

INFORMATION REPORT

September 16, 2011

SECY-11-0127

For: The Commissioners

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

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 2, 2011

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Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 2, 2011

Large Scale Simulation of an Extreme Earthquake

On August 31, 2011, as a result of a non-competitive solicitation, a cost reimbursement, no fee contract (NRC-HQ-11-C-04-0067) was awarded to the University of Nevada, at Reno, to perform a Large Scale Simulation of a Base-Isolated Structure of Extreme Earthquakes. The period of performance is August 31, 2011, through August 20, 2012, with no option periods. The total estimated value is \$280,463.00.

New International Commission on Radiological Protection: Recommendations on the Annual Dose Limit to the Lens of the Eye; Request for Public Comment, 10 CFR Chapter I (NRC-2009-0279)

On August 30, 2011, the NRC published a proposed rule in the *Federal Register* (76 FR 53847) seeking public comment on recommendations recently released by the International Commission on Radiological Protection for the limitation of annual radiation dose to the lens of the eye. Stakeholders and the public are encouraged to submit comments on the issues discussed in this notice by October 31, 2011.

Office of Enforcement (OE)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 2, 2011

Differing Professional Opinion (DPO) Decision on Enforcement Policy Issues

On June 28, 2011, the Director, Office of Enforcement, issued a decision on a Differing Professional Opinion (DPO) involving how enforcement decisions were made related to a materials licensee. On January 24, 2011, an NRC employee submitted a DPO that focused on a major enforcement action being taken without prior communication between agency management and the licensee, and indicating that NRC escalated enforcement actions should refrain from revoking the general license granting ownership (vice possession and use) unless a nexus to safety and security can be established. The DPO further noted that the agency could have met its safety and security goals with fewer unintended consequences if an Order had been drafted more carefully. On May 11, 2011, an Ad Hoc Review Panel provided the results of its independent review to the Director, OE. The Panel concluded that: 1) the agency's decision to issue orders without first offering a pre-decisional enforcement conference or issuing a Demand for Information satisfied the guidelines of the Enforcement Policy, and 2) the decision to ban owning licensed material was reviewed, deliberated, and agreed upon in accordance with normal enforcement processes. The decision was tied to staff concerns about the potential safety consequences of allowing the control over licensed material. The Panel recommended that guidance to staff (and possibly licensees) regarding the scope and meaning of the phrase "licensed activities" is needed. Further the Panel recommended that guidance to staff on how to draft orders in a manner that avoids unintended consequences may be warranted. Based on a review of the Panel's report and additional comments from the DPO submitter, the Director, OE agreed with the Panel's conclusions and recommendations. Also, the Director, OE agreed with the DPO submitter that it is highly unusual to take a major enforcement action without providing the licensee the opportunity to respond to the findings; however, in this case the action was deemed necessary to protect public health and safety. The public DPO Case File can be found at ML11234A302.

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 2, 2011

Arrivals		
None		
Retirements		
Cutler, Iris	INSPECTION MANUAL COORDINATOR	NRR
Departures		
None		

September 2, 2011

ENCLOSURE C

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 2, 2011

Dispute Resolution Skills Training

On August 30, 2011, staff from the Information and Records Services Division, attended dispute resolution skills training sponsored by the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Public Liaisons (FPLs) play a crucial role in the FOIA process, resolving disputes and serving as the point of contact for requesters. In support of this role, OGIS offers this training program to provide FPLs with dispute resolution tools that can be applied to FOIA disputes at their agencies. Key presentations included: Alternative Dispute Resolution Techniques, OGIS' Role and Process, Key Elements of a Good Communicator, Effective Management of the FOIA Process, Appeals Process, and Analyzing Problem Behaviors.

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Guidance Meeting

On August 30, 2011, staff from the Information and Records Services Division, Office of Information Services, met with the NARA staff regarding the NRC's use of NARA's records storage services. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss funding for the Interagency Agreement between the NRC and NARA, as well as additional services available to the NRC over the next five years. A key topic of the meeting was to plan for the Fiscal Year 2012 transfer of NRC's Regional records to NARA facilities that are in proximity to NRC regional offices.

