

October 15, 2002

The Honorable Harry Reid, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Transportation,  
Infrastructure, and Nuclear Safety  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2002 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, House Report 107-258, directed the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to continue to provide a monthly report on the status of its licensing and regulatory duties. The initial reporting requirement arose in the FY 1999 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, Senate Report 105-206. The FY 2000 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, House Report 106-253, expanded the scope of the report requirement to include regulatory reform efforts affecting power reactor operations beyond 10 CFR Part 50, particularly NRC efforts to evaluate NRC security regulations. In FY 2000, we also expanded the monthly report to include the status of all license renewal applications that are under active review and other NRC initiatives in developing implementation guidance for the license renewal rule. In response to increased Congressional interest, in the May 2001 report we began to provide information regarding the status of activities involving power uprate licensing actions. On behalf of the Commission, I am pleased to transmit the forty-fifth report, which covers the month of August (Enclosure 1).

The July report provided information on a number of significant NRC activities, including an update of our actions taken following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. In particular, we discussed NRC efforts to develop a threat advisory system to implement the Office of Homeland Security (OHS) Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS) for NRC-licensed facilities. We also provided a status report on the reactor vessel head corrosion at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station in Oak Harbor, Ohio.

We would like to update you on both of these issues. In regard to the physical security and safeguards for NRC-licensed facilities, the NRC continues to closely monitor the current threat environment and work extensively with other government agencies in developing coordinated threat assessments, and coordinating security and emergency plan responsibilities. The NRC has developed a new Threat Advisory and Protective Measures System in response to Homeland Security Presidential Directive-3. On September 10, 2002, consistent with the raising of the Nation's threat condition to the High level as declared by the U.S. Attorney General, the NRC immediately notified affected licensees of the condition and referred them to the predefined protective measures that we have developed for each threat level. On September 24, 2002, the NRC notified licensees of the Nation's return to the Elevated level. The NRC will continue to monitor the Nation's threat condition and will promptly notify our licensees as changes to the national threat condition occur.

In regard to Davis-Besse, the NRC special oversight panel, established to coordinate the Agency's activities in assessing the performance problems associated with the corrosion damage to the reactor vessel head at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant, continues to monitor licensee activities. The staff held two meetings in Oak Harbor, Ohio on Tuesday, September 17, to review the status and the adequacy of recent activities at the plant, and one meeting on September 18, to review the plant's proposed plan for correcting the organizational and human performance issues identified by the licensee. The public was invited to observe the business portion of the meeting and had an opportunity to make comments and ask questions of the NRC staff. The plant will not restart until the NRC is satisfied that all safety concerns have been resolved.

The Davis-Besse Lessons Learned Task Force established by the NRC Executive Director for Operations has finalized its report related to the degradation of the reactor vessel head at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant. The report was issued publicly on October 9, 2002, and is available on the NRC's web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/ops-experience/vessel-head-degradation/news.html>. Additional background and documents related to the reactor vessel head damage and the response of the NRC are available on the web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/ops-experience/vessel-head-degradation.html>. A public meeting will be held in early November in Oak Harbor, Ohio. A team of NRC senior managers is now reviewing the report and expects to make recommendations to the Commission later in November concerning which recommendations should be implemented.

On August 9, 2002, the NRC issued Bulletin 2002-02, "Reactor Pressure Vessel Head and Vessel Head Penetration Nozzle Inspection Programs," to the licensees of the Nation's 69 operating pressurized water reactors (PWRs), advising them that they may need to supplement their inspection programs for reactor vessel heads. The August 9 bulletin is an interim measure to help manage oversight of reactor vessel head and vessel head penetration inspection programs while additional technical issues are resolved, and suitable inspection plans are developed and implemented for the long-term. The staff has assigned the resolution of these issues a high priority. We will continue to keep you informed of the status of this issue.

Also during this reporting period, we granted license amendments to the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to use tritium-producing burnable absorber rods at the twin reactor unit at the Sequoyah nuclear power station (located near Chattanooga, Tenn.) and the single reactor unit at the Watts Bar nuclear power station (located near Spring City, Tenn.) to produce tritium for use by the Department of Energy (DOE). DOE has developed technology to produce tritium using lithium, rather than boron, in burnable absorber rods to be installed in the reactors. The irradiated rods are to be removed from the power plant and shipped to the Savannah River Site, near Aiken, S.C., where DOE plans to extract the tritium. As part of our continuing public outreach effort associated with tritium production using nuclear power plants, NRC will hold a public meeting on October 30 in Dayton, Tennessee, to discuss the recently completed NRC safety evaluations that document the NRC review and approval of the tritium production license amendments.

