

INFORMATION REPORT

August 17, 2007

SECY-07-0139

For: The Commissioners
From: Vonna L. Ordaz, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
AUGUST 10, 2007

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*No input this week.

/RA/

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8/16/07	8/17/07

WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING AUGUST 10, 2007

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

Contact: J. Raber, OEDO by E-mail: hjr1@nrc.gov.

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*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 10, 2007

LaSalle, Units 1 and 2 - Emergency Technical Specification (TS) Change Issued

On August 2, 2007, NRR issued an emergency TS amendment for the LaSalle County Station, located 11 miles southeast of Ottawa, Illinois. Prolonged hot weather in the area, in conjunction with high humidity during the day and minimal cooling at night, resulted in sustained elevated cooling water temperature supplied to the plant's ultimate heat sink (UHS). Temperature prediction models for the UHS indicated the bulk temperature would rise just above the 100°F limit for several days. The emergency amendment revised the maximum allowed TS temperature limit, contained in TS Surveillance Requirement 3.7.3.1, from less than or equal to 100°F to less than or equal to 101.25°F.

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 805 Pilot Observation Meeting

On August 6-9, 2007, an NFPA 805 Pilot Observation meeting was held with Progress Energy and Duke Power in Washington, D.C. Portions of the meetings were open to the public. Staff from the Division of Risk Assessment, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES), and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) assisted in conducting the Observation meeting including the pre-meeting submittal reviews.

Office of New Reactors (NRO)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 10, 2007

Quality Assurance Audit of William States Lee III Nuclear Station and Bellefonte Nuclear Plant Combined License Application Development Programs

During the week of July 30 - August 3, 2007, NRO staff conducted an audit at the Enercon Services Office in Mount Arlington, New Jersey. The purpose of the audit was to evaluate the quality activities related to the development of the William States Lee III Nuclear Station and Bellefonte Nuclear Plant Combined License (COL) applications. The audit team confirmed that the applicants are using quality programs and procedures to develop the COL applications.

Staff Holds Public Meeting on the Update of the Environmental Standard Review Plan (ESRP)

On August 9, 2007, NRO staff held a public meeting to explain the process it was using to update the ESRP (NUREG-1555) and to collect comments on the draft revisions it has published for selected sections of the ESRP. After the staff explained the update process and described some of the more significant changes, the public was given an opportunity to comment.

Staff Meeting with General Electric (GE) on Aircraft Impact Work

On August 9, 2007, RES and NRO staff met with representatives from GE to discuss the aircraft impact characteristics that were recently shared with GE and to share some high-level insights from their recent evaluation of the economic simplified boiling water reactor design. The staff is planning a meeting with Westinghouse to discuss the same topics for the advanced plant 1000 design.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 10, 2007

Discussions on “Partnership for the Development of Next Generation Simulation Tools for Evaluating Cementitious Materials Used in Nuclear Applications”

On August 1-2, 2007, staff from NRC, the Department of Energy, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Vanderbilt University, the Savannah River National Laboratory, the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses (CNWRA) and SIMCO Technologies, Canada, met to explore a cooperative effort on simulation tools for evaluating the performance and predicting the service life of cementitious materials and admixtures used in nuclear applications. These tools will be useful in assessing performance of existing structures, simulating the performance of new structures, and providing performance-based specifications for extending the service life of existing structures.

Interagency Steering Committee on Multimedia Environmental Models (ISCMEM) Approval of the National Science Foundation (NSF) to Join the NRC and Seven Other Federal Agencies in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Multimedia Environmental Models

On August 3, 2007, ISCMEM approved the petition from the NSF to join the MOU. ISCMEM works to facilitate cooperation and coordination among the participating agencies on all aspects of the research and development of multimedia environmental models. RES was one of the originators of ISCMEM and benefits from sharing information and technology with the other member agencies.

The Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) Sponsored Training for the Implementation of Regulatory Guide (RG) 4.15, Revision 2, “Quality Assurance for Radiological Monitoring Programs (Inception Through Normal Operations to License Termination) - Effluent Streams and the Environment”

From August 7-9, 2007, RES staff provided training for NRC staff on the implementation of RG 4.15, Rev. 2. This guide on quality assurance and control programs is a complete revision and update of the guidance last revised in 1979 and takes advantage of the multi-agency effort that produced Multi-Agency Radiological Laboratory Analytical Protocols Manual (MARLAP). All new facilities will be expected to use the revised guidance but existing licensees will not need to change existing programs. On October 12, 2007, a public workshop is scheduled for industry representatives, who will be provided with information to facilitate the use of the revised guidance.

Implementing Agreement Between NRC and the Nuclear Research and Consultancy Group (NRG) of The Netherlands in the Area of Severe Accident Research

On August 9, 2007, the Executive Director for Operations signed the subject international agreement, which defines the terms and conditions by which the NRC and the NRG will cooperate in the area of severe accident research. This cooperative Implementing Agreement will expand the NRC’s related data and knowledge base, and independently verify the accuracy of the NRC’s MELCOR severe accident code for different accident sequences. The NRC

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uses the MELCOR code to evaluate potential risk and security scenarios for severe accidents, address regulatory and licensing issues for operating plants, and review new designs. This Implementing Agreement will remain in effect for a period of three years.

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Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 10, 2007

Preliminary Notifications

- PNO-I-07-007, EXELON GENERATION COMPANY, ALERT DECLARED DUE TO CARBON DIOXIDE LEAK FROM A PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHER IN THE DIESEL GENERATOR BUILDING.

