

INFORMATION REPORT

October 17, 2005

SECY-05-0186

For: The Commissioners
From: William M. Dean, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: "WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
OCTOBER 7, 2005"

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*No input this week.

**/RA by Mindy Landau Acting For W M Dean/
William M. Dean
Assistant for Operations, OEDO**

Contact:
A. Huffert, OEDO

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10/18/05	10/18/05

WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 7, 2005

The Weekly Information Report is compiled by the Office of the EDO and includes highlights of Headquarters and Regional Office activities.

Contact: A. Huffert, OEDO by E-mail: amh1@nrc.gov.

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*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 7, 2005

Public Meeting on Generic Safety Issue (GSI) -191 Pressurized Water Reactor (PWR) Sump Clogging Chemical Effects

The staff met with Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) and industry representatives on September 30, 2005, to discuss the results of recent confirmatory head-loss testing for chemical products previously identified during an earlier Los Alamos National Laboratory integrated chemical effects test, which examined use of tri-sodium phosphate sump pool pH buffer agents and calcium silicate insulation materials. The follow-on head-loss test was conducted in late August 2005, at Argonne National Laboratory and is discussed in detail in the attachment to Information Notice 2005-26, "Results of Chemical Effects Head Loss Tests in a Simulated PWR Sump Pool Environment." The staff is considering the information provided by NEI at the September 30, 2005 meeting, and any further actions by the NRC which may be appropriate.

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Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 7, 2005

Meeting to Discuss Idaho National Laboratory's Waste Determination Submittal

On October 4, 2005, staff from the Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection met with representatives of the Department of Energy (DOE) to discuss DOE's recent waste determination submittal for the Idaho National Laboratory. The submittal was made in accordance with legislation in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005, requiring DOE to consult with NRC on its waste determinations. DOE presented an overview of the waste determination submittal. Attendees included Duratek, Inc., and Weapons Complex Monitor.

Submittal of DOE Waste Determination

On October 3, 2005, DOE submitted a non-high level waste (HLW) determination for closure of Tanks 18 and 19 at the Savannah River Site. This determination will be reviewed by NRC as part of its responsibilities under the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005, which requires DOE to consult with NRC on non-HLW determinations made in South Carolina and Idaho.

Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company (Maine Yankee) Completes Decommissioning

On September 30, 2005, staff issued a license amendment releasing, for unrestricted use, all land under Maine Yankee's License No. DPR-36, with the exception of the land where the Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) is located, and a 3.17 acre parcel of land adjacent to the ISFSI. Maine Yankee conducted decommissioning activities in accordance with the approved License Termination Plan, from February 2003 to June 2005.

Nuclear Management Company Exemption

On September 30, 2005, the Spent Fuel Project Office issued an exemption to the Nuclear Management Company, LLC, for the Palisades Nuclear Plant (PNP), pursuant to 10 CFR 72.7, authorizing the use of the NUHOMS[®]-32PT dry shielded canister system by an independent spent fuel storage installation general licensee. The NUHOMS[®]-32PT system has been reviewed by NRC staff and found acceptable for licensing purposes. The exemption allowed PNP to use the NUHOMS[®]-32PT dry shielded canister system in the proposed Amendment No. 8 to Certificate of Compliance No. 1004, before the effective date of the final rule change.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 7, 2005

Annual Review of Halden Reactor Projects

From September 21-23, 2005, the staff attended the Annual Irradiation-Assisted Stress Corrosion Cracking (IASCC) Group review of Halden Research Reactor Projects. The objective of the meeting was to examine the details of the experiments that are underway and are anticipated during the 2006-2008 program in light of specific NRC objectives. The NRC's priorities are also shared by many other international members of the IASCC group. The staff also learned that the Halden Reactor Project is not threatened by imminent closure as was reported in Nucleonics Week on July 28, 2005.

International Exchange Meeting of Digital System Failure Data and Analysis

On September 26 and 27, 2005, the staff participated in the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development, Nuclear Energy Agency's (OECD/NEA's), Computer-Based Systems Important to Safety Project's (COMPSIS) second steering group meeting at the Institute for Energy Technology office in Halden, Norway. This meeting was to confirm the 2006 budget; propose new schedules and tasks to develop failure coding guidelines, database structure and web-based user interface for the project; explore the potential recovering of historical data; discuss the security level of the database and project website; and present possible methods of data analysis. Nine of the ten member countries were present for this meeting. The third steering group meeting has been proposed for April 19-22, 2006, in Korea.

Publication of Integrated Chemical Effects Test # 2 Data Report

On October 6, 2005, the staff made the "Integrated Chemical Effects Test # 2 Data Report," LA-UR-05-6146, available in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) (accession # ML052770416). Test #2 simulated the chemical environment present inside a pressurized water reactor containment water pool after a loss-of-coolant-accident.