FOIA and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of August 26, 2011, through September 1, 2011:

Yellow Announcements: YA-10-0045, YA-10-0119, YA-11-0005, YA-11-0065	FOIA/PA-2011-0335
NUREG/BR-0150, Response Technical Manual, Vol. 1, latest version	FOIA/PA-2011-0334
Energy Solutions efforts to bring 20,000+ tons of radioactive waste into Utah in 2008, contacts between Congressman Fred Upton's Office and NRC	FOIA/PA-2011-0333
NRR Office Instruction LIC 101, License Amendment Review Procedures	FOIA/PA-2011-0332
NRR Office Instruction LIC 101, License Amendment Review Procedures	FOIA/PA-2011-0331
Nuclear Cardiology Systems Inc., NC Systems, NCS, Charles Rose, all records from March 8, 2011, to present	FOIA/PA-2011-0330

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 2, 2011

Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards Response Training

Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards Response Training has been completed for FY 2011. With the support of the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response, all three teams (Red, White, and Blue) participated in different Table Top exercises in the Emergency Operations Center during August. All team members have or will have completed and received credit for the on-line training portion of their qualifications prior to the end of September. Thus, 100% of the team members will be qualified and have met the requirement for participation in the Table Top exercises at least once every two years. In the near future, we will be gathering insight from all participants to see how we can improve our response capability and readiness in the future.

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ENCLOSURE E

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 2, 2011

Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Joint Utility Task Group (JUTG) Procurement Forum Highlight

On August 23-25, 2011, staff participated in the EPRI JUTG Procurement Forum in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The forum was attended by nuclear vendors, Nuclear Procurement Issues Committee member utilities, EPRI, Nuclear Energy Institute, and American Society of Mechanical Engineers NQA-1 Standard representatives. During the meeting, the staff discussed the proposed rulemaking related to 10 CFR Part 21. This led to numerous discussions and suggestions for the rulemaking. Staff members also participated in an open forum session entitled "Ask the Regulator."

Safety Evaluation Report (SER) with Open Items for Columbia Generating Station License Renewal Application

On August 30, 2011, the staff issued the SER with Open Items for the Columbia Generating Station license renewal application, which was received from Energy Northwest by letter dated January 19, 2010. The SER has six open items: operating experience review prior to entering the period of extended operation; aging management of high voltage porcelain insulators; environmentally-adjusted fatigue values other than those identified in NUREG/CR-6260; stress relaxation of the core plate hold-down bolts; time limited aging analysis of the polar crane; and the technical basis of the initial upper shelf energy for the N12 nozzles. The staff is scheduled to meet with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Subcommittee on October 19, 2011, to discuss the SER with Open Items.

Supplemental Safety Evaluation Report (SSER) for Indian Point License Renewal Application

On August 30, 2011, the staff issued an SSER for the Indian Point Nuclear Generating, Unit Nos. 2 and 3, license renewal application. The SSER documents the staff's review of additional information provided by the applicant since the staff's issuance of the SER in November 2009. This information includes annual updates required by 10 CFR 54.21(b) and updated information and commitments in response to recent industry operating experience. The staff concluded that the additional information provided did not alter the conclusions stated in the SER issued in November 2009.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 2, 2011

RES Publication of Report on Proposed Generic Issues

The NRC Generic Issues Program has begun to report the status of proposed issues that are in process or were determined not to meet the generic issue scoping criteria in order to enhance the program's transparency and accountability. The report will summarize the issues that were proposed for evaluation as potential generic issues and are in the identification, acceptance, or screening stages of the Generic Issue process or were determined not to have met the program screening criteria. The report on proposed Generic Issues is now available on the NRC Web site (<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/generic-issues/>). The report will be updated semi-annually.

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ENCLOSURE G

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 2, 2011

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following:

The NRC staff's public meeting to obtain comments on the Near-Term Japan Task Force recommendations

NRC's role and the status in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene

NRC's Augmented Inspection Team review of the North Anna nuclear power plant following the Virginia earthquake

Issuance of the draft Generic Letter (GL-199) on the implications of updated probabilistic seismic hazard estimates in Central and Eastern United States for operating nuclear power plants

Issuance of a preliminary "white" finding found through NRC inspections for the Pilgrim nuclear plant (Massachusetts)

Issuance of the Emergency Preparedness Regulations for Nuclear Power Plants, Other Facilities

Other Public Affairs Items:

OPA supported the recent public meeting where staff discussed inspection results from a supplemental inspection (95003) of Browns Ferry nuclear power plant in Alabama.

