

INFORMATION REPORT

October 23, 2009

SECY-09-0155

For: The Commissioners

From: Nader L. Mamish
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Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
OCTOBER 16, 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 October 16, 2009

Presentation at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

From October 6-9, 2009, staff participated in an IAEA-Nuclear Energy Agency joint meeting of International Reporting System for Operating Experience Coordinators in Paris, France. The staff presented an operating experience briefing on the Salem Unit 1 pressurizer drain-down event of October 15, 2008, and provided a summary of the work done by the United States and other countries to finalize a revision to the International Reporting System Guidelines. In addition, the staff spent time exchanging operating experience and Incident Response System information with other attendees. NRC's Agency-wide Document Access and Management System Accession Number: ML092820183.

NRC/National Electric Reliability Council (NERC) Quarterly Meeting

On October 8, 2009, staff attended the NRC/NERC Quarterly Meeting at the National Electric Reliability Council headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey. Issues discussed included Memorandum of Agreement updates, National Electric Reliability Council Situational Awareness and Event Analysis activities, Critical Infrastructure Protection standards, NRC's Risk Informed Regulation processes and the Council's SmartGrid initiative.

566th Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) Full Committee Briefing on Revision 2 to Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.189

On October 9, 2009, staff made a presentation to the 566th ACRS Full Committee regarding the proposed Revision 2 to RG 1.189, "Fire Protection for Nuclear Power Plants." Revision 2 to RG 1.189 endorses portions of Nuclear Energy Institute 00-01, "Guidance for Post-Fire Safe Shutdown Analysis," and Provides guidance on fire-induced circuit failures. The Committee's questions focused on the clarification to the guide that involved the level of protection needed for equipment that is necessary for fire safe shutdown. The staff expects a favorable letter from the Committee endorsing Revision 2 to RG 1.189.

Participation in 38th Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities

On October 12-15, 2009, the staff participated in the 38th Committee on Nuclear Regulatory Activities Working Group on Inspection Practices meeting in Paris, France. The staff currently has the lead to develop a report on the inspection of licensee corrective action programs and a discussion at the Working Group on Inspection Practices workshop in 2010 regarding the inspection of safety culture at nuclear power plants.

Pre-licensing Meeting with Energy Northwest

On October 14, 2009, representatives of Energy Northwest and the staff held a meeting to discuss pre-licensing activities associated with the proposed Department of Energy remediation of the 618-11 burial grounds adjacent to the Columbia Generating Station that is owned and operated by Energy Northwest.

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ENCLOSURE A

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
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Public Meeting with Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) on Design Features and Items Relied on for Safety (IROFS)

On October 9, 2009, NMSS staff met with representatives from NEI, and fuel cycle licensees and certificate holders. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the use of design features in the Integrated Safety Analysis (ISA) versus identifying IROFS. The NMSS staff presented an overview of identifying IROFS. NEI provided a presentation on examples and rationale for using design features in the ISA that are not identified as IROFS. NMSS staff will use the input from NEI to inform development of a guidance document to be issued for public comment by the end of the calendar year and to interact with stakeholders again at that time.

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ENCLOSURE C

Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 16, 2009

HI-STORM 100 Revision 7

On October 13, 2009, a direct final rule entitled, "List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: HI-STORM 100 Revision 7" was published in the *Federal Register* (74 FR 52387). The companion proposed rule was published at 74 FR 52430. The direct final rule amends Part 72 by revising the Holtec International HI-STORM 100 dry cask storage system listing in 10 CFR 72.214 to include Amendment No. 7 to Certificate of Compliance Number 1014. The cask amendment will allow holders of power reactor operating licenses to load spent fuel in the HI-STORM 100 aboveground cask system under the revised conditions and adds an underground cask design (HI-STORM 100U) to the HI-STORM 100 storage cask system. The final rule is effective December 28, 2009, unless significant adverse comments are received by November 12, 2009.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 16, 2009

Eighth Annual Public Meeting of the Interagency Steering Committee on Multimedia
Environmental Modeling (ISCMEM)

From October 13-15, 2009, RES staff hosted the Eighth Annual Public Meeting of the ISCMEM. The workshop focused on sharing the latest scientific developments on issues important to modeling the effects of Federal actions on the environment. Ten Federal organizations including the NRC, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Science Foundation, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Natural Resources Conservation Service participated. One highlight was a presentation on the capabilities of USGS with regard to modeling the influence of climate change on 16 specific watersheds. One significant outcome was the tentative approval of new working groups on (1) Ecosystem Services and Functions to address environmental impacts on natural resources and populations and (2) Integration of Monitoring and Modeling for demonstrating compliance with regulatory standards and verification of predicted performance. Copies of the presentations will be made available on the ISCMEM website at <http://www.environmental-modeling.org>. A NUREG/CP is in preparation to document the workshop.