Public Meeting with Westinghouse on International Reactor Innovative and Secure (IRIS) Test Plans

On September 28, 2005, staff participated in a public meeting with Westinghouse to discuss Westinghouse's planned test program for the IRIS reactor design. Staff discussed comments from review of the extensive test plan of thermal hydraulic and mechanical testing done by Westinghouse to support product development and to provide an experimental database to satisfy the requirements of 10 CFR 52.47.

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 7, 2005

Contract Awards

On September 29, 2005, a competitive delivery order no. DR-03-05-028 was awarded to Earth Tech, Inc., under the General Service Administration's (GSA) Federal Supply Schedule (FSS) for Technical Assistance for License Renewal Environmental Reviews. The contractor shall conduct environmental reviews of nuclear power reactors for license renewal activities. The total estimated cost of the delivery order is \$813,062. The period of performance is for three years, from September 29, 2005, through September 28, 2008.

On September 29, 2005, a competitive 8(a) negotiated contract no. NRC-07-05-166 was awarded to Digital Management, Inc. for the Maintenance and Operation of the NRC Operations Center. The contractor shall provide maintenance and operations support of the various hardware, software, display and communications systems which support the NRC Operations Center. The total estimated cost of the contract is \$3,698,073. The period of performance is from September 29, 2005, through September 28, 2006, with four one-year option periods.

On September 29, 2005, a competitive delivery order no. DR-33-05-357 was awarded to Webworld Technologies, Inc., under the GSA FSS. The contractor shall provide information technology support services for small web application development. The estimated cost of the contract is \$797,328. The period of performance is October 1, 2005, through September 30, 2006, with a one-year option period.

On September 29, 2005, a competitive delivery order no. DR-33-05-402 was awarded to Millican & Associates, Inc., under the GSA FSS. The contractor shall provide information technology support services to assist NRC with records management. The total estimated cost is \$625,819. The period of performance is September 30, 2005, through September 29, 2006, with two one-year option periods.

On September 30, 2005, a Blanket Purchase Agreement no. DR-33-05-397 was awarded to Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc., under the GSA FSS. The contractor shall provide information technology support services for development of NRC's Enterprise Architecture. The total estimated cost is \$994,000. The period of performance is September 30, 2005, through September 29, 2006.

On September 30, 2005, a competitive delivery order no. DR-09-05-331 was awarded to Deloitte Consulting LLP, under the GSA FSS for the Budget Formulation System. The contractor shall provide and integrate a commercial off-the-shelf computer system to be used to formulate the agency's annual budgets. The estimated cost of the delivery order is \$1,315,836. The period of performance is September 30, 2005, through September 29, 2006, with four one-year option periods.

On September 30, 2005, a non-competitive (8a) contract no. NRC-07-05-505, was awarded to Alternative Telecommunication Solutions, Inc., for upgrading the equipment in the NRC

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ENCLOSURE F

Operations Center. The Contractor shall assess the equipment interoperability and after NRC approval, upgrade the equipment to various systems located in the NRC Operations Center. The total estimated cost is \$1,394,551. The period of performance is for one year, from September 30, 2005, through September 29, 2006.

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Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 7, 2005

Quality Control of Records Placed in ADAMS

On September 30, 2005, staff received the final contractor report of findings and recommendations on the completeness of record collections maintained in ADAMS. The contractor findings will be used by OIS to correct any shortcomings associated with the completeness of record collections.

File Center To Support NMSS in Processing a Spent Fuel Discovery Request Through the Department of Justice

On October 4, 2005, the staff received a request from NMSS to provide, by October 11, 2005, copies of 930 Fort St. Vrain Independent Spent Fuel documents from the ADAMS Legacy Library. The request supports a discovery request from the Department of Justice (DOJ) from utilities involved in the ongoing Federal litigation over the DOE's failure to take possession of spent fuel from the nuclear industry. This task requires the review of over 70 cubic feet of records.

