

# INFORMATION REPORT

December 30, 2008

SECY-08-0198

For: The Commissioners

From: Vonna L. Ordaz  
Assistant for Operations  
Office of the Executive Director for Operations

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING  
DECEMBER 19, 2008

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\*No input this week.

*/RA Tamara E. Bloomer Acting For/*

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending December 19, 2008

AREVA (Erlangen, Germany) – Reactor Protection System/Engineered Safety Protection Feature Actuation System (RPS/ESFAS) Hardware Failure Testing

From December 3 to 11, 2008, the staff conducted an audit of AREVA's ESFAS in Erlangen, Germany. The staff audited the factory acceptance test (FAT) for the Oconee RPS/ESPS digital upgrade license amendment request. The FAT procedures and tests observed appear to provide a rigorous test of the ESFAS application software to verify that system requirements have been appropriately incorporated into the system. The staff agreed to initiate a request for additional information on the subject of how the tests ensure that unintended functions (or unused code) are discovered and removed.

Beaver Valley Power Station Spent Fuel Pool Reracking - Pre-Application Public Meeting

On December 11, 2008, the staff held a Category 1 public meeting with FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC) to discuss the future Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit 2, spent fuel pool reracking license amendment application. The meeting was attended by representatives from FENOC, Holtec, NEI, and NRC staff. The discussion primarily focused on the actions and documentation required for FENOC to submit their license amendment with specific discussion regarding Key Design Features, Structural/Mechanical Analysis, Safety/Accident Analysis, and Technical Specifications. The application is expected to be submitted in March 2009.

Receipt of Arizona Public Service Company License Renewal Application for the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS)

By a letter dated December 11, 2008, the Arizona Public Service Company submitted an application for renewal of the operating license for PVNGS Units 1, 2, and 3. The PVNGS plant is located in Maricopa County, Arizona, approximately 36 miles west of Phoenix, Arizona. The staff intends to perform an acceptance review. If the application is found acceptable for docketing, the staff intends to begin the environmental and safety reviews in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR Parts 51 and 54. The receipt of the license renewal application for PVNGS brings the number of applications under review to 13.

Staff Issues Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant (NPP), Unit 1 License Renewal

On December 17, 2008, the operating license for Shearon Harris NPP, Unit 1, was renewed authorizing operation for an additional 20 years. The new expiration date is October 24, 2046. The staff completed an on-time review as documented in the safety evaluation report, NUREG 1916 Volumes 1 and 2 issued in August 2008 (ML0823409850), and the supplemental environmental impact statement, NUREG 1437 Supplement 33 issued August 2008 (ML082250290).

### Fire Protection Steering Committee (FPSC) Meeting

On December 18, 2008, the NRC's FPSC held a Category 2 public meeting with stakeholders. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss: fire protection issues in SECY 2008-0171, 10 CFR50.48(c) - *National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 805* implementation Guidance, and fire induced circuit failures. Information about the FPSC charter is available in the Agency-wide Documents Access and Management System, Accession No. ML072640666.

December 19, 2008

ENCLOSURE A

Office of New Reactors (NRO)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending December 19, 2008

Vendor Oversight Workshop for New Reactor Construction

On December 10 and 11, 2008, the staff held a workshop in Rockville, Maryland on vendor oversight for new reactor construction. The meeting was attended by vendors of nuclear components, NRC staff, NRC regulated utilities, license applicants, and other interested stakeholders. The topics of the workshop included commercial-grade dedication and 10 CFR Part 21 requirements. The staff made presentations on both days of the workshop, and answered questions as panelists during breakout sessions.

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ENCLOSURE B

Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending December 19, 2008

Uranium Recovery Meeting

On December 16, 2008, NRC staff met in Denver, Colorado with the uranium recovery (UR) industry and other participants on a procedural issue related to the anticipated increase in and variety of applications for new facilities, restarts, and expansions of in-situ recovery (ISR) operations. This was a focused workshop to solicit input on the licensing actions that require a new license versus the licensing actions that can be approved by license amendment. The staff presented status information on issues of interest to the stakeholders (e.g., status of license applications, Generic Environmental Impact Statement for ISR facilities, ISR Rulemaking, UR guidance updates).

Advisory Committee on Medical Uses of Isotopes

On December 18, 2008, the Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes convened a public teleconference meeting. The Committee discussed infiltrations of fluorine-18 and therapeutic radiopharmaceuticals as potential medical events. The Committee also discussed the appropriate training and experience requirements for NeoVista's intraocular strontium-90 EpiRad 90<sup>TM</sup> device.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending December 19, 2008

European MELCOR User Group (EMUG) 2008 Annual Technical Meeting

On December 15-16, 2008, RES and Sandia National Laboratories attended the subject EMUG international meeting and made presentations on the status of MELCOR development and code applications (ML083370069). The meeting was organized and sponsored by the Paul Sherrer Institute in Switzerland in collaboration with the NRC. The purpose of the meeting was to exchange technical information on MELCOR code applications and user experience. A total of 33 participants from various organizations in 12 countries attended the meeting and made 20 presentations.

RES Publication of Draft Regulatory Guide 1190 (DG-1190) "Manual Initiation of Protective Actions"

On December 18, 2008, the staff issued DG-1190 to provide an opportunity for public comments. The draft guide is proposed Revision 1 to Regulatory Guide 1.62, which describes a method that the NRC staff considers acceptable for use in complying with the NRC's regulations with respect to the means for manual initiation of protective actions provided by otherwise automatically initiated safety systems. DG-1190 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 Security and Incident Response (NSIR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending December 19, 2008

Public Outreach

On December 16, 2008, NSIR staff with support from the Office of the General Counsel and the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research conducted a Category 3 public meeting with industry and the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) to discuss proposed implementation guidance contained in NEI 06-06 (Fitness-for-Duty Program for New Nuclear Power Plant Construction). The meeting was held at NRC and its focus was the resolution of open items concerning NEI 06-06.