Since our last report, the Commission and the NRC staff also:

- issued mid-cycle assessment letters to the licensees of all 103 operating nuclear power plants. These assessment letters describe the NRC's assessment of licensee safety performance for the period and plans for future NRC inspections.
- published in the Federal Register (67 FR 60520) on September 26, a final rule that amends the regulations to incorporate by reference a later edition and addenda of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and Code for Operations and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants. The amendment provides updated rules for construction, inservice inspection, and inservice testing of components in light-water cooled nuclear power plants. The final rule becomes effective October 28, 2002.
- published in the Federal Register (67 FR 57803) on September 6, 2002, a direct final rule that amends the NRC's regulations to clarify when and how licensees and other members of the public may use electronic means to communicate with the agency. The amendments are necessary to implement the Government Paperwork Elimination Act. Unless significant public comments are received, the direct final rule will become effective on December 5, 2002.
- published in the Federal Register (67 FR 56876) on September 5, 2002, a notice extending the public comment period for a proposed rule that would amend the licensing requirements for dry cask modes of storage of spent nuclear fuel, high level radioactive waste, and power reactor-related Greater than Class C waste in an independent fuel storage installation or in a monitored retrievable storage installation. The public comment period on this action has been extended to October 22, 2002.
- issued, on August 28, 2002, a Certificate of Compliance for the FuelSolutions™ TS125 transportation package. This package consists of a transportation cask and impact limiters, together with a FuelSolutions™ canister with its payload. This certificate makes the FuelSolutions™ spent fuel management system a dual-purpose system for the storage and transportation of spent nuclear fuel.
- published in the Federal Register (67 FR 55175) on August 28, 2002, a proposed rule that would require NRC approval for transfers of low concentrations of source material from licensees to persons exempt from licensing. The proposed changes are intended to ensure that the regulations governing the transfers of low concentrations of source material are adequate to protect public health and safety.
- issued, on August 15, 2002, a revised Certificate of Compliance for the NAC-LWT transport package. The revision increased the maximum content of U-235 allowed in the package for low-enriched uranium Materials Test Reactor fuel. This was a high priority review that supported the Department of Energy's foreign research reactor fuel return program.

I have enclosed (Enclosure 2) the update to the Tasking Memorandum which delineates the schedules for accomplishing high priority initiatives.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may provide additional information.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Richard A. Meserve

Enclosures:

1. Monthly Report
2. Tasking Memorandum

cc: Senator James M. Inhofe

MONTHLY STATUS REPORT ON THE  
LICENSING ACTIVITIES AND REGULATORY DUTIES OF THE  
UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

**AUGUST 2002**

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<sup>1</sup>Note: The period of performance covered by this report includes activities occurring between the first and last day of August 2002. The transmittal letter to Congress accompanying this report may provide more recent information in order to keep Congress fully and currently informed of NRC's licensing and regulatory activities.

## **VIII. Implementing Risk-Informed Regulations**

The staff continues to make progress on tasks involving the use of probabilistic risk assessment in many areas. The milestone schedule for significant risk-informed activities is included in the Chairman's Tasking Memorandum (Enclosure 2). Recent activities include:

### Risk-Informed Revisions to 10 CFR 50.44 (Combustible Gas Control)

On August 2, 2002, a proposed rulemaking was published in the Federal Register (67 FR 50374) that risk-informs the Commission's regulations for combustible gas control in light water reactor containments. The proposal was published with a 75-day comment period.

### Risk Management Technical Specifications (RMTS), Initiative 3 on Mode Change Flexibility

On August 2, 2002, the NRC staff issued a Federal Register Notice (67 FR 50475) announcing the opportunity to comment on the proposed model safety evaluation supporting additional mode change flexibility in technical specifications. The proposed generic change is to be adopted through individual license amendments using the Consolidated Line Item Improvement Process (CLIP). The RMTS Initiative 3 proposal extends the existing capability to transition up in power, while relying on compliance with action statements, to a wider range of plant configurations, subject to performance of a risk assessment and consideration of risk management prior to the mode change. This will be the second risk management technical specification initiative to be offered through CLIP.

## **IX. Revised Reactor Oversight Process**

The NRC continues to implement the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) at all nuclear power plants. The NRC has continued meeting with interested stakeholders on a periodic basis to collect feedback on the efficacy of the process and considers this feedback in making refinements to the ROP. Recent activities include:

- a. NRR staff participated in the mid-cycle reviews of all power plants. The mid-cycle reviews for the current assessment period for all power plants were completed on August 7, 2002. The Regions performed their reviews in accordance with the guidance provided in Inspection Manual Chapter 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program." The mid-cycle review involved evaluating the most recent quarterly performance indicators and inspection results for the period July 1, 2001, through June 30, 2002.
- b. NRR and RES staff conducted another of a continuing series of public meetings. On August 8, 2002, and August 21, 2002, the staff met with industry to finalize the guidance documents for the upcoming Mitigating System Performance Index (MSPI) pilot program. These documents were revised to incorporate the feedback received during the MSPI workshop held in Chicago on July 23-25, 2002. Other areas of discussion included ongoing MSPI pilot bench-marking activities by RES and milestone calendar activities. The MSPI data collection begins on September 1, 2002.
- c. NRC staff is developing inspection procedures to prepare for future construction efforts by the industry. The Construction Inspection Program Team, comprised of Headquarters and

Regional representatives, met in Pittsburgh with Westinghouse on August 20, 2002, and Bechtel on August 22, 2002, to gain information for the development of the construction inspection program information management system. The team also attended a meeting with NEI on August 22, 2002, to discuss issues regarding Early Site Permits.