File Center Continues To Support NRR in Processing a Department of Justice EIS Request

On September 13, 2005, staff began assisting NRR in determining the documents needed to process a DOJ request for any information pertaining to the Environmental Impact Statements involving Salem, Hope Creek, and Peach Bottom Generating Stations.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act Requests Received During the Period of September 29 through October 6, 2005:

Indian Point 2 Spent Fuel Pool, correspondence between NRC & Entergy Nuclear Northeast, LLC, from 7-15-05 & 9-29-05 re: leak of cooling water	FOIA/PA-2005-0369
Allegation RIV-96-A-0161, all records, & correspondence between named individual & NRC	FOIA/PA-2005-0370
Licensed users of gaseous tritium light source General License Tracking System (GTLS)	FOIA/PA-2005-0371
NRC's thermal review of the NUHOMS-24P Dry Storage Canister (DSC) of the Standardized NUHOMS Horizontal Modular Storage System for Irradiated Nuclear Fuel (docket no. 72-1004)	FOIA/PA-2006-0001
DeLeuw Cather Co., 290 Roberts St., East Harford, CT, license no. 06-28200-01, all records	FOIA/PA-2006-0002
Chernobyl nuclear power plant, destruction, fatalities, water, farmland contaminated, exposure to Cesium-183	FOIA/PA-2006-0003

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 7, 2005

Arrival		
GARDNER, RONALD N.	CONSULTANT	NRR
GOLDEN, ANDREW S.	STUDENT CLERK (STEP)	NRR
NARBUT, PAUL	CONSULTANT	OEDO
SHEDLOSKEY, JOHN T.	CONSULTANT	OEDO
SHERR, THEODORE S.	CONSULTANT	NMSS
Retirements		
SULLIVAN, ELIZABETH E.	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT	R-III
TONGUE, THOMAS M.	PROJECT ENGINEER	R-III

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Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 7, 2005

OPA received significant media inquiries on the following:

The decommissioning of Maine Yankee and release of the site for unrestricted use.

Emergency preparedness issues at Pennsylvania nuclear plants.

Distribution of potassium iodide to people living within 20 miles of nuclear plants.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
05-135	NRC Releases Majority of Maine Yankee Atomic Power Plant Site for Unrestricted Use (10/3)
05-136	NRC Establishes Web Page for Information on Spent Fuel Pool Issues at Indian Point (10/4)
Regions:	
II-05-039	NRC Staff Seeks Input on Brunswick Nuclear Plant Draft Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal (10/4)
III-05-040	NRC to Discuss Performance Improvement Activities at Perry Nuclear Power Plant (10/6)

Office of International Programs (OIP)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 7, 2005

Tropical Storm Stan

On October 3, 2005, staff from OIP, the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response, and NRC Region IV jointly approached NRC's regulatory counterpart in Mexico (La Comisión Nacional de Seguridad Nuclear y Salvaguardias, CNSNS) and offered to both provide CNSNS with NRC's hurricane response-related procedures and share insights gained by NRC during hurricanes Katrina and Rita. At that time, Tropical Storm Stan was expected to achieve hurricane strength and was projected to come ashore in the immediate vicinity of the Laguna Verde nuclear power plants located north of Veracruz, Mexico within 36 hours. In turn, CNSNS briefed NRC staff on ongoing or planned hurricane-related precautions at Laguna Verde. By October 4, 2005, the hurricane's projected path had shifted significantly south, away from Laguna Verde. Communications between NRC & CNSNS were effective during this incident.

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Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 7, 2005

Federal Register Notices

1. Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW), Procedures for Meetings.
2. ACNW, notice of 164th meeting (10/19-20/05).
3. ACNW, notice of Planning and Procedures meeting (10/20/05).

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Region III (RIII)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 7, 2005

Commissioner Merrifield Visits to Wisconsin Nuclear Facilities

From October 3-5, 2005, Commissioner Jeffrey Merrifield, accompanied by the Deputy Executive Director for Reactor and Preparedness Programs and the Regional Administrator, visited three sites in Wisconsin; the Point Beach Nuclear Power Station, the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant, and the LaCrosse Boiling Water Reactor, which is in decommissioning status. The Commissioner toured the facilities, met with the resident inspectors at Point Beach and Kewaunee, held discussions with licensee management, and conducted all-staff meetings at each location.

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Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 7, 2005

Commissioner Lyons Visit to San Onofre

On October 6, 2005, Commissioner Lyons visited the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station. The Commissioner met with licensee management and discussed current plant performance and security. After visiting the site, the Commissioner met with the Interjurisdictional Planning Commission in Dana Point, California, and discussed their emergency preparedness roles and responsibilities.

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Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending October 7, 2005

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 34

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Keeling	10/19/05 SD-G50	2:30	Markup	S. 1753, "Warning, Alert, and Response Network Act"	Senators Stevens/Inouye Commerce, Science and Transportation
Combs	TBA SD-406	TBA	NRC and others	Hurricane Katrina Disaster	Senators Inhofe/Jeffords Environment and Public Works
Schmidt/ Keeling	TBA	TBA	Conference	FY 2006 Energy and Water Development Appropriations	House/Senate Appropriations Committee conferees

Note: The House and Senate are in recess for the week of October 11.