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ENCLOSURE E

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 16, 2009

Revisions to Environmental Review for Renewal of Nuclear Power Plant Operating Licenses; Proposed Rule, Extension of Comment Period (10 CFR Part 51) (RIN 3150-A142, NRC-2008-0608)

On October 7, 2009, NRC published a document (74 FR 51522) in the *Federal Register* extending the comment period on the proposed rule that would update the Commission's 1996 findings on the environmental impacts related to the renewal of a nuclear power plant's operating license. The Commission stated that it intends to review the assessment of impacts and update it on a 10-year cycle, if necessary. The proposed rule redefines the number and scope of the environmental impact issues which must be addressed by the Commission in conjunction with the review of applications for license renewal. As part of this 10-year update, the NRC revised the 1996 Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants. Concurrent with the amendments described in this proposed rule, the NRC is publishing for comment the revised GEIS; a revised Regulatory Guide 4.2, Supplement 1, Preparation of Environmental Reports for Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal Applications; and a revised Environmental Standard Review Plan, Standard Review Plans for Environmental Reviews for Nuclear Power Plants, Supplement 1, Operating License Renewal. The comment period for this action has been extended and now closes on January 12, 2010.

List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: HI-STORM 100 Revision 7; Direct Final Rule (10 CFR PART 72) (A171, NRC-2009-0349)

On October 13, 2009, the NRC published a direct final rule (74 FR 52387) in the *Federal Register* that amends its spent fuel storage regulations by revising the Holtec International HI-STORM 100 dry cask storage system listing within the "List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks" to include Amendment No. 7 to Certificate of Compliance (CoC) Number 1014. Amendment No. 7 modifies the CoC to add the HI-STORM 100U system to the HI-STORM100 cask systems. This system allows for the underground storage of dry spent nuclear fuel through use of an underground vertical ventilated module (VVM). The amendment also incorporates a mandatory radiation protection perimeter around loaded VVMs. The direct final rule becomes effective December 28, 2009, unless significant adverse comments are received by November 12, 2009.

On October 13, 2009, the NRC published the companion proposed rule to this direct final rule (74 FR 52391) in the *Federal Register*. The comment period closes November 12, 2009.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 16, 2009

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of October 9, 2009 through October 15, 2009:

Crystal River nuclear power station, containment concrete separation, event notification October 7, 2009, all communications and photographs (prints or digital)	FOIA/PA-2010-0010
Documents related to the Super-Safe, Small and Simple (4s) Nuclear Reactor from Toshiba Corp. particularly related to possible placement in Galena, Arkansas, including tech info on reactor, safety assessments, nuclear material security, etc.	FOIA/PA-2010-0011
Sealed Source (cobalt-60, iridium-192) isotope licenses for General Steel Industries, Granite City, Illinois from 1953-1973.	FOIA/PA-2010-0012
Allegation RIV-2004-A-0088	FOIA/PA-2010-0013
Personnel file on named individual	FOIA/PA-2010-0014

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Appraisal Archivist Visits NRC

On October 7, 2009, OIS staff, with NARA's NRC Appraisal Archivist, met with staff from the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response to discuss a final records retention schedule for the Operations Center Information Management System (OCIMS). OCIMS was developed to support NRC activities during daily operation, regularly scheduled exercises, and reported events or emergencies. In response to an event at a NRC-licensed facility that could threaten public health and safety or the environment, NRC activates its incident response program at its Headquarters Operations Center and Regional Incident Response Centers. After discussing with staff the general scope and purpose of the system and appropriate length of retention for records contained within the system, a final disposition schedule was agreed upon with the appraisal archivist.

NARA Records Management Self-Assessment

On October 13, 2009, OIS staff completed a mandatory records management self-assessment from NARA. The self-assessment questions were derived from Federal records management regulations in 36 CFR and NARA guidance. Under 44 USC 2904(c) the Archivist has the authority and responsibility to conduct research to improve records management practices and programs and report the results of these activities to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and to Congress. This self-assessment was designed to identify those programs with significant weaknesses and to help agencies determine areas for improvement. The NRC's self-assessment was, with minor exceptions, within NARA's requirements.