#### **X. Status of Issues in the Reactor Generic Issue Program**

Resolution of the issues in the Reactor Generic Issue Program continues to be on schedule. No issues were resolved in this reporting period.

#### **XI. Licensing Actions and Other Licensing Tasks**

Licensing actions are defined as requests for: license amendments; exemptions from regulations; relief from inspection or surveillance requirements; topical reports submitted on a plant-specific basis; notices of enforcement discretion; or other licensee requests requiring NRC review and approval before they can be implemented by the licensee. The FY 2002 NRC Performance Plan incorporates three output measures related to licensing actions. These are: the number of licensing action completions per year; the age of the licensing action inventory; and the size of licensing action inventory. In January 2002, the goal for the size of the licensing action inventory was restored to the Performance Plan, and the goal for the percent of licensing action inventory less than or equal to one year old was increased from 95 percent to 96 percent.

Other licensing tasks are defined as: licensee responses to NRC requests for information through generic letters or bulletins; NRC responses to 2.206 petitions; NRC review of licensee topical reports; NRR responses to regional requests for assistance; NRC review of licensee 10 CFR 50.59 analyses and FSAR updates; or other licensee requests not requiring NRC review and approval before they can be implemented by the licensee. The FY 2002 NRC Performance Plan incorporates one output measure related to other licensing tasks, which is the number of other licensing tasks completed.

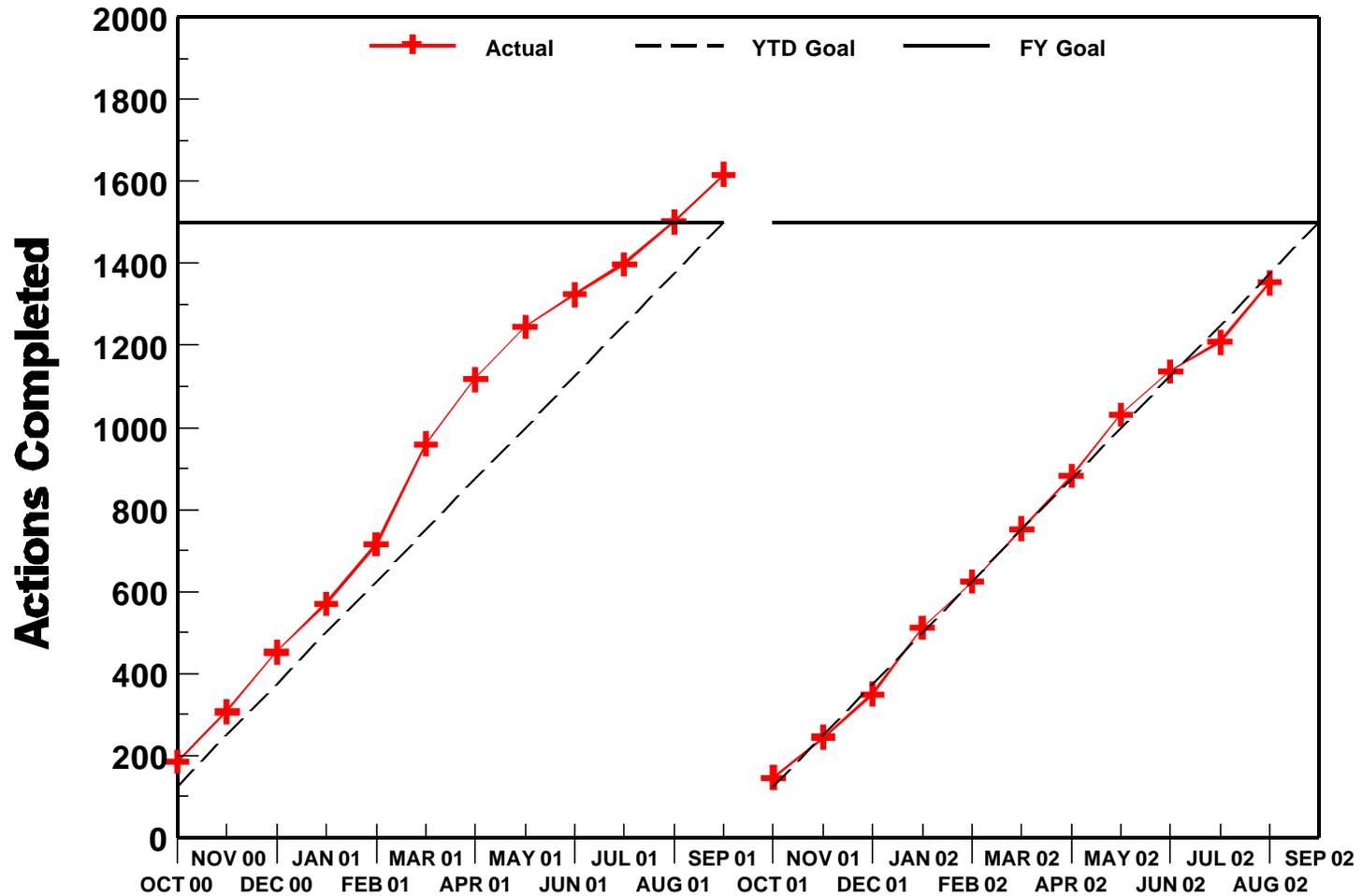
The actual FY 2000 and FY 2001 results, the FY 2002 goals and the actual FY 2002 results, as of August 31, 2002, for the four NRC Performance Plan output measures for licensing actions and other licensing tasks are shown in the table below.

