

December 31, 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. Both the Senate and the House reports for the FY 2003 Energy and Water Appropriations Acts repeat this request, although further Congressional action must be taken before this legislation is enacted. The initial reporting requirement arose in the FY 1999 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, Senate Report 105-206. On behalf of the Commission, I am pleased to transmit the forty-seventh report, which covers the month of October 2002 (Enclosure 1).

The September 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, and 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 the newly established Department of Homeland Security and 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. In the event there is a change in the national threat level, we will promptly advise our licensees to implement appropriate protective measures.

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 plant will not restart until the NRC is satisfied that all safety concerns have been resolved. As previously reported, the Lessons-Learned Task Force (LLTF) established by the NRC Executive Director for Operations (EDO) has completed its work and, on October 9, issued its report on the agency's handling of issues associated with the corrosion damage to the reactor vessel head at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant. The LLTF presented its findings at a public meeting on November 20, in Oak Harbor, Ohio. A Senior Management Review Team, also established by the EDO, has completed its review and evaluation of the Lessons-Learned Task

Force (LLTF) Report for the Degradation of the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station Reactor Pressure Vessel Head. The Senior Management Review Team forwarded its recommendations to the EDO on November 26, 2002. The recommendations will be discussed at a Commission Meeting that will be held on January 14, 2003. We will continue to keep you informed of the status of this issue.

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

- ! issued a final rule on material control and accounting regulations for nuclear power plants, fuel cycle facilities and other licensees that possess 350 grams or more of special nuclear materials (uranium-233, enriched uranium, or plutonium). The amendments are procedural in nature, and of themselves, have no significant impact on public health and safety, the environment, or common defense and security. The rule is designed to streamline the regulatory process and provide additional flexibility to licensees. The rule amends the frequency and timing of reporting requirements for certain licensees for submitting material balance and inventory composition reports. The rule does not affect efforts to fulfill the requirements of the safeguards agreement between the United States and the International Atomic Energy Agency.
- ! signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the radiological decommissioning and decontamination of NRC-licensed sites. This MOU provides that the EPA will defer exercise of authority under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (Superfund) for the majority of facilities decommissioned under NRC authority. The MOU includes provisions for NRC and EPA consultation for certain sites when, at the time of license termination, (1) groundwater contamination exceeds EPA-permitted levels; (2) NRC contemplates restricted release of the site; and/or (3) residual radioactive soil concentrations exceed levels defined in the MOU. The MOU responds to a 1999 report from the House Committee on Appropriations that stated: “[i]n the interest of ensuring that sites do not face dual regulation, the Committee strongly encourages both agencies to enter into an MOU which clarifies the circumstances for EPA’s involvement at NRC sites when requested by the NRC.” The MOU also is responsive to a General Accounting Office (GAO) report issued in 2000. The Commission continues to support future legislative action along the lines of Section 8 of the Commission’s June, 22, 2001 legislative package for the 107th Congress, to eliminate dual regulation.
- ! issued a license amendment for the H.B. Robinson nuclear power plant, Unit 2, which authorizes an increase in the generating capacity of the plant of 1.7 percent. The power uprate at the plant, located near Hartsville, South Carolina, will increase the generating capacity of the plant from 683 megawatts electric to 695 megawatts electric.
- ! issued a license amendment for the Peach Bottom nuclear power plant, Units 2 and 3, which authorizes an increase in the generating capacity of the plant of 1.62 percent. The power uprate at the plant, located in Delta, Pennsylvania, will increase the generating capacity of each unit from 1093 megawatts electric to 1110 megawatts electric.
- ! issued a license amendment for the Indian Point nuclear power plant, Unit 3, which authorizes an increase in the generating capacity of the plant of 1.4 percent. The power

uprate at the plant, located in Buchanan, New York, will increase the generating capacity of the plant from 1027 megawatts electric to 1041 megawatts electric.

