

INFORMATION REPORT

March 5, 2010

SECY-10-0023

For: The Commissioners

From: Nader L. Mamish
Assistant for Operations
Office of the Executive Director for Operations

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
FEBRUARY 26, 2010

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*No input this week.

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 26, 2010

Staff Issues Cooper Nuclear Station, Unit 1, License Renewal Draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for Public Comment

On February 18, 2010, the staff issued the draft of NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, Supplement 41, Regarding Cooper Nuclear Station, Unit 1," for public comment. This SEIS includes the staff's preliminary analysis that considers and weighs the environmental effects of the proposed action, the environmental impacts of alternatives to the proposed action, and mitigative measures available for reducing or avoiding adverse impacts. It also includes the staff's preliminary recommendation that the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for Cooper Nuclear Station, Unit 1, are not so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy planning decision makers would be unreasonable. The public comment period is scheduled to end on May 5, 2010. The staff has scheduled public meetings on April 7, 2010, in Auburn, Nebraska, to present its analyses and accept public comments on the draft SEIS.

Entergy Operations, Inc. - Public Meeting

On February 18, 2010, representatives of Entergy Operations, Inc., and its contractor, GE-Hitachi, held a pre-licensing public meeting with the staff to discuss the licensee's updated analysis of the steam dryers as part of a proposed extended power uprate (EPU) application for Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (GGNS). The licensee plans to replace the existing steam dryers as part of the modifications to GGNS for the EPU and expects to submit its EPU application in July 2010.

Meeting with Nuclear Energy Institute on the Maintenance Rule

On February 19, 2010, staff met with representatives from the Nuclear Energy Institute, industry representatives, and other stakeholders regarding proposed revisions to the industry guidance on the maintenance rule. Topics discussed included the scope of the rule with respect to Emergency Operating Procedures and external initiating events.

Meeting with Nuclear Energy Institute on Safety Culture

On February 24, 2010, staff met with representatives from the Nuclear Energy Institute and other stakeholders to provide staff observations on the ongoing safety culture pilot initiative.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 26, 2010

Management Change Update for United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) - Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP)

On February 19, 2010, USEC, Inc. announced that it has elected Steve Penrod as the vice president of the USEC. Mr. Penrod is currently the general manager of PGDP, and he will continue to hold this position in addition to being the vice president of USEC. Mr. Penrod has served as general manager of the PGDP since 2005. Prior to this assignment, he served as the plant manager for seven years. Mr. Penrod joined the PGDP in 1979.

Acceptance for Formal Review of the International Isotopes, Inc. License Application for a Depleted Uranium Deconversion Facility in Lea County, New Mexico

The acceptance review for the International Isotopes, Inc. depleted uranium deconversion facility, submitted December 30, 2009, was completed on February 24, 2010. In late February or early March, a notice will be posted in the *Federal Register* with an opportunity to request a hearing. The safety review team and environmental review teams are conducting a formal technical review of the submittal. The entire review, including the environmental review, is scheduled to run through early 2012. If a license is issued, the proposed facility is planned to be constructed in Lea County, New Mexico. The proposed operations are planned to deconvert depleted uranium hexafluoride (DUF₆) into commercial resalable fluoride products and uranium oxides, for disposal. The proposed facility is projected to be capable of processing up to one quarter of the annual DUF₆ produced commercially in the U.S.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 26, 2010

Withdrawal of Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.56, "Maintenance of Water Purity in Boiling Water Reactors"

On February 19, 2010, RES staff published a *Federal Register* Notice announcing the withdrawal of RG 1.56 titled, "Maintenance of Water Purity in Boiling Water Reactors." The RG describes an acceptable method for maintaining water purity levels in the reactor coolant to ensure that degradation of the reactor coolant pressure boundary is not exacerbated by poor chemistry conditions. NRC is withdrawing RG 1.56 because it is no longer needed. Adequate industry-generated guidance is available for licensees to develop a plant-specific water chemistry program.

Publication of Draft Regulatory Guide 3040 (DG-3040), "Design, Construction, and Inspection of Embankment Retention Systems at Fuel Cycle Facilities"

On February 25, 2010, RES staff issued DG-3040 to provide an opportunity for public comments. The draft guide is proposed Revision 1 to RG 3.13, which describes some engineering practices and methods generally considered by NRC to be satisfactory for the design, construction, and inspection of embankment retention systems used for retaining solid and liquid effluent from nuclear fuel cycle facility operations other than mining and milling. DG-3040 is available on the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/reg-guides/fuels-materials/draft-index.html>.