PERFORMANCE PLAN				
Output Measure	FY 2000 Actual	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Goals	FY 2002 Actual (thru 8/31/2002)
Licensing actions completed/year	1574	1617	≥ 1500	1353
Age of licensing action inventory	98.3% ≤ 1 year 100% ≤ 2 years	96.9% ≤ 1 year 100% ≤ 2 years	96% ≤ 1 year 100% ≤ 2 years	92.2% ≤ 1 year 100% ≤ 2 years
Size of licensing action inventory	962	877	≤ 1000	886
Other licensing tasks completed/year	1100	523	≥ 350	397

The following charts demonstrate NRC's FY 2002 trends for the four licensing action and other licensing task output measure goals.

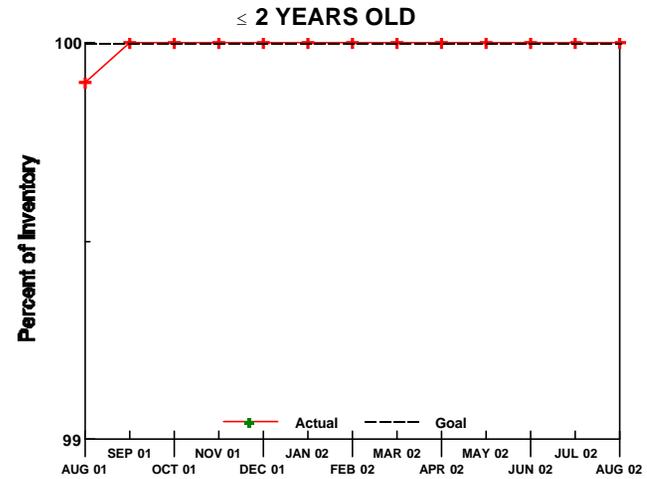
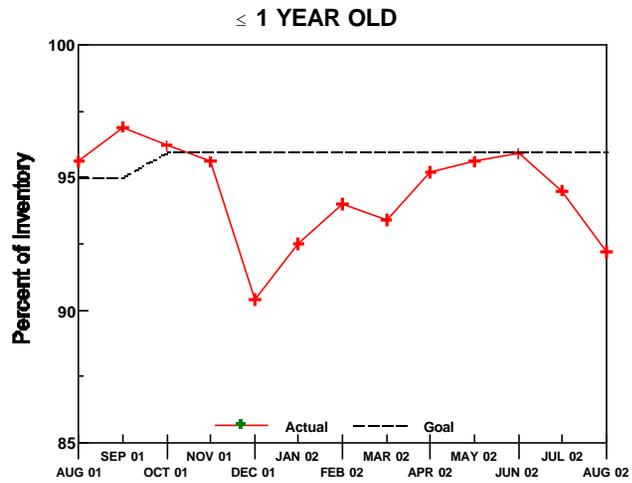
# Nuclear Reactor Safety - Reactor Licensing