- ! issued a license amendment for the Crystal River nuclear power plant, Unit 3, which authorizes an increase in the generating capacity of the plant of 0.9 percent. The power uprate at the plant, located in Crystal River, Florida, will increase the generating capacity of Unit 3 from 895 megawatts electric to 903 megawatts electric.
  
- ! issued a license amendment for the Point Beach nuclear power plant, Units 1 and 2, which authorizes an increase in the generating capacity of the plant of 1.4 percent. The power uprate at the plant, located in Two Rivers, Wisconsin, will increase the generating capacity of each unit from 511 megawatts electric to 518 megawatts electric.
  
- ! approved the transfer of the operating license for the Seabrook nuclear power station to FPL Energy Seabrook, LLC. North Atlantic Energy Service Corporation was the previous licensed operator and co-owner of the Seabrook Station, located in Rockingham County, New Hampshire.
  
- ! proposed a \$60,000 fine against the U.S. Enrichment Corporation (USEC) for failing to properly protect classified information at its Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, located in Paducah, Kentucky. This plant processes uranium for use in fuel in nuclear power plants. Certain aspects of the uranium enrichment process are considered classified information, which must be properly protected from unauthorized disclosure.
  
- ! published in the Federal Register (67 FR 66311) on October 31, 2002, an interim policy regarding enforcement discretion for certain fitness-for-duty issues that affect employees at nuclear power plants and workers performing activities related to strategic special nuclear materials. The discretion policy allows licensees to forego specified checks on individuals being reinstated or transferred after a short interruption in authorization (of 30 days or less). Based upon industry experience, the NRC has concluded that there is limited risk from individuals who have established a work history within the nuclear industry, have previously met the access authorization and fitness-for-duty regulations for granting and maintaining authorization, and have a short break in authorization due to a vacation or a transfer to a different site. The interim enforcement policy will be effective on December 30, 2002, and will be used until final amendments to the NRC's fitness-for-duty requirements become effective.
  
- ! issued, on October 22, 2002, a Notice of Violation and a proposed \$43,200 fine to Advanced Medical Imaging and Nuclear Services of Easton, Pennsylvania, for deliberate violations of NRC requirements. These violations were identified during an NRC inspection conducted between November 30 and December 17, 2001, and during a subsequent investigation by the NRC Region I Office of Investigation. Previously, on December 14, 2001, NRC issued Orders to two company officials, barring them from any involvement in NRC-licensed activities for one year from the date the facility's license was suspended (i.e., until December 14, 2002). The NRC found that the company deliberately used NRC-licensed materials and conducted NRC-licensed activities between March and November 2001 without a required authorized user or radiation safety officer.

- ! issued an amendment to the Trojan independent spent fuel storage installation which allows the license holder, Portland General Electric, to use a site-specific model of the Holtec International Multi-Purpose Canister (MPC), in lieu of the previously approved TranStor fuel basket. The Holtec MPC will be used as part of an integrated system that still uses the TranStor concrete cask.
- ! published a proposed rule which revises the Pacific Sierra Nuclear Associates VSC-24 listing in the 10 CFR 72.214 list of approved spent fuel storage casks. This amendment will permit a Part 72 licensee to store different specific fuel control elements as integral components to fuel assemblies under a general license.
- ! issued an amendment to the NUHOMS® MP-187 spent fuel cask transportation certificate of compliance. The amendment allows for an alternative to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers code for flaw tolerance analysis. This code alternative is approved for only one specific cask to be used by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District at the Rancho Seco independent spent fuel storage installation.
- ! participated in the TOPOFF (Top Officials) 2 national seminar with other emergency response functional leaders from Federal, State, and local agencies, and the Canadian government. TOPOFF 2 is a Congressionally mandated series of exercises dealing with weapons of mass destruction terrorism. The exercises were designed to provide training for Federal, State, and local top officials and responders and demonstrate coordinated national crisis and consequence management capabilities.
- ! published, on October 17, in the Federal Register (67 FR 64033), a final rule that amends the Commission's fee regulations in 10 CFR 170. This amendment establishes a provision for assessing Part 170 fees to the affected applicant or licensee so that the NRC can recover its full costs of contested hearings on licensing actions which involve U.S. Government national security initiatives. This rule is a special exception to the Commission's longstanding policy of not charging this type of fee for contested hearings.
- ! published, on October 7, in the Federal Register (67 FR 62403), a proposed rule that would amend the Commission's regulations to bring the amount of financial assurance required for certain materials licensees more in line with current decommissioning costs.
- ! issued, on October 16, 2002, Orders to licensees affecting the Nation's 31 independent spent fuel storage installations (ISFSIs). The Orders modify either the general or site-specific licenses issued to the ISFSIs to require compliance with specified interim safeguards and security compensatory measures.
- ! conducted, on October 28-30, 2002, the annual Nuclear Safety Research Conference. This conference, sponsored by the NRC's Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, was attended by approximately 400 persons from 18 countries. The conference program focused on research associated with regulatory issues in areas such as advanced reactors, dry cask storage and transportation of spent nuclear fuels, and probabilistic risk assessment.

