point nuclear plant, New York, New York.

Other Public Affairs Items:

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

<b>Press Releases</b>	
<b>Headquarters:</b>	
08-100	NRC Meeting June 12 in Glen Rose, Texas, to Discuss Review Process for Expected New Reactor Application (5/27)
08-101	Meeting June 11 in Dana Point, California, to Discuss Proposed Partial Release of San Onofre Site (5/27)
08-102	NRC Meeting with Public June 10 on Environmental Scoping for Harris New Reactor Application (5/27)
08-103	NRC Updates Guidance to Licensees for Extended Storage of Low-Level Radioactive Waste (5/29)
08-104	NRC Meeting with Public June 19 on Environmental Scoping for Grand Gulf New Reactor Application (5/30)
<b>Regions:</b>	
I-08-035	NRC Monitoring Unusual Event at Millstone 2 Nuclear Plant (5/27)
I-08-036	NRC Proposes \$3,250 Civil Penalty for Chesapeake, Va., Firm for Violations Associated with Temporary Loss of Nuclear Gauge (5/28)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending May 30, 2008

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
<b>Decision Documents</b>		
1. SECY-08-0028	2/28/08	Report to Congress on Abnormal Occurrences: Fiscal Year 2007
SRM on SECY-08-0028	4/17/08	(same)
Commission Voting Record on SECY-08-0028	4/17/08	(same)
<b>Information Papers</b>		
SECY-08-0075	5/30/08	Weekly Information Report – Week Ending May 16, 2008
<b>Memoranda</b>		
1. M080528A	5/28/08	SRM – Affirmation Session, 9:25 a.m., Wednesday, May 28, 2008, Commissioners' Conference Room, One White Flint North, Rockville, Maryland (Open to Public Attendance) – SECY-08-0043 – AmerGen Energy Company, LLC (License Renewal for Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station), Docket No. 50-219-LR, Citizens' Petition for Review of LBP-07-17 and Other Interlocutory Decisions in the Oyster Creek Proceeding
2. M080430A	5/30/08	SRM – Briefing on Materials Licensing and Security

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Virginia Electric and Power Company, D/B/A Dominion Electric Virginia Power and Old Dominion Electric Cooperative, Correction to Notice of Hearing and Opportunity to Petition for Leave to Intervene on a Combined License for North Anna Unit 3, Docket No. 52-017.
2. Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes: Meeting Notice (07/21/2008).

May 30, 2008

ENCLOSURE O

3. Final rule; correcting amendment. Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants; Correction, 10 CFR Part 50, RIN 3150-AG24, NRC-2001-0010.
4. Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc., Notice of Hearing and Opportunity to Petition for Leave to Intervene and Order Imposing Procedures for Access to Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information and Safeguards Information for Contention Preparation on a Combined License for the Shearon Harris Units 2 and 3 [Docket No[s]. 52-022 and 52-023].

May 30, 2008

ENCLOSURE O

Region II (RII)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 30, 2008

AREVA Predecisional Enforcement Conference

On May 28, 2008, a predecisional enforcement conference was conducted at the NRC's Region II office with representatives of AREVA NP. The purpose of the conference was to discuss AREVA NP's shipment of fuel cleaning equipment from their Lynchburg, Virginia facility in February 2008, that arrived at the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant with contact radiation levels in a localized area on the bottom exterior of the container in excess of 49 CFR 173.441(a) limits of 200 mR/hr.

May 30, 2008

ENCLOSURE P

Region IV (RIV)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending May 30, 2008

Callaway Plant Public Annual Assessment Meeting

On May 29, the Region IV staff conducted a Category 1 public meeting in Fulton, Missouri, to discuss Callaway Plant's safety performance for 2007. Participants included Callaway Plant managers and Region IV staff members. Approximately 50 people attended the meeting including state and county officials, as well as representatives of one local newspaper.

May 30, 2008

ENCLOSURE P

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending May 30, 2008

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 17					
OCA Contact	Date & Place	Time	Committee	Subject	Witnesses
Powell	TBD	TBA	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"> <li>• TBD</li> </ul>
Shane/Dacus	07/16/08 406 DSOB	10:00	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"> <li>• NRC Commission</li> <li>• Others TBD</li> </ul>