Performance Plan Target: Completed Licensing Actions



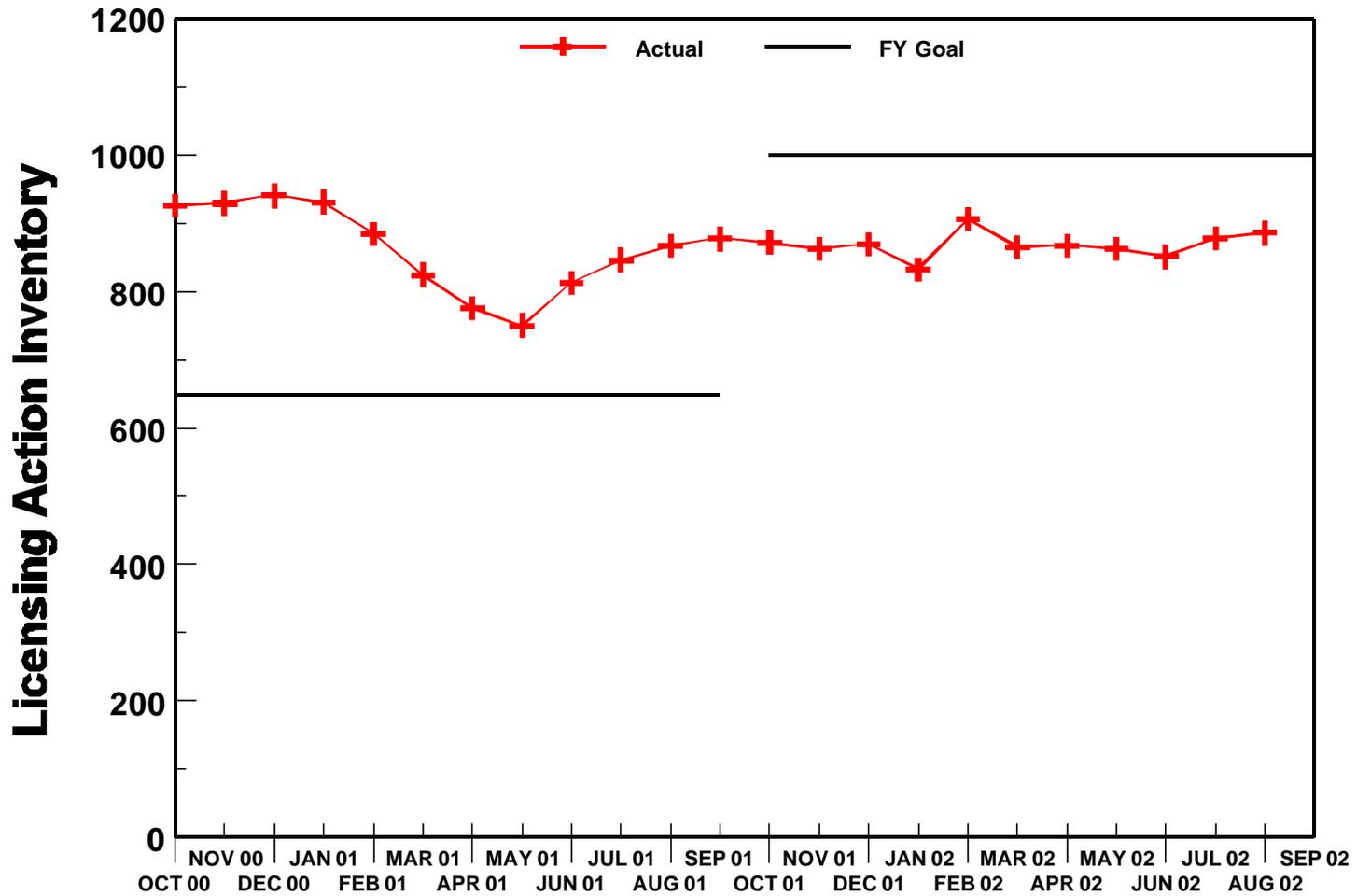
# Nuclear Reactor Safety - Reactor Licensing