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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

**OCTOBER 2002**

TABLE OF CONTENTS<sup>1</sup>

I. Implementing Risk-Informed Regulations . . . . . 2

II. Revised Reactor Oversight Process . . . . . 2

III. Status of Issues in the Reactor Generic Issue Program . . . . . 3

IV. Licensing Actions and Other Licensing Tasks . . . . . 3

V. Status of License Renewal Activities . . . . . 8

VI. 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 . . . . . 9

VII. Enforcement Process and Summary of Reactor Enforcement by Region . . . . . 10

VIII. Power Reactor Security Regulations . . . . . 11

IX. Power Uprates . . . . . 12

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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 October 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.

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

The staff continues to make progress on tasks involving use of probabilistic risk information 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, 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 containment. The proposal was published with a 75-day comment period. The public comment period closed on October 16, 2002. Comments are being categorized and evaluated.

### Risk Management Technical Specifications (RMTS) Initiative 1 on Technical Specification Actions End States Modifications

The Combustion Engineering Owners Group and the Boiling Water Reactor Owners Group topical report safety evaluations have been completed. Changes to the technical specifications are being evaluated to determine if they can be offered to licensees via the Consolidated Line Item Improvement Process. RMTS Initiative 1 permits entry into hot shutdown rather than cold shutdown to repair equipment, subject to performance of a risk assessment and consideration of risk management.

## **XXI. 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 stakeholder feedback in making refinements to the ROP. Recent activities include the following:

- a. The NRC Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation has developed and is implementing a set of strategies and associated action plans for improving the Significance Determination Process (SDP). Implementation of these strategies is expected to provide for continued improvement in the timeliness, consistency, and usefulness of SDP tools and should result in greater effectiveness of the SDP.

In response to a number of concerns raised by the NRC staff, and in an Inspector General Audit report dated August 21, 2002, the NRC has established a task group to perform a comprehensive review of the overall direction and effectiveness of the SDP that may result in additional actions for improving the SDP. A public meeting was held on October 25, 2002, to solicit feedback and recommendations for improving the SDP. The task group will issue a report to management in December 2002. The results will be incorporated into the SDP Improvement Plan, as appropriate.

- b. On October 30-31, 2002, a combined Mitigating System Performance Index (MSPI) and ROP Working Group public meeting was held at NRC headquarters. The MSPI is the new risk-informed performance index that NRC and the nuclear industry have jointly proposed for a replacement for the ROP's current set of Safety System Unavailability Performance

Indicators. During this meeting, the industry working group and the NRC staff members discussed the status of MSPI pilot program, MSPI pilot implementation issues, and the threshold bench marking progress. The key ROP issues discussed included: update on the status of proposed changes to the reactor shutdown, emergency preparedness, fire protection, and radiation protection significance determination processes; self assessment initiatives; industry trends update; and frequently asked questions.

**XXII. Status of Issues in the Reactor Generic Issue Program**

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

**XXIII. 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 it can be implemented by the licensee. The FY 2003 NRC Performance Plan incorporates three output measures related to licensing actions. These are: number of licensing action completions per year; age of the licensing action inventory; and size of licensing action inventory.

