

April 6, 2000

SECY-00-0079

For: The Commissioners
From: James L. Blaha, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
/RA/
Subject: SECY-00-0079 WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK
ENDING MARCH 31, 2000

Contents

Enclosure

Nuclear Reactor Regulation	A
Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards	B
Nuclear Regulatory Research	C
Incident Response Operations	D
General Counsel	E*
Administration	F
Chief Information Officer	G
Chief Financial Officer	H*
Human Resources	I
Small Business & Civil Rights	J*
Enforcement	K*
State Program	L*
Public Affairs	M
International Programs	N
Office of the 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/

James L. Blaha
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
J. Shea, OEDO

April 6, 2000

SECY-00-0079

For: The Commissioners
From: James L. Blaha, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO
Subject: SECY-00-0079 WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK
ENDING MARCH 31, 2000

Contents

Enclosure

Nuclear Reactor Regulation	A
Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards	B
Nuclear Regulatory Research	C
Incident Response Operations	D
General Counsel	E*
Administration	F
Chief Information Officer	G
Chief Financial Officer	H*
Human Resources	I
Small Business & Civil Rights	J*
Enforcement	K*
State Program	L*
Public Affairs	M
International Programs	N
Office of the 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/

James L. Blaha
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
J. Shea, OEDO

DISTRIBUTION:

Central File

Public

Document Name: C:\WIR\WEEK331.WPD

OEDO

AO/OEDO

JShea:paa

JBlaha

04/ /00

04/ /00

WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING MARCH 31, 2000

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

Contact: J. Shea, OEDO by E-mail: jws1@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.

OFFICE	Page	OFFICE	Page
NRR	2	OSP	*
NMSS	4	OPA	17
RES	8	IP	18
IRO	9	SECY	19
OGC	*	Region I	20
ADM	10	Region II	21
CIO	11	Region III	22
CFO	*	Region IV	23
HR	15	OEDO	*
SB/CR	*	OCA	24
OE	*		

*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 31, 2000

Indian Point 2

Con Edison has announced their intent to begin immediate preparations to enter the refueling outage which had been planned for late May. The plant has been in cold shutdown to conduct steam generator tube inspections after a tube failure occurred in the No. 24 steam generator on February 15, 2000. Based on examinations completed as of March 23, Con Edison classified the inspection results for steam generators 21 and 24 to be in Category C-3 of Technical Specification 4.13. This requires Con Edison to obtain NRC approval prior to startup. Con Edison does not plan to issue a press release.

Vermont Yankee - Petition for Leave to Intervene and Request for Hearing

The State of Vermont and the Citizens Awareness Network, Inc., have filed separate Petitions for Leave to Intervene and Requests for Hearing in the matter of Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation's request to transfer the license for Vermont Yankee to AmerGen Vermont LLC. The review of the license transfer is ongoing.

Reactor Oversight Process Improvements

The Screening Meetings for the current assessment process for non pilot plants for each region were completed on March 22, 2000. The IIPB staff supported the Screening Meetings for all Regions. All regions performed their reviews in accordance with the guidance for the May 2000 Senior Management Meeting preparations issued on February 29, 2000.

The Inspection Program Branch conducted the last revised reactor oversight process public workshop in Region I from March 21-23, 2000. At this workshop, headquarters and regional representatives focused on the key attributes of the new oversight process and the associated program documents, and answered questions from the audience. Many representatives from utility, industry, State, NRC, and members of the public attended the workshop.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 31, 2000

International Workshop on Safeguarding Nuclear Materials

During the week of March 20, 2000, staff members from the Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards and the Spent Fuel Project Office attended an international workshop on protecting nuclear materials in transit or storage against sabotage. The meeting was hosted by the French Institute for Nuclear Safety and Protection, in Fontenay-aux-Roses, France. Representatives from France, the United Kingdom, Germany, and the United States (Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Department of Energy) participated in the meeting. The meeting provided a forum to exchange information and to identify generic research that could enhance the security of nuclear materials against radiological sabotage during land transport and storage. The representatives developed a draft charter, which is expected to be approved within the next six months.

International Verification of Excess Fissile Material

On March 21-22, 2000, a Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards staff member participated with U.S., Russian, and International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) officials in meetings held at IAEA Headquarters in Vienna, Austria, to develop a model agreement for international verification of excess fissile material. Formerly known as the Trilateral Initiative, this joint effort between the U.S., Russia, and the IAEA was started in 1996 to address the IAEA verification of fissile materials deemed excess to defense needs by the two countries. A major goal has been the completion of discussions by the three sides to develop the model agreement before the Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference, which will begin April 24, 2000. It appears that the three sides will be able to reach agreement in time to support the April 24 conference.