Publication of RG 1.40, "Qualification of Continuous Duty Safety-Related Motors for Nuclear Power Plants"

On February 25, 2010, RES staff published an RG that describes a method that the NRC staff considers acceptable for complying with the Commission's regulations for the qualification of continuous duty safety-related motors for nuclear power plants. RG 1.40 is available on the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/reg-guides/power-reactors/rg/>.

Publication of RG 1.47, "Bypassed and Inoperable Status Indication for Nuclear Power Plant Safety Systems"

On February 25, 2010, RES staff published an RG that describes a method that the NRC staff considers acceptable for use in complying with the Commission's regulations with respect to a bypassed and inoperable status indication for nuclear power plant safety systems. RG 1.47 is available on the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/reg-guides/power-reactors/rg/>.

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 26, 2010

NRC Project Management and Methodology (PMM) Tool

On February 23, 2010, as a result of a competitive acquisition under the General Services Administration Federal Supply Schedule, a combination firm fixed price and labor hour delivery order (NRC-DR-33-10-365) was awarded to Advanced Technology Systems, Inc. in McLean, Virginia for operational support for the NRC PMM and Supporting Tools. The period of performance for this delivery order is from March 1, 2010, through February 28, 2011, with four additional, 1-year option periods. The total value is \$21,366,156.00, which is inclusive of all options.

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ENCLOSURE G

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 26, 2010

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of February 18, 2010, through February 25, 2010:

Allegation RIV-2002-A-0153 including all correspondence between named individual and the NRC	FOIA/PA-2010-0139
Nuclear medical imaging facilities in Wyoming and Michigan, including mobile, portable, and hospital-based licenses	FOIA/PA-2010-0140
Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc., documents used in support of NRC's Finding of No Significant Impact regarding SNM-124 license renewals and amendments	FOIA/PA-2010-0141
Authorized credit card holders listing	FOIA/PA-2010-0142
Pacific Gas and Electric's Humboldt Bay Power Plant investigation and remediation records	FOIA/PA-2010-0143

Office of Human Resources (HR)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending February 26, 2010

Arrivals		
Aggarwal, Satish	Senior Electrical Engineer	RES
Derringer, Karen	IT Specialist (Project Manager)	OIS
Matteson, Joel	Criminal Investigator	OIG
Meyer-Chambers, Kimberly	Labor and Employee Relations Specialist	HR
Myers, Valerie	Reactor Engineer (NSPDP)	RIII
Radford, Michael	Personnel Security Specialist	ADM
Reed, Rodican	Technical Training Program Specialist	HR
Roche, Kevin	Reactor Operations Engineer	NRR
Saenz, Diego	General Engineer (NSPDP)	NRO
Walls, William	Criminal Investigator	OIG
Retirements		
Gallagher, Kay	Administrative Assistant	RI
Garg, Hukam	Senior Electrical Engineer	NRR
Departures		
Bell, Paul Manfred	Quality Assurance Specialist	NMSS
Clark, Marilyn	Senior Contract Specialist	ADM
Weller, Richard	Consultant	FSME

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 26, 2010

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following:

Status of the NRC's review of the license renewal application for Vermont Yankee nuclear plant near Brattleboro, Vermont; questions on reported tritium and groundwater contamination issues and the recent Vermont Senate vote against relicensing the plant.

Recent "white" finding at Braidwood nuclear plant in Illinois associated with a containment sump-suction valve malfunction during a surveillance test.

Special inspection associated with the recent shutdown of the two reactors at the Calvert Cliffs nuclear plant in Maryland.

Request for more information on advanced reactors and the NRC's approach to review the General Atomics' EM2 gas-cooled fast modular reactor concept following publication of a *Wall Street Journal* article.

Other Public Affairs Items

Chairman Jaczko issued a statement following the Vermont Senate vote against relicensing of Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant and stated that the agency will issue a "Demand for Information" to Entergy.