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 2003 NRC Performance Plan incorporates one output measure related to other licensing tasks which is the number of other licensing tasks completed.

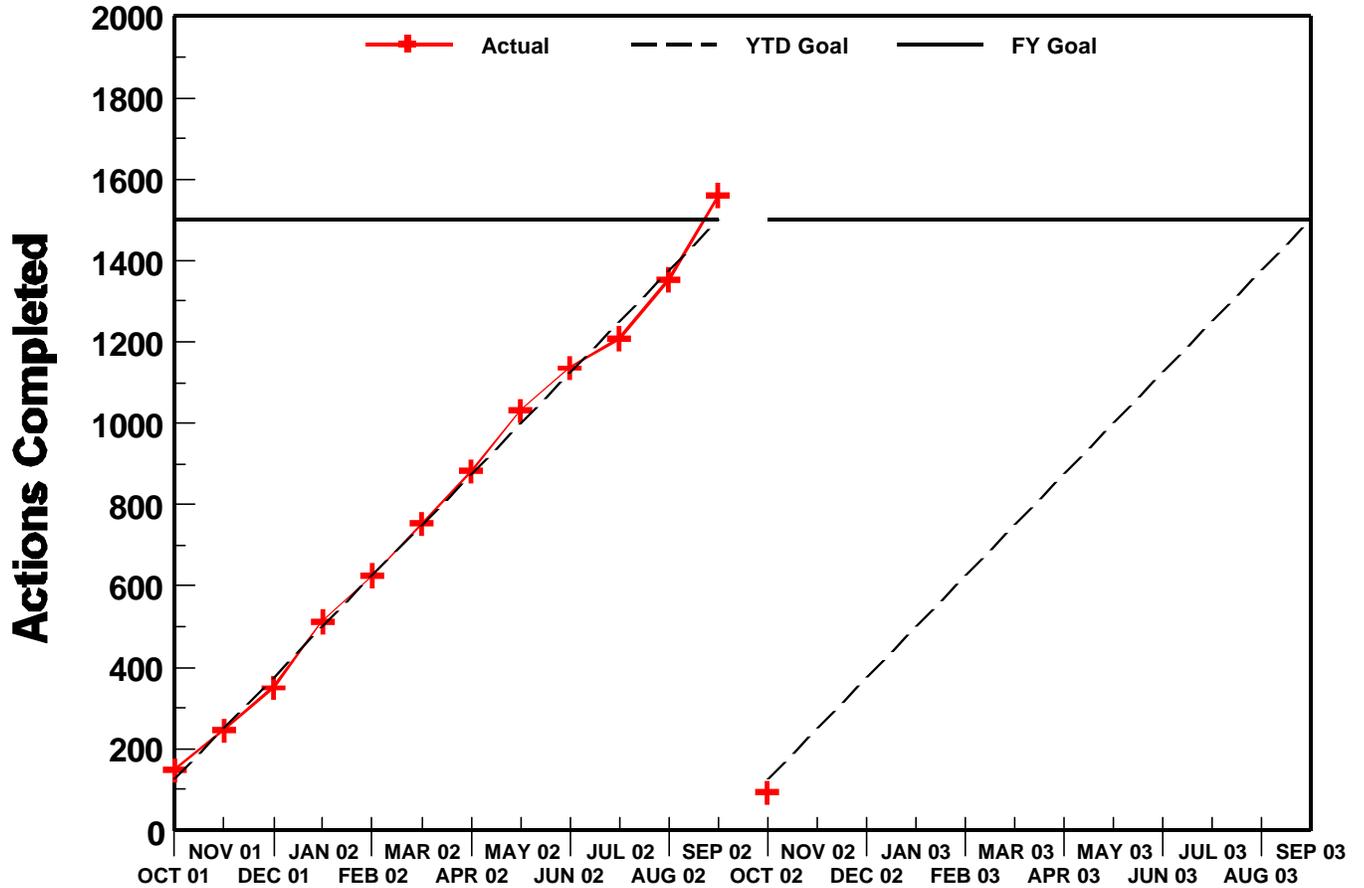
The actual FY 2001 and FY 2002 results, the FY 2003 goals and the actual FY 2003 results, as of October 31, 2002, for the four NRC Performance Plan output measures for licensing actions and other licensing tasks are shown in the table below.