Since starting Twitter on August 24, 2011, OPA has sent 25 "tweets" and has over 500 followers.

Press Releases Issued	
Headquarters:	
11-165	NRC Issues Second of Three Technical Evaluation Reports on DOE's Yucca Mountain License Application (9/01/2011)
11-164	NRC Seeks Public Input on Draft Generic Letter Regarding Updated Seismic Analyses for U.S. Nuclear Reactors (9/01/2011)
11-163	NRC Issues Supplemental Safety Evaluation for Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal (8/30/2011)
11-162	Commission Approves Emergency Preparedness Regulations for Nuclear Power Plants, Other Facilities (8/30/2011)
11-161	Opening Remarks of NRC Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko at the Commission Meeting to Discuss Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (8/30/2011)
11-160	NRC Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards to Meet September 8-10, 2011 in Rockville, Maryland; New Member Appointed (8/29/2011)

Regions:	
I-11-031	NRC to Seek Public Input on September 15, 2011, on Draft Report Assessing Possible Environmental Impacts of Seabrook License Extension (9/02/2011)
I-11-030	NRC Assigns New Senior Resident Inspector To Hope Creek Nuclear Power Plant (8/31/2011)
II-11-053	NRC Schedules Meeting on NFS Oversight and Related Issues (8/31/2011)
II-11-052	NRC Sends Augmented Inspection Team to North Anna Nuclear Power Station (8/29/2011)
IV-11-039	NRC Issues Confirmatory Action Letter for Fort Calhoun Restart Preparations (9/02/2011)

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ENCLOSURE H

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 2, 2011

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. Commission Voting Record on SECY-11-0053	8/30/2011	Enhancements to Emergency Preparedness Regulations (10 CFR Part 50 and 10 CFR Part 52) (RIN-3150-AI10)
2. Chairman Jaczko's vote and comments on SECY-11-0032	8/29/2011	Consideration of the Cumulative Effects of Regulation in the Rulemaking Process
3. Staff Requirements Memorandum on SECY-11-0105	8/31/2011	Proposed Minor Revision to Management Directive 5.12, International Nuclear Event Scale Participation
4. Commission Voting Record on SECY-11-0105	8/31/2011	Proposed Minor Revision to Management Directive 5.12, International Nuclear Event Scale Participation
Information Papers		
1. SECY-11-0119	9/02/2011	Weekly Information Report- Week Ending August 5, 2011
2. SECY-11-0120	9/02/2011	Weekly Information Report- Week Ending August 12, 2011
3. SECY-11-0121	9/02/2011	Weekly Information Report- Week Ending August 19, 2011
Memoranda		
1. M110830A	8/30/2011	Staff Requirements – Affirmation Session: I. SECY-11-0053 – Final Rule: Enhancements to Emergency Preparedness Regulations (10 CFR Part 50 and 10 CFR Part 52) (RIN-3150-AI10)

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Representative Jon Runyan, dated August 23, 2011, responds to letter concerning the June 2011 GAO report entitled NRC Oversight of Underground Piping Systems Commensurate with Risk, but Proactive Measures.
2. Letter to Congressman Edward Markey, dated August 23, 2011, responds to letter, regarding the applicability of the recommendations of the NRC Near-Term Japan Task Force.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Florida Power and Light Company, St. Lucie Plant, Unit 2 License Amendment Request; Opportunity to Request a Hearing and to Petition for Leave to Intervene, and Commission Order Imposing Procedures for Document Access.
2. Confirmatory Order Modifying License No. SNM-2001 for the Shallow Land Disposal Area, Parks Township, Armstrong County, Pennsylvania, Notice of Opportunity for Hearing and Order Imposing Procedures for Access to Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information and Safeguards Information.
3. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), Subcommittee on Reliability and Probabilistic Risk Assessment, notice of meeting (09/20/2011).
4. ACRS, Subcommittee on Materials, Metallurgy and Reactor Fuels, notice of meeting (09/21/2011).
5. ACRS, Subcommittee on Reliability and Probabilistic Risk Assessment, notice of meeting (09/21/2011).
6. ACRS, Subcommittee on Radiation Protection and Nuclear Materials, notice of meeting (09/22/2011).
7. ACRS, Subcommittee on Radiation Protection and Nuclear Materials, notice of meeting (09/23/2011).