CyberScope New User Training

On October 14, 2009, staff attended the Office of Management and Budget's CyberScope New User Training held at the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, National Training Center, in Arlington, Virginia. All Federal agencies are required to attend this training. Beginning this year, rather than using spreadsheets, the Fiscal Year Federal Information Security Management Act and Agency Privacy Management report data collection will occur via an automated reporting tool. Chief Information Officers, Inspectors General, and the Senior Agency Officials for Privacy will all report through this automated collection tool. This tool will allow both manual data entry and the automatic upload of data. The FOIA/Privacy Section staff will compile and enter the Senior Agency Official for Privacy's input to this report.

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ENCLOSURE H

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
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OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following

A Commission Order upholding the Atomic Safety Licensing Board decision to hold a hearing on the Calvert Cliffs 3 new reactor application.

The acceptance letter for a spent fuel transfer proposal involving Indian Point nuclear power plant Units 2 and 3 in New York.

NRC letter to Westinghouse about the reactor design AP1000 shield building shortcomings.

Other Public Affairs Items

The NRC is participating in the Data.gov open government initiative by providing data on commercial nuclear power plants in the United States.

OPA and the Office of New Reactors held a group press interview via telephone regarding the agency's conclusion that the current version of the AP1000 design's shield building cannot demonstrate its ability to perform under design basis loads.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
09 -172	NRC Publishes Final Rule Establishing Federal Criminal Penalties for Bringing Unauthorized Weapons into Certain NRC-Licensed Facilities
09 -173	NRC Informs Westinghouse of Safety Issues with AP1000 Shield Building
09 -174	NRC Issues Final Safety Evaluation Report for Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal
Regions:	
I-09-042	NRC Names New Resident Inspector at Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station
II-09-056	NRC Schedules Meeting to Answer Questions About Nuclear Fuel Services
II-09-057	NRC Assigns New Senior Resident Inspector to Catawba Nuclear Power Plant

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 16, 2009

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SECY-09-0140	10/01/09	Rulemaking Related to Decoupling an Assumed Loss of Offsite Power From a Loss-of-Coolant Accident, 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix A, General Design Criterion 3.5 (RIN 3150-AH43)
Memoranda		
1. M091013A	10/13/09	Staff Requirements - Affirmation Session: I. SECY-09-0111 - Calvert Cliffs 3 Nuclear Project, LLC, and UniStar Nuclear Operating Services, LLC (Combined License Application Calvert Cliffs, Unit 3) Docket Nos. 52-016-COL, Calvert Cliffs 3 Nuclear Project, LLC, and UniStar Nuclear Operating Services, LLC, Appeal from LBP-09-4

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Eric H. Holder, Jr., Attorney General, dated October 7, 2009, informs that NRC has issued the "Guidelines on the use of Firearms by Security Personnel in Protecting U.S. NRC-Regulated Facilities, Radioactive Material, and Other Property."
2. Letter to Senator Joe Lieberman, dated September 29, 2009, provides a written statement of actions taking regarding Government Accountability Office (GAO) report "Information Technology: Federal Agencies Need to Strengthen Investment Board Oversight of Poorly Planned and Performing Projects" GAO-09-566.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Establishment of Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, Westinghouse Electric Company, LLC (Hematite Decommissioning Project).
2. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Notice of Meeting (11/5-7/2009).

Region II (RII)
Items of Interest
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Regional Administrator Visits Hatch Site

On October 14, 2009, the Regional Administrator toured the Hatch Nuclear Plant in Vidalia, Georgia and met with licensee management and resident inspectors.

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ENCLOSURE P

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
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CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 26					
OCA Contact	Date & Place	Time	Committee	Subject	Witnesses
Riley	10/14/09 366 DSOB (Originally scheduled for Sept 17 and later for Sept 29)	10:00	Senate Energy and Natural Resources (Senators Bingaman / Murkowski)	Hearing on Energy and Related Economic Effects of Global Climate Change Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Douglas W. Elmendorf – Director, Congressional Budget Office • Reid Harvey – Chief, Climate Change Division, Office of Atmospheric Programs, Office of Air and Radiation, EPA • Richard Newell – Administrator, Energy Information Administration • Larry Parker – Specialist in Energy and Environmental Policy, Congressional Research Service
Weil	10/14/09 2123 RHOB	10:00	House Energy and Commerce Energy and Environment Subcommittee (Representatives Markey / Upton)	Mark Up of Bills Related to Drinking Water Security, Chemical Facility Security, Medical Isotopes Production (HR 3276)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A
Decker	10/16/09 2123 RHOB	9:30	House Energy and Commerce Energy and Environment Subcommittee (Representatives Markey / Upton)	Hearing on Pending Legislation – HR 515 A Bill to Prohibit the Importation of Certain Low-level Radioactive Waste into the United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margaret M. Doane, NRC • Others TBD