

# INFORMATION REPORT

March 13, 2009

SECY-09-0039

For: The Commissioners

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

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING  
MARCH 6, 2009

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\*No input this week.

*/RA/*

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 6, 2009

NRC Staff Meets with Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)

On February 26, 2009, the staff met with TVA in a Category 1 public meeting at NRC headquarters, to discuss the use of containment accident pressure in the Browns Ferry extended power uprate. TVA representatives were accompanied by a representative of the Sulzer pump company who provided more technical detail on pump Net Positive Suction Head (NPSH). TVA also presented some revised NPSH calculations based on less conservative acceptance criteria. TVA plans to submit the revised calculations to NRC to assist in resolving some open issues related to the use of containment accident pressure in determining the available NPSH of Browns Ferry residual heat removal and core spray pumps.

Public Meetings to Discuss Spent Fuel Pool (SFP) Criticality Analyses and Neutron Absorbers

On February 26 and 27, 2009, the staff conducted Category 2 public meetings in the Executive Boulevard building to discuss SFP criticality analyses and neutron absorbers. On February 26, the staff presented its position on SFP criticality license amendment request issues to the industry. The initial assessment is that the meeting was successful in communicating the staff's position. On February 27, industry presented information on neutron absorbers and monitoring programs and answered questions from the staff and other participants. Industry representatives from Nuclear Energy Institute, Electric Power Research Institute, all major utility companies, and vendors participated in the meeting. The meeting also included representatives from the Offices of New Reactors and Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards. There were approximately 60 people in attendance with more included via video teleconferencing and through the new webinar 'Go To Meeting' tool.

Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 6, 2009

Meeting Held with U.S. Forest Service and NRC on March 4, 2009

On March 4, 2009, NRC staff held a conference call with the U.S. Forest Service regarding received and expected uranium recovery facility applications for areas in South Dakota, Nebraska, and New Mexico that may be in or adjacent to Forest Service lands. The purpose of the call was to achieve efficiencies on environmental reviews and to strengthen coordination with Federal Agencies that have a role in the environmental review process. NRC staff provided the Forest Service with an understanding of the concurrent safety and environmental reviews that are conducted when an application is submitted and the NRC's responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Forest Service provided NRC staff with a better understanding of the organizational structure of the Forest Service and its responsibilities under NEPA. NRC staff will continue to engage with Forest Service staff and develop a point-of-contact list for interactions going forward.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 6, 2009

High Temperature Test Facility (HTTF): Scaling and Design Review Meeting

On February 24-25, 2009, the first design and scaling review meeting for the HTTF was held at Texas A&M University. Participants in the meeting included NRC staff and contractors along with representatives of the Next Generation Nuclear Plant (NGNP) program from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Idaho National Laboratory (INL). The HTTF would be a reduced-scale model of the NGNP and is being considered to provide the agency with an integral effects-testing capability as part of a cooperative agreement entitled, "Basic Research on High Temperature Gas Reactor Thermal Hydraulics and Reactor Physics." NRC's partners in this cooperative agreement are Oregon State University, Texas A&M University, and the University of Michigan. A key result of this meeting was that the DOE/INL expressed interest in becoming a partner in the cooperative agreement. Two additional design, scaling, and instrumentation review meetings will be held before construction of the facility begins.

RES Tour of the University of Maryland Radiation and Material Characterization Facilities

On February 26, 2009, RES staff traveled to the University of Maryland to tour their radiation (i.e., Cobalt 60 source, Electron Beam LINAC, and 250 kW TRIGA reactor) and material characterization facilities and to hear several talks from students and faculty on current research activities in their nuclear engineering department. Presentations included Monte Carlo modeling for flux profile mapping, graphite characterization, hydrogen embrittlement, radiation-induced corrosion, development of mixed field dosimetry sensors, and in-situ measurement of chloride in concrete.

Office of Administration (ADM)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 6, 2009

Audiovisual and Photographic Support Services

On February 26, 2009, as a result of a negotiated acquisition, under the 8(a) program of the Small Business Act, a hybrid firm fixed price - labor hour contract (NRC-10-09-393) was awarded to 3Links Technologies, Inc. in Silver Spring, Maryland. The purpose of the contract is to provide NRC Headquarters locations with ongoing audiovisual and photographic support services. The contract is effective for a period of one year from March 1, 2009, through February 28, 2010, with two one-year option periods. The contract has a ceiling amount of \$3,225,230.

Warehouse, Moving and Furniture Installation Labor Services

On February 26, 2009, as a result of a negotiated acquisition, under the 8(a) program of the Small Business Act, a hybrid firm fixed price - time and material contract (NRC-10-09-372) was awarded to CC&C Management Services, LLC in Bethesda, MD. The purpose of the contract is to provide NRC Headquarters locations with ongoing support for a variety of warehousing, moving, furniture installation and other labor services as needed. The contract is effective for a period of one year from March 1, 2009, through February 28, 2010, with no option periods). The contract has a ceiling amount of \$403,421.