## Performance Plan Target: Age of Licensing Action Inventory



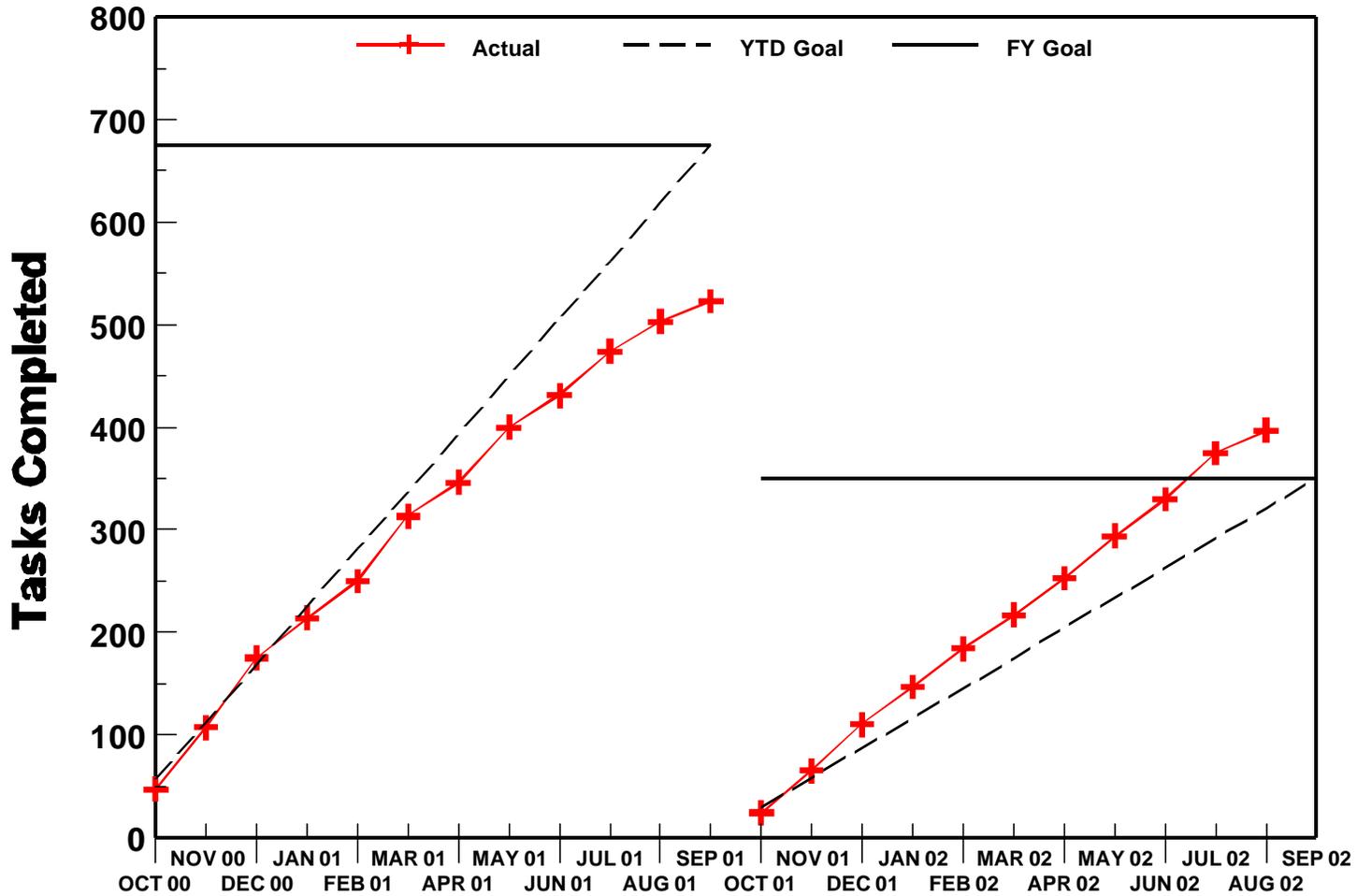
# Nuclear Reactor Safety - Reactor Licensing

## Performance Plan: Size of Licensing Action Inventory



# Nuclear Reactor Safety - Reactor Licensing

Performance Plan Target: Completed Other Licensing Tasks



## **XII. Status of License Renewal Activities**

### Surry, Units 1 and 2, and North Anna, Units 1 and 2, Combined Renewal Applications

The staff issued the draft supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) for Surry in April 2002, and North Anna in May 2002, and conducted public meetings in June 2002. The public comment period on the draft SEISs has ended and the staff is addressing the comments and preparing the final SEISs. The safety evaluation report identifying any open items was issued in June 2002. The NRC staff and applicant are currently working to resolve the open items and issue the revised safety evaluation report.

### McGuire, Units 1 and 2, and Catawba, Units 1 and 2, Combined Renewal Applications

The staff issued the draft SEISs for McGuire and Catawba in May 2002. The public comment period on both draft SEISs ended in August 2002 and the staff is addressing the comments and preparing the final SEISs. The safety evaluation report identifying open items was issued in August 2002.

On January 24, 2002, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) admitted contentions filed by Nuclear Information and Resource Service and the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League, petitioners in the Catawba and McGuire license renewal proceeding. The petitioners contended that the applicant's severe accident mitigation alternative (SAMA) analysis was incomplete. The staff and Duke subsequently filed appeals to the Commission. On July 23, 2002, the Commission issued an Order (CLI 02-17), admitting to an extent, the SAMA contention. An earlier Commission Order reversed the ASLB's decision to admit a second contention pertaining to the potential use of mixed-oxide fuel in the McGuire and Catawba reactors. A certified question from the ASLB relating to the admissibility of a contention pertaining to terrorism is still under review by the Commission. In May 2002 the staff received eight late-filed contentions pertaining to the environmental review for the McGuire and Catawba license renewal application. Subsequently, in July 2002 the late-filed contentions were withdrawn.

### Peach Bottom, Units 2 and 3, Renewal Application

The staff issued the draft SEIS in June 2002 and held public meetings on the SEIS in July 2002. Public comments on the draft SEIS are due by September 2002. Responses to safety requests for additional information were received and the staff is currently preparing the safety evaluation report and identifying any open items.

### St. Lucie, Units 1 and 2, Renewal Application

Environmental requests for additional information were issued in May 2002 and the responses were received in June 2002. The safety requests for additional information were issued in July 2002 and the responses are due by October 2002.