PERFORMANCE PLAN				
Output Measure	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Goals	FY 2003 Actual (thru 10/31/2002)
Licensing actions completed/year	1617	1560	≥ 1500	93
Age of licensing action inventory	96.9% ≤ 1 year; 100% ≤ 2 years	96.6% ≤ 1 year; 100% ≤ 2 years	96% ≤ 1 year; 100% ≤ 2 years	94.7% ≤ 1 year; 100% ≤ 2 years
Size of licensing action inventory	877	765	≤ 1000	773
Other licensing tasks completed/year	523	426	≥ 350	28

The following charts demonstrate NRC's FY 2003 trends for the four licensing action and other licensing task output measure goals.

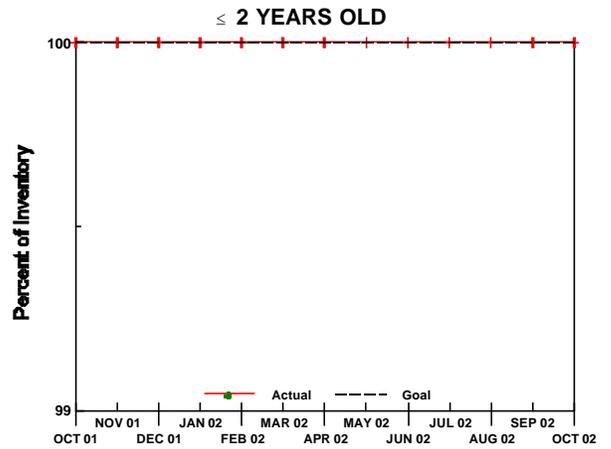
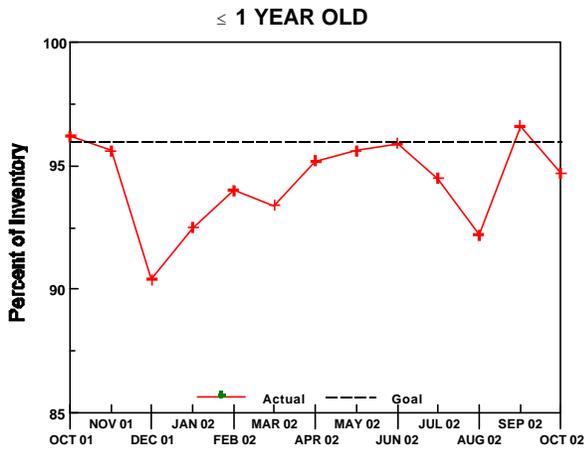
# Nuclear Reactor Safety - Reactor Licensing