Revision of Fee Schedules; Fee Recovery for Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 (RIN 3510-AI52)

On March 2, 2009, the NRC published a document (74 FR 9130) in the *Federal Register* proposing to amend the licensing, inspection, and annual fees charged to its applicants and licensees. The proposed amendments are necessary to implement the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 (OBRA-90), as amended, which requires that the NRC recover approximately 90 percent of its budget authority in FY 2009, less the amounts appropriated from the Nuclear Waste Fund, amounts appropriated for Waste Incidental to Reprocessing, and amounts appropriated for generic homeland security activities. Based on the FY 2009 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill reported by the U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, the NRC's fee recovery amount for the FY 2009 budget would be approximately \$870.6 million. After accounting for billing adjustments, the total amount to be billed as fees is approximately \$864.8 million. The comment period for the proposed rule expires April 1, 2009.

C-10 Research and Education Foundation, Inc.; Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-72-6)

On March 3, 2009, the NRC published a document (74 FR 9178) in the *Federal Register* that requests public comment on a petition for rulemaking submitted by the C-10 Research and Education Foundation, Inc. (PRM-72-6). The petitioner requests that the NRC amend the regulations governing licensing requirements for the independent storage of spent nuclear fuel, high-level radioactive waste, and reactor-related greater than class C waste because current regulations do not provide sufficient requirements for safe storage in dry cask storage or independent spent fuel storage installations. The comment period on this action closes May 18, 2009.

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ENCLOSURE G

Office of Information Services (OIS)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 6, 2009

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of February 26, 2009 through March 5, 2009:

Cesium exposure at Indian Point between December 2005 and February 2006 for named individual	FOIA/PA-2009-0098
Office of Investigations Report 40-2008-030 and any other enforcement documents or notes regarding not substantiate the allegation involving fitness for duty investigation at Wolf Creek Nuclear Generating Station	FOIA/PA-2009-0099
Ten oldest open or pending FOIA requests currently being processed or held pending coordination with other agencies	FOIA/PA-2009-0100
Private Fuel Storage, LLC, Safety Evaluation Report, Environmental Impact Statement, Seismic Study, and Aircraft Crash Hazards Study for an Monitored Retrievable Storage facility within the Skull Valley Band of the Goshute Tribe, Utah	FOIA/PA-2009-0101

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ENCLOSURE H

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 6, 2009

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following

Waste confidence rule and administration policy on the Yucca Mountain repository

NRC's press release not to take additional enforcement action against Entergy for problems associated with the installation of Indian Point's new siren system

Intruder protections and NRC regulations for low-level waste disposal sites

Other Public Affairs Items

OPA arranged an interview for Chairman Klein and agency historian, Sam Walker, with CleanSkies TVNews about the Three Mile Island-2 accident and regulatory improvements made as a result of the accident.

OPA facilitated an interview of Chairman Klein with the National Journal that was available March 6.

<b>Press Releases:</b>	
<b>Headquarters:</b>	
09-039	NRC Invites Nominations for Advisory Committee on Medical Use of Isotopes (3/2)
09-040	NRC Proposes to Amend Licensing, Inspection and Annual Fees Rule (3/2)
09-041	NRC Completes Enforcement Actions for Indian Point New Siren System Installation (3/3)
09-042	NRC Issues Annual Assessments for Nation's Nuclear Plant - Reissued to Clarify Plant Status (3/6)
<b>Regions:</b>	
II-09-010	NRC Schedules Public Meeting in Atlanta on March 18 to Discuss Safety Culture at Nuclear Fuel Services (3/2)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending March 6, 2009

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
<b>Decision Documents</b>		
1. COMGBJ-09-0001	02/04/09	Indian Point Sirens – Final Enforcement Action
SRM-COMGBJ-09-0001	03/03/09	(same)
Commission Voting Record on COMGBJ-09-0001	03/03/09	(same)
<b>Information Papers</b>		
1. SECY-09-0032	02/27/09	Weekly Information Report – Week Ending February 20, 2009
<b>Memoranda</b>		
1. M090305	03/05/09	Staff Requirements: I. SECY-09-0008 – Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc. (Millstone Power Station, Unit 3) (License Amendment For Power Uprate); II. SECY-09-0027 - Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. Docket Nos. 50-247-LR and 50-286-LR Entergy's Petition for Interlocutory Review of the Licensing Board's December 18, 2008 Memorandum and Order

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, Meeting of the Plant Operations and Fire Protection Subcommittee, notice of meeting (03/31/2009).