

# INFORMATION REPORT

January 31, 2008

SECY-08-0015

For: The Commissioners  
From: Vonna L. Ordaz, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO  
Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING  
JANUARY 25, 2008

## Contents

## Enclosure

Nuclear Reactor Regulation	A
New Reactors	B
Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards	C*
Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs	D
Nuclear Regulatory Research	E
Nuclear Security and Incident Response	F*
Administration	G
Information Services	H
Chief Financial Officer	I*
Human Resources	J*
Small Business and Civil Rights	K*
Enforcement	L*
Public Affairs	M*
International Programs	N*
Secretary	O
Region I	P*
Region II	P*
Region III	P*
Region IV	P
Executive Director for Operations	Q*
Congressional Affairs	R*

\*No input this week.

***/RA Tamara E. Bloomer Acting For/***

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Assistant for Operations, OEDO

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01/30/08	01/31/08

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## WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING JANUARY 25, 2008

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

Contact: M. Landau, OEDO by E-mail: [msl@nrc.gov](mailto:msl@nrc.gov).

Use **GO TO** (Ctrl+Home) to advance to the page number for a specific Office.

**PgDn** and **PgUp** can also be used to advance through the text.

<b>OFFICE</b>	<b>Page</b>	<b>OFFICE</b>	<b>Page</b>
NRR	2	OE	*
NRO	*	OPA	17
NMSS	4	OIP	*
FSME	6	SECY	19
RES	*	Region I	20
NSIR	10	Region II	21
ADM	11	Region III	22
OIS	12	Region IV	23
CFO	*	EDO	*
HR	16	OCA	24
SBCR	*		

\*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 25, 2008

License Renewal Application for Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1

On January 8, 2008, the staff received an application from AmerGen Energy Company, LLC, (AmerGen) requesting the renewal of the operating license for the Three Mile Island Nuclear Station (TMI), Unit 1. The application requests an additional 20 years beyond the current 40-year term, pursuant to 10 CFR Parts 51 and 54. TMI, Unit 1, is a pressurized water reactor designed by Babcock & Wilcox with a current operating license that expires at midnight on April 19, 2014. The staff is currently reviewing the application to determine whether it is sufficient for docketing, and if it is, a public information session will be held near the plant site in the near future, to describe the license renewal process.

Motor-Operated Valve Users Group and Air-Operated Valve Users Group Meeting

On January 14-18, 2008, the staff attended the Motor-Operated Valve Users Group (MUG) and Air-Operated Valve Users Group (AUG) annual meetings in Orlando, Florida. Several papers were presented at the MUG meeting by industry representatives on topics which may be submitted to the NRC as topical reports for review. Industry representatives also discussed recent experience with motor-operated valve magnesium rotors. Papers on topics such as solenoid valve diagnostics and evaluating air-operated valve diagnostic test results were presented at the AUG meeting.

Public Meeting Regarding Weld Inlay and Overlay Code Cases

On January 16, 2008, the staff held a public meeting in Rockville, Maryland with members of the working group of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) to discuss the ASME draft weld inlay and overlay code cases. The purpose of the meeting was to better understand the technical issues of NRC's concern in order to permit a more expeditious NRC and ASME review to allow the use of these code cases to repair or mitigate Alloy 82/182 dissimilar metal welds in the reactor coolant system. Alloy 82/182 dissimilar metal welds are susceptible to primary water stress corrosion cracking in pressurized water reactors.

Integrated Head-Loss Testing for Wolf Creek and Callaway

On January 16-18, 2008, the staff visited Alden Laboratory in Holden, MA, to observe Generic Safety Issue-191, "Assessment of Debris Accumulation on Pressurized Water Reactor Sump Performance," integrated head loss testing for Wolf Creek and Callaway Nuclear Plants. Alden Laboratory has been contracted by AREVA to perform flume testing for plants with sump strainers designed by Performance Contracting Inc. The staff observed portions of the following tests during the visit: (1) a maximum fiber/maximum particulate test that bounds both Wolf Creek and Callaway, (2) particulate only bypass testing to support downstream analyses, and (3) a plant-specific head loss test, including chemical effects, for Wolf Creek. During the visit, the staff provided feedback on the testing and discussed technical issues with representatives from the licensees, vendors, and NRC headquarters staff on a conference call.