Performance Plan Target: Completed Licensing Actions



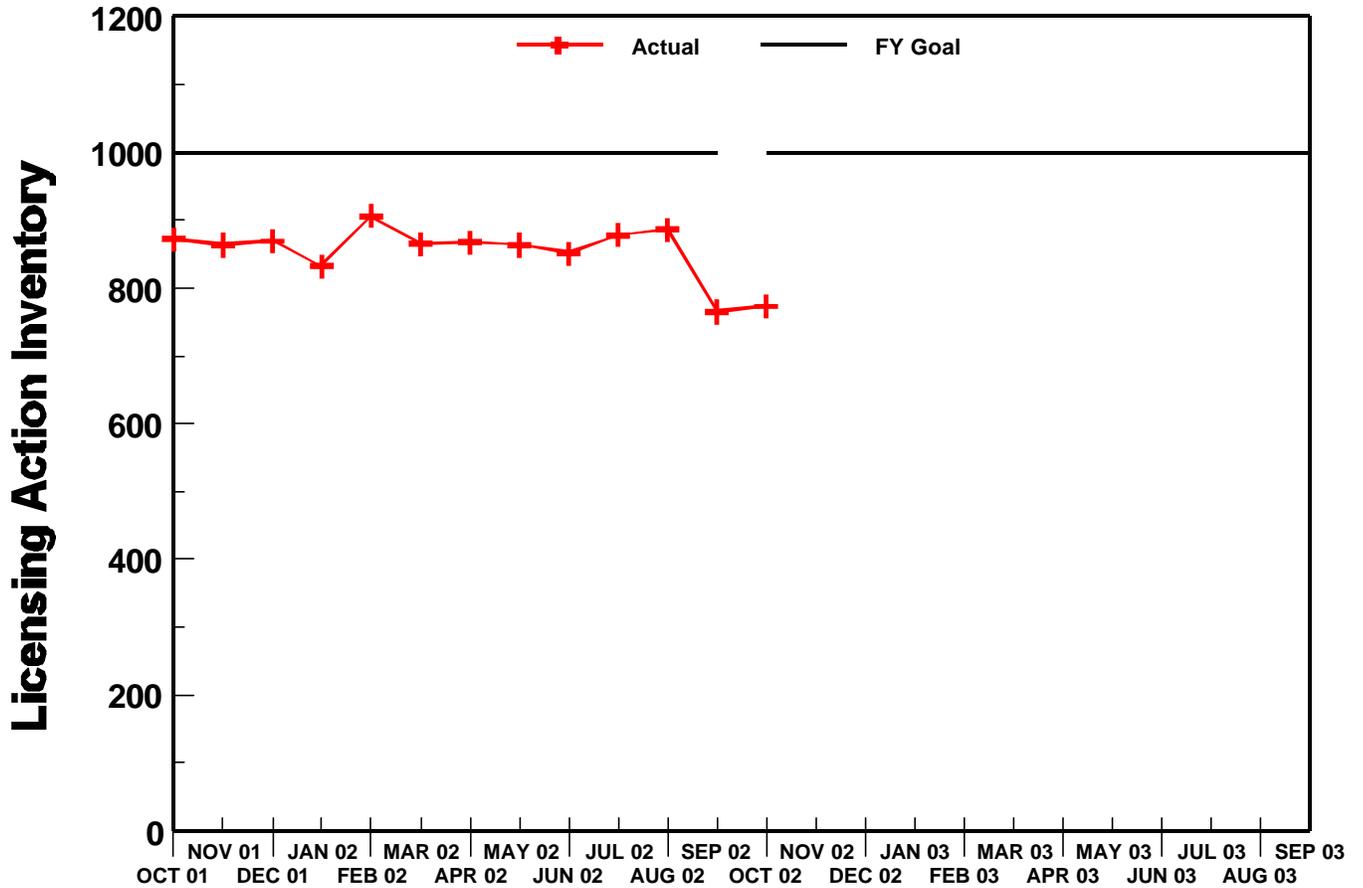
# Nuclear Reactor Safety - Reactor Licensing

