

INFORMATION REPORT

March 7, 2011

SECY-11-0030

For: The Commissioners

From: Mary C. Muessle /RA/
Acting Assistant for Operations
Office of the Executive Director for Operations

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 25, 2011

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*No input this week.

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 2011

Meeting with South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company

On February 22, 2011, representatives of the South Texas Project (STP) Nuclear Operating Company and staff met to discuss the licensee's proposed risk-informed approach for resolving Generic Safety Issue No. 191 (GSI-191), "Assessment of Debris Accumulation on Pressurized-Water Reactor Sump Performance," regarding STP, Units 1 and 2. The licensee proposes using the criteria in Regulatory Guide 1.174, "An Approach for Using Probabilistic Risk Assessment in Risk-Informed Decisions on Plant-Specific Changes to the Licensing Basis," to resolve GSI-191 for STP and has offered to serve as a risk-informed pilot plant on behalf of the nuclear power industry.

Issuance of the Renewed Operating License for Kewaunee Power Station (KPS)

On February 24, 2011, the operating license for KPS was renewed, authorizing operation for an additional 20 years beyond the original license expiration date. The new expiration date is December 21, 2033. The staff completed its review, as documented in the Safety Evaluation Report, NUREG-1958, published in January 2011 and the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, NUREG-1437 Supplement 40, published in August 2010. The issuance of the KPS renewed license brings the total number of renewals to 62 reactor units.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 2011

Meeting with National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)

On February 17, 2011, staff attended a meeting with the Department of Transportation (DOT) and NEMA Lamp Section to discuss transportation regulations impacting lamps containing low-levels of radioactivity. NEMA discussed its support for proposed change to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) transportation safety standard, TS-R-1, "Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material." The practical application of the proposed change and approaches for developing implementation guidance was discussed. If the proposed change is adopted into the IAEA regulations, DOT and NMSS staff confirmed that domestic rulemaking would be the next step to incorporate the change into the U.S. regulations.

Meeting with International Isotopes, Inc. (INIS)

Senior managers in NMSS met with officials from INIS to discuss the ongoing license application review. The major milestones of the review, including completion of the Safety Evaluation Report and the final Environmental Impact Statement were discussed. INIS confirmed the formal request for additional information responses would be provided in a timely manner to support the review milestones.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 2011

RES Presents Study Charge to the National Academy of Sciences (NAS)

On February 24, 2011, RES staff presented a study charge to the NAS study committee for the "Analysis of Cancer Risks near Nuclear Facilities: Phase 1" project. The presentation was Webcast for general public viewing. The presentation included background on the agency, an explanation of the agency's rationale for asking NAS to conduct this study, and NRC's expectations to the Committee. The committee members discussed the study charge among themselves and with NRC staff. Congressional staff members were invited to speak, but because of conflicting schedules, no staff was able to attend. Two members of Beyond Nuclear gave their comments on the study during the public comment period. The presentation slides are located in ADAMS (ML110480655). The Webcast of the meeting was recorded and can be viewed at <http://www.tvworldwide.com/events/nas/110224/>.

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Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 2011

Information Technology Infrastructure Services and Support (ITISS)

On February 18, 2011, as a result of a full and open competitive solicitation, an Indefinite-Delivery Indefinite-Quantity contract (NRC-33-11-325), containing fixed unit price and labor-hour line items, was awarded to Perot Systems Government Services, Inc. of Fairfax, Virginia, to provide information technology infrastructure and support services to the NRC. The period of performance is February 18, 2011, through February 17, 2014, with three 1-year options to extend the term of the contract. The total estimated ceiling cost is \$252,075,339, inclusive of all options.

Agency Standard Desk Chairs

On February 16, 2011, as a result of a competitive acquisition under the General Services Administration Federal Supply Schedule, a fixed price Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) (NRC-HQ-11-A-10-0008) was awarded to ErgoGenesis, LLC of Navasota, Texas, for NRC agency standard desk chairs (BodyBilt task chairs). The period of performance is from March 01, 2011, through February 28, 2016, and the total estimated ceiling of the BPA is \$758,200.

AP1000 Design Certification Amendment: Proposed Rule (RIN 3150-AI81, NRC-2010-0131)

On February 24, 2011, the NRC published a proposed rule (76 FR 10269) to amend its regulations to certify an amendment to the AP1000 standard plant design. The purpose of the amendment is to: (1) replace the combined license information items and design acceptance criteria with specific design information; (2) address the effects of the impact of a large commercial aircraft; (3) incorporate design improvements; and (4) increase standardization of the design. Upon NRC rulemaking approval of its amendment to the AP1000 design, an applicant seeking an NRC license to construct and operate a nuclear power reactor using the AP1000 design need not demonstrate in its application the safety of the certified design. The applicant for this amendment to the AP1000 certified design is Westinghouse Electric Company, LLC. The public comment period on the design certification rule, the revised generic design control document, and the environmental assessment for this amendment closes on May 10, 2011. The comment period on the information collections aspect of this proposed rule closes on March 28, 2011.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 2011