### Meeting with the Duke-Energy to Discuss use of Polyethylene Piping in the Essential Service Water System

On January 17, 2008, the staff met with representatives from Duke-Energy to discuss remaining issues in the review of a request for approval to replace portions of the essential service water system at Catawba with polyethylene piping. This relief request is based on a draft ASME Code Case on use of polyethylene piping in buried piping applications. The staff discussed a number of issues including visual examination criteria, qualification of the joint fusion procedure, and verification of joint quality through in-process destructive examination of joints.

### Congressional Briefing Concerning Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station License Renewal Application

On January 17, 2008, staff members from NRR, Office of Congressional Affairs, and Office of the General Counsel, went to Capitol Hill to brief staffers from the offices of Vermont Senators Sanders and Leahy on a January 8, 2008, public meeting between the NRC and Entergy/Vermont Yankee. The NRC staff provided an overview of the public meeting, which was conducted to discuss the calculations and methodology used by Vermont Yankee to address time-limited aging analysis for metal fatigue in its license renewal application.

### Government to Government Meetings Concerning Three Mile Island Unit 1 License Renewal Application

On January 17 and 18, 2008, the staff held government to government meetings with a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and the Borough of Middletown, Pennsylvania, to discuss the TMI, Unit 1, license renewal application review process. The staff also met with an interested member of the public to discuss the TMI, Unit 1, license renewal application review process.

### Corrective Action Program Owners Group Meeting

On January 21 and 22, 2008, the staff attended the Corrective Action Program Owners Group (CAPOG) meeting to discuss topics related to Problem Identification and Resolution (PI&R) inspections, interfaces between the reactor oversight process safety culture activities and licensee corrective action program, and development of a generic industry definition for a significant condition adverse to quality. CAPOG is an external industry group that includes representatives from U.S. and international licensees, nuclear vendors, and the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO). The meeting, hosted by Pacific Gas and Electric, was held in the vicinity of Diablo Canyon nuclear plant. These meetings are held every six months and rotate through the regions.

Office of New Reactors (NRO)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 25, 2008

AP1000 DC Amendment and Bellefonte Reference Combined License Acceptance Letters

On Friday, January 18, 2008, the NRC issued acceptance letters to both Westinghouse and Tennessee Valley Authority stating that their applications are acceptable for review. Each letter notes significant review issues.

Calvert Cliffs Combined Operating License (COL) Application Part 1 Acceptance Letter

By letter dated January 25, 2008, the NRC accepted for docketing a partial application for a new reactor at the Calvert Cliffs site. The partial application included the environmental report (ER), as well as additional information that must accompany the first part of any COL application as required by 10 CFR 2.101(a)(5). The partial application was submitted on July 13, 2007, and supplemented on July 16, August 2, September 11, October 30, December 14, 2007, and January 14, 2008. The staff has established the milestone of March 19, 2008, for the site audit and public scoping meeting as part of the ER review. The second and final part of the COL application is expected to be submitted by the end of March 2008. When submitted, the staff will undertake an acceptance review of that part of the application, and will issue a more complete schedule for the review of the full COL application.

Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 25, 2008

Publication of Proposed Rule to Improve Decommissioning Planning

On January 22, 2008, a proposed rule was published in the *Federal Register* (73 FR 3812) to amend regulations to prevent future legacy sites. Under changes to 10 CFR 20.1406 and 20.1501, the proposed rule would require all NRC licensees to minimize the introduction of residual radioactivity into their site, including in the subsurface, and to record subsurface contamination surveys with the records important for decommissioning under 10 CFR 30.35, 40.36, 50.75, 70.25, and 72.30. Decommissioning financial assurance amendments also are proposed. The changes to regulations are proposed following NRC staff recommendations to prevent the occurrence of future legacy sites, which are sites in a decommissioning status with insufficient funds to complete the decommissioning work.