## Performance Plan Target: Age of Licensing Action Inventory



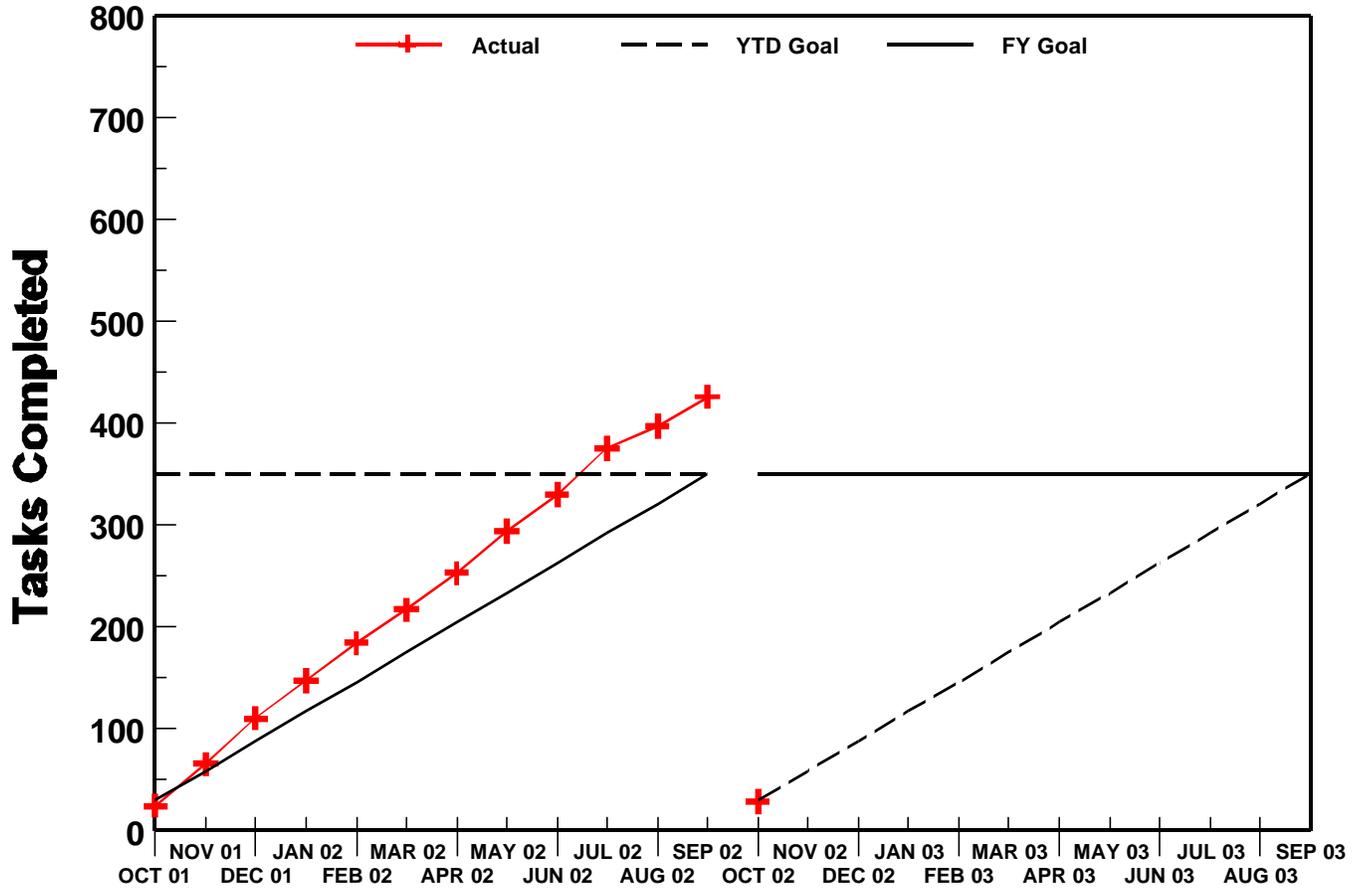
# Nuclear Reactor Safety - Reactor Licensing

## Performance Plan: Size of Licensing Action Inventory



# Nuclear Reactor Safety - Reactor Licensing

Performance Plan Target: Completed Other Licensing Tasks



## **XXIV. 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. The public comment period on the draft SEISs has ended and the staff is addressing the comments and preparing the final SEISs which are scheduled to be issued by December 2002. 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 the staff expects to issue the revised safety evaluation report in November 2002.

### 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 the draft SEISs has ended and the staff is addressing the comments and preparing the final SEISs which are scheduled to be issued by January 2003. The safety evaluation report identifying open items was issued in August 2002. The NRC staff and applicant are currently working to resolve the open items and the staff expects to issue the revised safety evaluation report by January 2003.

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 Commission admitted, to an extent, the SAMA contention. The hearing process is currently in abeyance pending clarification of the contention by the Commission. A certified question from the ASLB relating to the admissibility of a contention pertaining to terrorism is still under review by the Commission.