Biennial Review of Agency Contracts (BRACs)

On February 25, 2011, staff completed the BRACs that provides for the operation of a Privacy Act (PA) system of records (any activity associated with the maintenance, collection, use, and/or dissemination of PA records), as required by Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A-130. This review looked at a random sample of NRC contracts to ensure that the wording of each makes the provisions of the PA binding on the contractor and his or her employees by including references to Federal Acquisition Regulation clauses 52.224-1, PA Notification, and 52.224-2, PA.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and PA Requests Received During the Period of February 18, 2011 through February 24, 2011:

Office of Investigation Report for RIV-2009-A-0012	FOIA/PA-2011-0090
Millstone Nuclear Plant Leakage of Radioactively Contaminated Water after July 1, 2010, All Staff, Commission, and Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards records	FOIA/PA-2011-0091
FOIA logs from November 1, 2010 to current date	FOIA/PA-2011-0092
Crownpoint Project and Sections 8 and 17, New Mexico; Bison Basin Mine, Wyoming - Groundwater and aquifer restoration evidence and data	FOIA/PA-2011-0093
Investigation of named individual	CON-2011-0006

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 2011

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following

The lawsuit against the NRC over recent revisions to the Commission's Waste Confidence Decision filed by several state Attorneys General.

NRC orders issued against the doctor and the medical physicist who were involved in medical events at the Veterans Medical Center in Philadelphia between 2002 and 2008.

Other Public Affairs Items

Chairman Jaczko spoke at the start of the joint NRC/Department of Energy/Nuclear Energy Institute workshop regarding the technical issues for possible license renewals for extended operation beyond 60 years.

OPA reached out to a Time magazine writer regarding an article on small modular reactors that did not provide a balanced view. The writer has since published a blog post following up on the information provided by NRC.

OPA did a recorded interview with WTIC 1080 (Hartford, Connecticut) discussing the Special Inspection at Millstone nuclear power plant Unit 2 (Connecticut) over issues that arose during a main turbine control valve test on February 12.

OPA did a recorded interview with WBUR (Boston, Massachusetts) on the shutdown of the Pilgrim nuclear power plant (Massachusetts) to address reactor building cooling system leakage.

OPA coordinated an interview between a Nature Magazine reporter and NRC staff discussing the NRC-requested study on cancer risk for populations near nuclear facilities.

Press Releases Issued	
Headquarters:	
11-029	Opening Remarks of NRC Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko at the Briefing on Groundwater Task Force (2/24)
11-030	NRC Renews Operating License for Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant for an Additional 20 Years (2/24)
Regions:	
I-11-003	NRC Begins Special Inspection at Millstone Unit 2 Nuclear Plant (2/22)
I-11-004	Licensing Board Grants Motion Expediting March 9th Proceedings Plymouth, Massachusetts, on Pilgrim License Renewal Contention (2/24)
III-11-002	NRC Issues Orders to Two Individuals Involved in 2002-2008 Medical Errors at Veterans Medical Center in Philadelphia (2/23)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending February 25, 2011

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. Chairman Jaczko vote and comments on SECY-11-0003	2/16/11	Status of Enforcement Discretion Request and Rulemaking Activities Related to 10 CFR Part 26, Subpart I, "Managing Fatigue"
2. Chairman Jaczko vote and comments on SECY-11-0014	2/18/11	Use of Containment Accident Pressure in Analyzing Emergency Core Cooling System and Containment Heat Removal System Pump Performance in Postulated Accidents
Information Papers		
1. SECY-11-0022	2/18/11	Weekly Information Report – Week Ending February 11, 2011

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Senator James Inhofe, dated February 16, 2011, responds to letter regarding the conduct of the Commission's mandatory hearings on applications for combined nuclear power licenses under 10 CFR Part 52.
2. Letter to D. Warner North, Ph.D., Sustainable Fuel Cycle Task Force Science Panel, February 15, 2011, responds to letter that expressed concerns about execution of the NRC high-level waste program.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Proposed rule. 10 CFR Parts 2, 51, and 54, Amendments to Adjudicatory Process Rules and Related Requirements.
2. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), notice of the 581st meeting (03/10-13/2011).
3. NextEra Energy Seabrook, LLC, Seabrook Station Unit 1, Docket No. 50-443, Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License, proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, Opportunity for a Hearing, and Order Imposing Procedures for Document Access to Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information.
4. ACRS, Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Reliability and Probabilistic Risk Assessment, notice of meeting (03/24/2011).
5. ACRS, Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Planning and Procedures, notice of meeting (03/09/2011).

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6. Notice of Appointment of Adjudicatory Employee, Progress Energy Florida, Inc. (Combined License Application, Levy County Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2).
7. Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, Notice of Opportunity to Participate in Uncontested/Mandatory Hearing, In the Matter of AREVA Enrichment Services, LLC (Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility).
8. ACRS, Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Advanced Boiling Water Reactors (ABWR), notice of meeting (03/8-9/2011).
9. ACRS, Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on U.S. Evolutionary Power Reactor, notice of meeting (03/23/2011).

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