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Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 10, 2007

Interlocutory Review of Rulings on Requests by Potential Parties for Access to Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information and Safeguards Information; Reopening of Public Comment and Notice of Availability of Proposed Procedures for Comment (AI08 - Part 2)

On August 6, 2007, the NRC published a document in the *Federal Register* (72 FR 43569) that reopened the public comment period on a proposed rule that would amend the regulations to provide for expedited Commission review of orders on requests by potential parties for access to certain sensitive unclassified Non-Safeguards Information and Safeguards Information. The document also announced the availability of proposed procedures that would allow potential parties to NRC adjudications and their representatives to gain access to such information.

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Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 10, 2007

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of August 3 through August 9, 2007:

San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, all reports to NRC from So. Cal Edison re: trespasser on 7-25-07	FOIA/PA-2007-0284
OI report 4-2006-0039, relating to a security event March 18-27, 2006	FOIA/PA-2007-0285
Quantum Technical Services Inc., License number L03731, use of radioactive materials (dates & locations) in Puerto Rico, VA, Virgin Islands, and WV from 2006-2007, all records	FOIA/PA-2007-0286
Specific radioactive materials license holders, not including nuclear power plants and research reactors, name of facility, address, etc.	FOIA/PA-2007-0287
Violation of veteran's preference procedures for named individual, all information and documentation (Referral by Department of Labor)	FOIA/PA-2007-0288
Material licenses for Region III, include license number, name of licensee, address, phone number	FOIA/PA-2007-0289

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Office of Human Resources (HR)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending August 10, 2007

Arrivals		
WILLIAMS, JR., ROBERT	REACTOR INSPECTOR (NSPDP)	RII
Departures		
ANZALONE, REED	STUDENT ENGINEER	NRR
MCGAFFIGAN, MARGARET	STUDENT SCIENTIST (CO-OP)	NMSS
PETROVITCH, CHRISTOPHER	STUDENT PHYSICAL SCIENTIST	NRR
PRUETT, TIMOTHY	IT SPECIALIST (INET)	OIS
PUIG, GABRIELA	STUDENT ENGINEER	RES
ROBINSON, REBECCA	STUDENT CLERK (SUMMER)	OIS
RULEMAN, KARLEN	STUDENT ENGINEER	NRR
SANCHEZ SANTIAGO, ELBA	STUDENT ENGINEER	RIII
TORO-ROJAS, JETSENIA	STUDENT ENGINEER	RES
WELSH, ASHA	STUDENT CLERK	OPA
WERTS, SCOTT	GENERAL SCIENTIST	NRR
WONG, JOANN LIN	STUDENT LAW CLERK (SUMMER)	OPA

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 10, 2007

The OPA received significant media inquiries on the following:

Public scoping meetings in Wyoming and New Mexico to discuss uranium recovery license process, as well as the logic and scope for a generic Environmental Impact Statement.

Issuance of the NRC's draft FY2007-2012 Strategic Plan information on the new emphasis the plan has over the previous FY2004-2009 plan.

Indian Point plant siren system and Federal Emergency Management Agency requirements.

Questions from two jewelry trade publications on irradiated gemstone issues.

Other OPA Items:

Chairman Klein and new reactor management spoke at the American Nuclear Society utility meeting at Amelia Island, offering a number of cautions to utility executives about expectations for new reactor licenses.

Chairman Klein was interviewed in connection with his visit to General Electric in Wilmington, North Carolina, to discuss the newest generation of nuclear reactors, including the Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor.

OPA arranged an interview with US Info, the international communication tool for the State Department, with the Chairman as a follow-up to his June speech in Paris about expanding international efforts to improve nuclear safety.

Commissioner Jaczko was interviewed by Bloomberg News on the subject of new reactors and the limited work authorization rule.

OPA participated in the Callaway exercise and coordinated a mock press briefing.

OPA supported the end-of-cycle meeting for Davis-Besse.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
07-099	NRC Seeks Comments on Draft Strategic Plan (8/8)
Regions:	
I-07-048	NRC Seeks Public Input on Environmental Impact Statement for Indian Point Nuclear Plant License Renewal Application (8/10)
IV-07-028	NRC Names New Resident Inspector at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (8/6)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending August 10, 2007

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. COMGBJ-07-0002	06/28/07	Closing Out Task Re: Rulemaking on Tables S-3 and S-4
SRM on 07-0002	08/6/07	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 07-0002	08/6/07	(same)
2. SRM-SECY-07-0108	08/8/07	Rulemaking Plan to Revise 10 CFR 51.22, "Criterion for Categorical Exclusion; Identification of Licensing and Regulatory Actions Eligible for Categorical Exclusion or Otherwise Not Requiring Environmental Review" (RM# 644)
Commission Voting Record on 07-0108	08/8/07	(same)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-07-0121	07/25/07	Semiannual Update of the Lessons-Learned Program and Annual Lessons-Learned Program Review
2. SECY-07-0127	08/03/07	Weekly Information Report - Week Ending July 27, 2007

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congress, dated August 3, 2007, provides NRC's draft FY 2007- 2012 Strategic Plan for comment.
2. Letter to Rob Portman, Office of Management and Budget, dated August 3, 2007, provides NRC's draft FY 2007- 2012 Strategic Plan for comment.
3. Letter to Tomihiko Taniguchi, IAEA, dated August 3, 2007, requests the IAEA to conduct an Integrated Regulatory Review Service mission in the United States in 2010.

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Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, Notice of Oral Argument and of Opportunity to Make Limited Appearance Statements, Shaw AREVA MOX Services (Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility).
2. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), Subcommittee Meeting on Planning and Procedures, notice of meeting (9/5/2007).
3. ACRS, Meeting of the Subcommittee on Plant License Renewal, notice of meeting (9/5/2007).
4. ACRS, 545th meeting notice (9/6-8/2007).

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