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ENCLOSURE F

Office of Information Services (OIS)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending December 19, 2008

Information Collection Request to the Office of Management and Budget

On December 10, 2008, the Information and Records Services Division submitted an information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget for the Information Collection titled, "NRC Form 396, and Certification of Medical Examination by Facility Licensee." Separately, the 60-Day Notice for the information collection titled, "10 CFR 30, Rules of General Applicability to Domestic Licensing of Byproduct Material" was published on December 10, 2008, in the *Federal Register*.

Submission of Year End Quality Report and Peer Report

On December 11, 2008, staff from the Information and Records Services Division submitted the NRC's Draft 2008 Year-End Information Quality Report and the Draft Fiscal Year 2008 Year End Peer Report to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs. In both categories, information quality and peer review, there were no instances in the past year where NRC received information correction requests or conducted a peer review.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of December 12, 2008 through December 18, 2008:

Report on Taiwan Nuclear Safety, Referral from Department of State	REF-2009-0001**
Investigation regarding named individual and Peach Bottom, between May and December 2008	FOIA/PA-2009-0052

\*\*REF = Referral requests from other agencies: a new DOJ requirement to track referrals separately from FOIA/PA requests.



Office of Human Resources (HR)  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending December 19, 2008

<b>Arrivals</b>		
Barry, Christopher	Senior Instructional Systems Specialist	HR
Bird, John	Consultant	CFO
Botwin, Harrison	Student Engineer (Co-Op)	NRO
Cheung, Calvin	General Engineer	NRO
Dennis, Deborah	FOIA/Privacy Act Specialist	OIS
Gibson, James	Student Engineer (Co-Op)	NRO
Jenkins, Kevin	Financial Analyst (Co-Op)	CFO
Juris, Krista	Student Security Specialist (Co-Op)	ADM
Min, Seung Kee	Materials Engineer	NRR
Narick-Ebrey, Margaret	Senior Program Analyst (Budget)	NRR
Sakadales, Antoinette	Program Analyst (Inspection)	NRO
Thompson, Anna	Student Contract Specialist (Co-Op)	ADM
Washington, Brittney	Student Clerk	ADM
<b>Departures</b>		
Cruz-Perez, Luis	Student Engineer (Co-Op)	NMSS
Liang, Chu-yu	Senior Reactor Engineer	NRO

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending December 19, 2008

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following:

Affirmation of a new security rule

NRC's receipt of the license renewal applications from Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station in Arizona and Crystal River Nuclear Plant in Florida

The NRC rules and regulations on foreign ownership of a nuclear power plant

The winter storm impact on the nuclear power plants, specifically in the northeast

Other Public Affairs Items

OPA coordinated an on-camera interview with NRC staff and Public Broadcasting System's "The NewsHour" on advance small nuclear reactors (in particular Hyperion) and the licensing process and regulations for this new technology.

<b>Press Releases</b>	
<b>Headquarters:</b>	
08-224	NRC Accepts Application for New Reactor at Nine Mile Point (12/15)
08-225	NRC Accepts Application for New Reactor at Callaway (12/15)
08-226	NRC Approves License Renewal for Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant for an Additional 20 Years (12/17)
08-227	NRC Approves Final Rule Expanding Security Requirements for Nuclear Power Plants (12/17)
08-228	NRC Meeting with Public January 6 on Environmental Scoping for Comanche Peak New Reactor Application (12/19)
08-229	NRC Seeks Public Input on Draft Environmental Report for Three Mile Island Nuclear Plant License Renewal Application (12/19)
<b>Regions:</b>	
I-08-063	New NRC Resident Inspector Assigned to Millstone Station (12/15)
I-08-064	NRC Begins Special Inspection at Millstone 3 Nuclear Power Plant (12/15)
I-08-062	MEETING CANCELLED DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER - NRC to Discuss Results of License Renewal Inspection for Susquehanna Nuclear Power Plant on December 16 (12/16)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending December 19, 2008

<b>Document Released to Public</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Subject</b>
<b>Decision Documents</b>		
1. SRM on SECY-08-0158	12/17/08	Proposal on the Potential Program to Pay Credit Monitoring Services
Commission Voting Record on SECY-08-0158	12/17/08	(same)
2. Commission Voting Record on SECY-08-0099	12/17/08	Final Rule – Power Reactor Security Requirements (RIN 3150-AG63)
<b>Information Papers</b>		
1. SECY-08-0191	12/17/08	Weekly Information Report – Week Ending December 5, 2008
<b>Memoranda</b>		
1. M081217B	12/17/08	Staff Requirements – Affirmation Session: I. SECY-08-0099 – Final Rule – Power Reactor Security Requirements (RIN 3150-AG63)

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Margaret Spellings, Secretary of Education, dated December 14, 2008, provides NRC FY 2009 Annual Federal Plan on Executive Agency Actions to Assist Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
2. Letter to Congressman Edward Markey, dated December 11, 2008, responds to letter regarding the NRC's policies related to sharing documents with stakeholders.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Notice of renewal of the Charter of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards.
2. Establishment of Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, South Carolina Electric & Gas Company, Acting for Itself and as Agent for the South Carolina Public Service Authority (also referred to as Santee Cooper), (Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station, Units 2 and 3).
3. Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes, notice of meeting (1/22/2009).

Region IV (RIV)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending December 19, 2008

Public Meeting with Arizona Public Service Company

On December 18, 2008, Region IV staff conducted a public meeting in Arlington, Texas, with Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS) management to discuss the current status of the PVNGS Site Integrated Improvement Plan.

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ENCLOSURE P