Standard Review Plans for Spent Fuel

NUREG-1617, "Standard Review Plan for Transportation Packages for Spent Nuclear Fuel," was published on March 28, 2000. NUREG-1567, "Standard Review Plan for Spent Fuel Dry Storage Facilities, Final Report, was issued and published effective March 29, 2000.

On March 29, 2000, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) published "Reexamination of Spent Fuel Shipment Risk Estimates," NUREG/CR-6672, SAND2000-0234. The Reexamination evaluates the risks associated with anticipated truck and rail transport of spent fuel under both routine and accident conditions, and concludes that these risks are small. The Main Report, Volume 1, prepared for the Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) by Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) has been printed in hard copy. Due to color duplication costs, Volume 2, Appendices, is being distributed only on compact disk (CD). The Volume 1 and the CD containing Volumes 1 and 2 are being widely distributed. Both Volumes will be available on NRC's and other web sites. SFPO and SNL staff are preparing a brochure for the public that summarizes the Reexamination.

Issuance of Final Rule

On March 28, 2000, the final rule adding Certificate of Compliance No. 1004, Amendment No. 1, for the NUHOMS spent fuel storage system to the list of approved casks was published in the Federal Register (65 FR 16299). The effective date of the amendment is April 27, 2000. As of that date, the NUHOMS storage system, as amended, will be available for use by holders of 10 CFR Part 50 power reactor operating licenses under the general license provisions of 10 CFR 72.210.

The certificate has been revised to: (1) correct the canister shell welds minimum weld thickness; (2) correct the expiration date of the certificate from the present "(20 years after the final rule effective date)" to "January 23, 2015"; (3) correct the title of the NUHOMS Safety Analysis Report to be consistent with the approach the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) proposed for the new Section 72.248; (4) revise the certificate to reflect the transfer of the certificate from VECTRA Technologies, Inc. to Transnuclear West, Inc. (TN West); (5) specify the applicability of Amendment No. 0 and add Amendment No. 1 to this certificate; and (6) revise and reformat the certificate to be consistent with the NRC's current format and layout for 10 CFR Part 72 certificates.

High-Level Waste Disposal Criticality Technical Exchange

On March 22, 2000, staff from the Division of Waste Management and the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses (Center) met with representatives from the Department of Energy (DOE)/Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office to discuss the draft Safety Evaluation Report (SER) on the Disposal Criticality Analysis Methodology Topical Report. In its evaluation of the Topical Report, the staff focused on the methodology, modeling, and validation approach. Burnup credit is part of DOE's approach in designing the criticality control system for the waste disposal packages. The staff presented its evaluation findings on the Topical Report and agreed to consider additional information which DOE is planning to submit prior to issuing the final SER. This additional information, such as an approach for burnup verification measurement, will be evaluated before finalizing all the Open Items documented in the draft SER.

Quality Assurance Observation/Surveillance of the Data Verification Process for the Department of Energy's High-Level Waste Program

During March 20-24, 2000, staff from the Division of Waste Management observed all aspects of the Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Quality Assurance (OQA) surveillance of the data qualification/verification process. The purpose of this surveillance was to confirm the adequacy of the corrective actions associated with data traceability and procurement deficiencies initially documented in Corrective Action Request (CAR) 98-002. As a result of this surveillance, the staff generally concluded that the Analysis Model Reports and Process Model Reports (PMRs) data verification process was being effectively performed and that DOE's sampling plan for data re-verification was being appropriately implemented. No deficiencies were identified. Based on the results of the previous PMR audits and the successful outcome of this surveillance, a recommendation was made by OQA to close CAR 98-002.

March 31, 2000

ENCLOSURE B

Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 31, 2000

Public Meeting with NEI and EPRI on High Burnup Fuel Issues

On March 30, 2000, industry presented a proposed guide for establishing criteria for fuel burnup extensions beyond 62 GWd/t burnup. The proposed guide incorporates a four-stage review process that (I) looks at current regulatory limits and evaluation models, (II) performs a screening evaluation to see if there are burnup effects, (III) performs a burnup-effects evaluation when needed, and (IV) establishes new baselines for regulatory limits and evaluation models for the extended burnup range. According to the presentations, Stage III will use the NRC PIRT activity being conducted by RES as the basis for the industry's review.

PIRTs are Phenomena Identification and Ranking Tables that are being developed to provide a structured way to a technical understanding of certain issues. About 20 of the world's best technical experts are participating in this activity, and the experts represent industry (including several participants at the March 30 meeting), universities, and foreign research and regulatory organizations. The first PIRT activity, which is nearing completion, addressed a postulated PWR rod-ejection accident. Other PIRTs will address BWR power oscillations without SCRAM and loss-of-coolant accidents, all of which are required to be analyzed in plant safety analyses. RES staff also presented a summary of efforts to reduce excess conservatism in the decay heat curve and the metal-water reaction model specified in Appendix K to 10 CFR Part 50 for analysis of loss-of-coolant accidents.