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 25, 2008

Safety Margins Assessment and Application (SM2A) Task Group Meeting

On January 17 and 18, the staff hosted the first meeting of the SM2A task group. The Committee on the Safety of Nuclear Installations of the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) has charged this group with evaluating the methodology for integrating risk and safety margins. Twelve organizations from ten countries, as well as representatives from NEA and the International Atomic Energy Agency, attended the meeting. The group agreed on testing the change in margins that would be possible under the proposed 10CFR50.46a rule. Specifically, the group will examine a potential 10% power uprate that would be effected in a Zion-like pressurized water reactor.

Meeting of the Federal Advisory Committee on Water Information Subcommittee on Hydrology

On January 24, RES and Office of New Reactors (NRO) staff participated in the quarterly meeting of the federal Advisory Committee on Water Information Subcommittee on Hydrology (SOH) at the Department of Interior, Washington, DC. The subcommittee discussed the need to re-examine extreme-storm-event databases and confirm extreme-storm-event methodologies. The NRC staff representatives agreed to host the initial meeting of the SOH Task Force on Extreme Storm Events. Also discussed was the impact of severe drought conditions on water-availability estimates for the southeastern U.S. Atlanta, Georgia was identified as a possible venue for a meeting to discuss analyses of water availability and local and regional impacts of drought. Both topics are of considerable interest to NRO staff in contributing to the bases of technical analyses for Early Site Plan reviews.



Office of Administration (ADM)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 25, 2008

Decommissioning Planning (AH45 – Parts 20, 30, 40, 50, 70, and 72)

On January 22, 2008, the NRC published a proposed rule in the *Federal Register* (73 FR 3812) that would amend its regulations to improve decommissioning planning. The proposed amendments are intended to reduce the possibility that any current operating facility would become a legacy site. The proposed amendments would require licensees to conduct their operations in a manner that minimizes the introduction of residual radioactivity into the site, including subsurface soil and groundwater. The comment period for this action closes April 7, 2008.

Office of Information Services (OIS)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 25, 2008

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of January 18, 2008 through January 24, 2008:

Investigation of PECO Energy (now Exelon) of violations of nuclear and other safety related activities, 1999/2000	FOIA/PA-2008-0102
Companies licensed to perform radiography in the State of Michigan	FOIA/PA-2008-0103
Authority to Operate memorandum for the Enterprise Digital Document Management System dated April 3, 2007	FOIA/PA-2008-0104
Receipt of Smith & Wesson 357 Magnum revolvers by NRC, August 1997; special agent, Office of Investigations, participated in joint task force on fasteners/fittings with other agencies, July 1971-1993 (Referral by DOD)	FOIA/PA-2008-0105

January 25, 2008

ENCLOSURE H

Office of the Secretary (SECY)  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending January 25, 2008

<b>Document Released to Public</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Subject</b>
<b>Decision Documents</b>		
1. Memorandum on SECY-07-0078	01/24/08	Options and Recommendations for the Responsibility of Future Replenishment of Potassium Iodide
Commission Voting Record on SECY-07-0078	01/24/08	(same)
<b>Information Papers</b>		
1. SECY-08-0010	01/18/08	Weekly Information Report – Week Ending January 11, 2008

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congressman Bart Gordon, dated January 17, 2008, responds to letter regarding an application from EnergySolutions, Inc., to import approximately 20,000 tons of radioactive waste from Italy.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, notice of 549<sup>th</sup> meeting (February 7-9, 2008).
2. Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste and Materials (ACNW&M), Meeting on Planning and Procedures, notice of meeting (February 12, 2008).
3. ACNW&M, notice of 186<sup>th</sup> meeting (February 12-14, 2008).
4. Independent External Review Panel to Identify Vulnerabilities in the NRC's Materials Licensing Program, notice of meeting (February 08, 2008).

Region IV (RIV)  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending January 25, 2008

Senior Management Change at Diablo Canyon Power Plant

On January 23, 2008, Ms. Donna Jacobs, the Diablo Canyon Vice President of Nuclear Services, announced her resignation. Ms. Jacobs' resignation will be effective February 1, 2008.

Entergy Operations, Inc., Executive Management Announcement

On January 23, 2008, Entergy announced that Ms. Donna Jacobs will join Entergy Nuclear in Jackson, Mississippi as Senior Vice President of Planning, Development and Oversight, effective March 3, 2008.