Fort Calhoun Renewal Application

The Fort Calhoun renewal application is currently under review. All environmental requests for additional information were issued in July 2002 and the responses are due in September 2002. Safety requests for additional information are scheduled to be issued by October 2002.

#### Robinson Unit 2 Renewal Application

On June 17, 2002, the NRC received an application for renewal of the Robinson Unit 2 operating license. The staff has completed its acceptance review and has found the application acceptable for docketing and review. The review schedule and notice of opportunity for hearing were issued in August 2002. Until it is determined whether a hearing will be conducted, a 30-month review schedule has been established with a final decision on issuance of the license scheduled for December 2004.

#### Ginna Renewal Application

On August 1, 2002, the NRC received an application for renewal of the Ginna operating license. The staff is currently performing the required acceptance review and, if found acceptable, will docket the application, notice an opportunity for hearing, and issue the review schedule.

#### Summer Renewal Application

On August 6, 2002, the NRC received an application for renewal of the Summer operating license. The staff is currently performing the required acceptance review and, if found acceptable, will docket the application, notice an opportunity for hearing, and issue the review schedule.

### **XIII. Status of Review of Private Fuel Storage, Limited Liability Corporation's Application for a License to Operate an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation on the Reservation of the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians**

During this reporting period, the NRC staff continued preparation of its proposed findings of fact on the geotechnical and aircraft contentions which were adjudicated before the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) in hearings that took place between April and July of 2002. Findings of fact were submitted by all parties to the ASLB in early September 2002. The staff met with representatives of the staff of the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) during this reporting period. The meeting was at the request of the SASC staff. Based on information provided by the SASC staff, the NRC staff sent a letter to Private Fuel Storage, LLC (PFS), on August 12, 2002. The letter requested that PFS analyze the impacts, if any, on the probability of aircraft crashes over Skull Valley resulting from the U.S. Air Force's lifting of a 1000-foot minimum altitude restriction for military aircraft over Skull Valley. PFS responded to the staff's letter on August 23, 2002. The staff is currently evaluating the PFS response and will consult with the U.S. Air Force before documenting the results of its evaluation.

**XIV. Enforcement Process and Summary of Reactor Enforcement by Region**

**Reactor Enforcement by Region**

<b>Reactor Enforcement Actions*</b>						
		Region I	Region II	Region III	Region IV**	TOTAL
Severity Level I	July 2002	0	0	0	0	0
	FY 02 YTD	0	0	0	0	0
	FY 01 Total	0	0	0	0	0
	FY 00 Total	0	0	0	0	0
Severity Level II	July 2002	0	0	0	0	0
	FY 02 YTD	1	0	0	0	1
	FY 01 Total	0	1	0	0	1
	FY 00 Total	1	2	0	0	3
Severity Level III	July 2002	0	0	0	0	0
	FY 02 YTD	2	0	0	0	2
	FY 01 Total	1	1	1	1	4
	FY 00 Total	5	0	4	4	13
Severity Level IV	July 2002	0	0	0	0	0
	FY 02 YTD	0	0	2	0	2
	FY 01 Total	1	0	2	1	4
	FY 00 Total	4	1	3	5	13
Non-Cited Severity Level IV	July 2002	18	0	49	21	88
	FY 02 YTD	193	88	197	141	619
	FY 01 Total	279	105	201	139	724
	FY 00 Total	313	190	289	258	1050

\* Numbers of violations are based on enforcement action tracking system (EATS) data that may be subject to minor changes following verification. The number of Severity Level I, II, and III listed refers to the number of Severity Level I, II, III violations or problems. The monthly totals generally lag by 30 days due to inspection report and enforcement development.

\*\* Violation totals for Regions II & IV reflect a shift from a 6-week inspection period to a quarterly inspection period.

<b>Escalated Reactor Enforcement Actions Associated with the Reactor Oversight Process</b>						
		Region I	Region II	Region III	Region IV	Total
NOVs Related to White, Yellow or Red Findings	7/02 Red	0	0	1	0	1
	7/02 Yellow	0	0	0	0	0
	7/02 White	0	1	1	2	4
	FY 02 YTD	2	3	5	8	18
	FY 01 Total	8	4	4	3	19
	FY 00 Total	6	1	0	0	7

### **Description of Significant Actions taken in July 2002**

#### Entergy Operations, Inc. (River Bend 1) EA-02-036

On July 31, 2002, a Notice of Violation was issued for a violation associated with a white SDP finding involving emergency planning standards. The violation cited that the licensee's emergency plan was not adequate to assure that members of the public using on-site facilities would be notified promptly of an evacuation order and provided information regarding what protective actions should be taken.

#### Omaha Public Power District (Fort Calhoun) EA-02-123

On July 30, 2002, a Notice of Violation was issued for a violation associated with a white SDP finding involving the failure to prevent radiation levels from exceeding the Department of Transportation and NRC limits on the external surface of a radioactive waste shipment package.