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

The staff issued the draft SEIS in July 2002. The public comment period on the draft SEIS has ended and the staff is addressing the comments and preparing the final SEIS which is scheduled to be issued by February 2003. The safety evaluation report identifying any open items was issued in September 2002. Applicant responses to the open items are due in November 2002.

### 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 staff is preparing the draft SEIS to issue for public comment in November 2002. The safety requests for additional information were issued in July 2002 and the applicant's responses were received in October 2002. The staff is reviewing the responses and will prepare the safety evaluation report, identifying any remaining open items.

### Fort Calhoun Renewal Application

Environmental requests for additional information were issued in July 2002 and the responses were received in September 2002. The staff is currently reviewing the responses and preparing the draft SEIS which is scheduled to be issued by January 2003. Safety requests for additional

information were issued in October 2002 and the applicant's responses are due by December 2002.

#### Robinson Unit 2 Renewal Application

The Robinson renewal application is currently under review and the staff is preparing requests for additional information. All environmental requests for additional information are scheduled to be issued by December 2002 and the safety requests by February 2003.

#### Ginna Renewal Application

The Ginna renewal application is currently under review and the staff is preparing requests for additional information. All environmental requests for additional information are scheduled to be issued by January 2003 and the safety requests by March 2003.

#### Summer Renewal Application

The Summer renewal application is currently under review and the staff is preparing requests for additional information. All environmental requests for additional information are scheduled to be issued by February 2003 and the safety requests by April 2003.

#### **XXV. 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 submitted reply findings to the proposed findings of fact submitted by Private Fuel Storage, LLC (PFS) and the State of Utah on the geotechnical and aircraft contentions in the adjudicatory proceeding before NRC's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board. Similarly, PFS and the State of Utah submitted reply findings, as well. The staff completed its consideration of the response received from PFS in August 2002, regarding the change in U.S. Air Force policy regarding altitude restriction for flights over Skull Valley. A letter to Private Fuel Storage, LLC, documenting the results of the staff's evaluation is being prepared.

## XXVI. Enforcement Process and Summary of Reactor Enforcement by Region

### Reactor Enforcement by Region

Reactor Enforcement Actions*						
		Region I	Region II	Region III	Region IV**	TOTAL
Severity Level I	Sept 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	Sept 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	Sept 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	Sept 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	Sept 2002	5	1	4	2	12
	FY 02 YTD	207	89	201	151	648
	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 maybe subject to minor changes following verification. The number of Severity Level I, II, 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.

Escalated Reactor Enforcement Actions Associated with the Reactor Oversight Process						
		Region I	Region II	Region III	Region IV	Total
NOVs Related to White, Yellow or Red Findings	9/02 Red	0	0	0	0	0
	9/02 Yellow	0	0	0	0	0
	9/02 White	1	0	0	0	1
	FY 02 YTD	4	4	5	8	21
	FY 01 Total	8	4	4	3	19
	FY 00 Total	6	1	0	0	7

### Description of Significant Actions taken in September 2002

#### Constellation Generation Group (Calvert Cliffs) EA-02-159

On September 9, 2002, a Notice of Violation was issued for a violation associated with a white SDP finding involving the inability of 49 sirens that were part of the licensee's alert and notification system to activate in a timely manner. The violation cited the licensee's inability to complete the initial notification of the public in the plume exposure pathway emergency planning zone within about 15 minutes after declaring an emergency.

### XXVII. 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 (i.e., Level 3), 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.

The staff is continuing an integrated review of the NRC's safeguards and security program, which includes threat definitions, 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.

## **XXVIII. 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 82 such reviews. Approximately 11,595 MWt (3865 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 October, the staff completed its review of a 1.7 percent power uprate application for Grand Gulf increasing the electrical output of Grand Gulf by approximately 22 Mwe. As of October 2002, the staff has 12 plant-specific applications under review. The staff also has two General Electric Nuclear Energy topical reports for 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). The staff will utilize the survey results for future planning.

Identical letter sent 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