OPA arranged an interview for a Platts reporter with staff regarding the Commission's briefing on decommissioning funding.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
10-033	Atomic Safety and Licensing Board to Webstream March 1, 2010, Prehearing Conference in Rockville, Maryland on Bellefonte Construction Permits (02/22/10)
10-034	Remarks of NRC Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko at Commission Briefing on Decommissioning Funding (02/23/10)
10-035	NRC Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards to Meet March 4-6, 2010, in Rockville, Maryland (02/24/10)
10-035	Statement of NRC Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko on Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant (02/24/10)
10-036	NRC 22nd Annual Regulatory Information Conference March 9-11, 2010, Highlights Knowledge for Today and Tomorrow (02/26/10)

Regions:	
I-10-004	Sends Special Inspection Team to Calvert Cliffs (02/22/10)
II-10-007	NRC Schedules Public Meeting to Discuss Nuclear Fuel Services Inspection Results (02/22/10)
II-10-008	NRC Send Special Inspection to Farley Nuclear Power Plant (02/22/10)

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ENCLOSURE M

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 26, 2010

Documents Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. COMSECY-10-0002	02/05/10	Renewal of Advisory Committee on Medical Isotopes Charter
SRM on COMSECY-10-0002	02/19/10	(same)
Commission Voting Record on COMSECY-10-0002	02/19/10	(same)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-10-0020	02/19/10	Weekly Information Report – Week ending February 12, 2010
2. SECY-10-0021	02/26/10	Weekly Information Report – Week ending February 19, 2010
Memoranda		
1. M100223A	02/23/10	Affirmation Session: SECY-09-0172 – Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit Nos. 1, 2, and 3); Docket Nos. 50-003-LT-2, 50-247-LT-2, 50-286-LT-2, and 72-51-LT-2. (Request for Hearing on Extension of Time to Complete License Transfer)

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congress, dated February 19, 2010, provides actions taken regarding the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) report, “Managing Sensitive Information: Actions Needed to Prevent Unintended Public Disclosures of U.S. Nuclear Sites and Activities” (GAO-10-251).
2. Letter to Congress, dated February 19, 2010, provides NRC’s Annual Report of the Administration of the Government in the Sunshine Act for Calendar Year 2009.
3. Letter to Congressman Jim Matheson, dated February 16, 2010, acknowledges receipt of letter that expressed concerns about the blending of low-level radioactive waste.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Petition for rulemaking, notice of receipt, 10 CFR Part 50, Docket No. PRM-50-94, Sherwood Martinelli.
2. Notice, Applications and Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses Involving Proposed No Significant Hazards Considerations and Containing Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information and Order Imposing Procedures for Access to Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information.

Region II (RII)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 26, 2010

Region II Saint Lucie Emergency Exercise

On February 24, 2010, the NRC, with a Region II Base Team, Site Team, and Headquarters Response Team, participated in a St. Lucie biennial emergency response exercise. The NRC also participated with the State of Florida at the Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee and in the St. Lucie Emergency Operations Facility with their state and local representatives.

Nuclear Strategic Issues Advisory Committee (NSIAC) Meeting in Florida

On February 25, 2010, the Regional Administrator accompanied the Executive Director for Operations to the NSIAC meeting in Juno Beach, Florida.

Region I/Region II Plant Manager's Meeting

On February 26, 2010, the Deputy Regional Administrator participated in the Region I/Region II Plant Manager's meeting in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending February 26, 2010

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 3					
OCA Contact	Date & Place	Time	Committee	Subject	Witnesses/Nominees
Decker	02/23/10 253 RSOB	2:30	Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation (Senators Rockefeller / Hutchison)	Cybersecurity: Next Steps to Protect Our Critical Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retired Admiral Michael McConnell - Executive Vice President, National Security Business, Booz Allen Hamilton • James A. Lewis - Director and Senior Follow, Technology and Public Policy Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies • Scott Borg - Director and Chief Economist, U.S. Cyber Consequences Unit • Retired Rear Admiral James Arden Barnett Jr. - Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission • Mary Ann Davidson - Chief Security Officer, Oracle Corporation

Riley	02/24/10 2318 RHOB	2:00	House Science and Technology Energy and Environment Subcommittee (Representatives Baird / Inglis)	Advanced Computing for Energy Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Turek – Vice President for Deep Computing, IBM Corporation • Gary Leonard – Global Technology Leader, Energy and Propulsion Technologies, GE Global Research • Michael Strayer – Director, Office of Advanced Scientific Computing Research, U.S. Department of Energy • Richard Stevens – Associate Laboratory Director, Computing, Environment and Life Sciences Division, Argonne National Laboratory • Thomas Zacharia – Deputy Director for Science and Technology, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
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