#### Duke Energy Corporation (Oconee 1, 2 & 3) EA-02-034

On July 26, 2002, a Notice of Violation was issued for a violation associated with a white SDP finding involving the vulnerability to flooding in the Oconee Unit 1 auxiliary building from a potential rupture of the high pressure service water system piping. The violation cited the licensee's failure to take prompt corrective action for the lack of mitigation capabilities for an auxiliary building flood, a condition adverse to quality.

#### Exelon Generating Company (Braidwood 1) EA-02-118

On July 23, 2002, a Notice of Violation was issued for a violation associated with a white SDP finding involving pressurizer power operated relief valve (PORV) air accumulator check valve failures. The violation cited the licensee's failure to correct and prevent recurrence of the Unit 1 PORV air accumulator check valve leakage, a significant condition adverse to quality.

On July 12, 2002, a Notice of Violation was issued for a violation associated with a Red SDP finding involving the potential common mode failure of the auxiliary feedwater pumps during specific accident scenarios. The violation cited the licensee's failure to ensure that activities affecting quality were prescribed by documented instructions, procedures, or drawings, of a type appropriate to the circumstances, and cited recurring failures over the period from 1997 to 2001 to identify and correct promptly a condition adverse to quality.

#### **XV. Power Reactor Security Regulations**

In response to the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, the NRC and the nuclear industry have taken a number of actions to ensure the security at nuclear power plants. Immediately following the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the NRC advised nuclear power plant licensees to go to the highest level of security, and all promptly did so.

The NRC has developed a new Threat Advisory and Protective Measures System in response to Homeland Security Presidential Directive-3. When a new Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS) threat condition is declared, the NRC will promptly notify affected licensees of the condition and refer them to the predefined protective measures that we have developed for each threat level. The new system for NRC licensees was formally communicated to licensees, Governors, State Homeland Security Advisors, Federal agency administrators, and other appropriate officials on August 19, 2002. The new system supercedes the NRC's 1998 threat advisory system and covers additional classes of licensees not included in the NRC's 1998 system.

In SECY-02-0104, dated June 14, 2002, the staff informed the Commission of its strategy for completing a comprehensive review of the NRC's safeguards and security program. The staff is continuing this integrated review, which includes threat definition, vulnerability assessments, and regulatory improvements.

The NRC continues to interact with the FBI, other intelligence and law enforcement agencies, the Department of Defense, and the Office of Homeland Security to ensure any changes to the NRC's programs are informed by pertinent input from all relevant U.S. agencies.

#### **XVI. Power Uprates**

The staff has assigned power uprate license amendment reviews a high priority. The staff considers power uprate applications among the most significant licensing actions and is, therefore, conducting power uprate reviews on accelerated schedules.

Licensees have been applying for and implementing power uprates since the 1970s as a way to increase the power output of their plants. The staff has been conducting power uprate reviews since then and to date, has completed 81 such reviews. Approximately 11,560 MWt (3850 MWe) or an equivalent of over three nuclear power plant units has been gained through implementation of power uprates at existing plants. During the month of August, the staff withdrew its approval of one General Electric Nuclear Energy topical report for extended power uprates, because General Electric Nuclear Energy planned to apply the constant pressure power uprate approach in a way

that was inconsistent with the NRC staff's basis for acceptability of the topical report for licensing applications. The staff currently has 13 plant-specific applications under review. The staff also has one General Electric Nuclear Energy topical report for measurement uncertainty recapture power uprates under review.

The staff conducted a survey in July 2002 to obtain information regarding industry's plans related to power uprate applications. The survey requested information for planned power uprates over the next 5 years. Based on this survey and information obtained since the survey, licensees plan to submit 51 additional power uprate applications in the next 5 years. These include 27 measurement uncertainty recapture power uprates (i.e., power uprates less than 2 percent), 4 stretch power uprates (i.e., power uprates up to about 7 percent), and 20 extended power uprates (i.e., power uprates greater than about 7 percent). Planned power uprates are expected to result in an increase of over 5900 MWt (1970 MWe) (equivalent to more than one large nuclear power plant unit). Licensees also indicated that they are currently studying the feasibility of power uprates for two units. The staff will utilize this information for future planning.

Identical letter to:

The Honorable Harry Reid, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Transportation,  
Infrastructure, and Nuclear Safety  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
cc: Senator James M. Inhofe

The Honorable Joe Barton, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
cc: Representative Rick Boucher

The Honorable Sonny Callahan, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
cc: Representative Peter J. Visclosky

The Honorable Harry Reid, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
cc: Senator Pete V. Domenici

The Honorable W.J. "Billy" Tauzin, Chairman  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
cc: Representative John D. Dingell

The Honorable James M. Jeffords, Chairman  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
cc: Senator Bob Smith

The Honorable Pete V. Domenici  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510