Presentations to ACRS on Technical Basis for Revising PTS Rule, 10 CFR 50.61

On March 15-16, RES staff in materials engineering, probabilistic risk assessment, and thermal-hydraulics made presentations to the ACRS Subcommittees on progress made on re-evaluating the technical basis for a risk-informed revision to the pressurized thermal shock (PTS) rule, 10 CFR 50.61.

On March 15, presentations were made by thermal-hydraulics staff and their contractors on thermal-hydraulics (T-H) inputs to the re-evaluation effort, T-H computer code (RELAP5, TRAC) capabilities, and planned experimental work at Oregon State University's APEX-CE test facility. Tests at the APEX facility will evaluate and benchmark the computer code predictions and help establish global parameters that can be used to assess T-H fluid mixing, thermal-stratification, and loop stagnation in a PWR downcomer under potential PTS transient loading conditions. On March 16, presentations were on probabilistic fracture mechanics (PFM) issues, potential PTS event identification, and risk acceptance and uncertainty criteria.

The next major milestone in the project will be development of generalized flaw distributions and release of the revised PFM computer code, FAVOR, in June 2000. The technical basis re-evaluation effort is planned to be completed by December 2001.

The ACRS subcommittee members were highly supportive of the integrated (PRA, T-H, and PFM) PTS assessment approach, and were appreciative of the staff's attempt to systematically treat the uncertainties in a comprehensive manner.

March 31, 2000

ENCLOSURE C

Draft Regulatory Guide on Emergency Planning and Preparedness

A proposed Revision 4 to Regulatory Guide 1.101, "Emergency Planning and Preparedness for Nuclear Power Reactors," has been issued. This revision would endorse the Nuclear Energy Institute's (NEI's) guidance in NEI 99-01 (Draft Final Revision 4, February 2000), "Methodology for Development of Emergency Action Levels," as an alternative method for developing emergency action levels that are required in the NRC's regulations. Emergency action levels are used to provide reasonable assurance that adequate protective measures can and will be taken in the event of a radiological emergency.

March 31, 2000

ENCLOSURE C

Incident Response Operations
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 31, 2000

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-I-00-008, Consolidated Edison Co. (Indian Point Unit 2), INDIAN POINT 2 STEAM GENERATOR OUTAGE EXTENDED TO CONDUCT REFUELING
2. PNO-II 00-016, J.B. Coxwell Contracting, Inc., STOLEN PORTABLE MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE

March 31, 2000

ENCLOSURE D

Office of Administration
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 31, 2000

Media-streaming Services

On March 27, 2000, the Division of Contracts and Property Management awarded a purchase order to Streampipe.Com under a competitive 100% small business set-aside in the amount of \$60,800 for media-streaming services. Under this pilot project, the contractor is required to capture audio and video content of Commission meetings from the Commission Hearing Room, encode the content, and transmit the content to the contractor's technical infrastructure from which it will be made available to the public free of charge. The contractor will provide all personnel, hardware, software, and telecommunication services to achieve complete and clear streaming of these meetings via the Internet to a world-wide audience of Internet users. The period of performance for this pilot project is one year. Streamlining initiatives utilized for this procurement are as follows: use of simplified acquisition procedures; waiver of the Commerce Business Daily (CBD) notice; limited competition to known small businesses; electronic transmittal of the statement of work; and the use of simplified evaluation criteria.

Novation Agreement

On March 16, 2000, NRC entered into a Novation Agreement with Scientech, Inc. (Transferor), and Information Systems Laboratories, Inc. (Transferee), which recognizes ISL as the successor-in-interest to Scientech, Inc. for contracts: NRC-03-95-026 entitled, "Technical Assistance in Support of the Systems and Engineering Programs and Activities of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation;" NRC-04-97-039, "RELAP5 Thermal-Hydraulic Code Maintenance;" NRC-04-94-045, "Elimination of Requirements Marginal to Safety;" and NRC-04-96-060, "Maintenance of TRAC-BWR Thermal-Hydraulic Simulation Computer Code for Reactor Transients." Modifications to the aforementioned contracts were also executed on March 16, 2000, to incorporate the Novation Agreement and revise other provisions to reflect ISL as the successor in interest.

Management Directive and Handbook 11.1

On March 29, 2000, the EDO approved Management Directive (MD) and Handbook 11.1, "NRC Acquisition of Supplies and Services." MD 11.1 was revised to incorporate: 1) streamlining innovations resulting from NRC Procurement Reinvention Laboratory initiatives; 2) the major Federal Acquisition Regulation Part 15 re-write; 3) the streamlined simplified acquisition process; 4) the updated text which reflects the recently revised Nuclear Regulatory Commission Acquisition Regulation; 5) Agency organizational changes; 6) guidance for terminating contractor access to NRC facilities, LAN, and information systems when it is no longer required; and, 7) information related to prevention and reporting of fraud in the procurement process.

Revision of Fee Schedules; 100% Fee Recovery, FY 2000 (Parts 170 and 171)

A proposed rule that would revise Parts 170 and 171 to ensure NRC compliance with the Omnibus Budget and Reconciliation Act of 1990 was published in the Federal Register on March 27, 2000 (65 FR 16250). The Act mandates that the NRC recover approximately 100

March 31, 2000

ENCLOSURE F

percent of its budget authority in Fiscal Year 1999, less amounts appropriated from the Nuclear Waste Fund and the General Fund. The amount to be recovered for FY 2000 is approximately \$447 million. The comment period on this action closes April 26, 2000.

List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: NUHOMS 24-P and NUHOMS 52-B, Revision (Part 72)

A final rule that amends the information provided for the NUHOMS 24-P and NUHOMS 52-B cask designs in the list of approved spent fuel storage casks was published in the Federal Register on March 28, 2000 (65 FR 16299). The amendment allows holders of nuclear power plant operating licenses to store spent fuel in the this approved cask system under a general license. The final rule becomes effective April 27, 2000.

March 31, 2000

ENCLOSURE F

Chief Information Officer
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 31, 2000

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the 5-Day Period of
March 24, 2000 through March 30, 2000:

Individual, OI reports 3-1999-034; 3-1999-012; & 3-1999-033, and supporting documents.
(FOIA/PA 2000-0180)

Turkey Point, Florida Power & Light Co., endangered & threatened species, 1996 through 1999
and all camera documentation since 1972. (FOIA/PA 2000-0181)

Crystal River, Florida Power & Light Co., endangered & threatened species, 1996 through
1999, and all camera documentation since 1977. (FOIA/PA 2000-0182)

Pilgrim, Entergy and/or Boston Edison Co., endangered & threatened species, 1996 through
1999, and all camera documentation since 1972. (FOIA/PA 2000-0183)

Millstone, Northeast Utilities, endangered & threatened species, 1996 through 1999, all camera
documentation since 1972. (FOIA/PA 2000-0184)

Seabrook, North Atlantic Energy Services, endangered & threatened species, 1996 through
1999, and camera documentation since 1991. (FOIA/PA 2000-0185)

Degradation of BWR internals & evaluations of the degradation for the period 1/1/99 through
2/8/00 covering INEL (Idaho National Engineering & Environment Laboratory); NRR; and RES.
(FOIA/PA 2000-0186)

Office of Human Resources
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 31, 2000

Y2K Recognition Ceremony Held for Headquarters Employees

On March 29, 2000, a Y2K Recognition Ceremony was held in the TWFN Auditorium for Headquarters employees. The ceremony recognized Headquarters employees who contributed to the NRC effort to ensure a safe Year 2000 transition in the nuclear industry. The keynote speaker was John Koskinen, Assistant to the President and Chair of the President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion. Separate ceremonies are to be held in the regional offices to recognize their employees.

Retirements		
BARCHI, Thomas	ASSISTANT INSPECTOR GENERAL	OIG
CHASE, Leigh	PERSONNEL SECURITY SPECIALIST	ADM
OBERG, Carl	HEALTH PHYSICIST	RI
Departures		
BADINI, James	FISCAL ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT	OCFO
LANDAU, Robert	AUDIOVISUAL PRODUCTION SPECIALIST	ADM
MEDLIN, Cynthia	ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY	OIG

Office of Public Affairs
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 31, 2000

Media Interest

Pacifica News inquired about the performance record of Entergy Operations in Regions I and IV.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
00-52	NRC Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards to Meet in Rockville, Maryland, on April 5-7
00-53	Note to Editors: Letter to Owner of Envirocare of Utah
00-54	NRC Seeking Comments on Public Document Room Services Being Relocated From Washington, D.C. to Rockville, Maryland
00-55	NRC to Expand Use of Revised Reactor Oversight Process
Regions:	
II-00-15	NRC Staff to Review Westinghouse Performance at Nuclear Fuel Plant Near Columbia, South Carolina on March 31
III-00-15	NRC Chairman Richard A. Meserve to Hold News Conference on April 5 Following Visit to Perry Nuclear Power Station
IV-00-7	NRC, Kerr Environmental Center to Discuss Apparent Violations

Office of International Programs
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 31, 2000

Visit of Chairman William Makgoba, South Africa

Dr. William Makgoba, Chairman of the Board, National Nuclear Regulator of South Africa, visited the NRC to sign the first renewal of our nuclear safety cooperation and technical exchange Arrangement. Additionally, he met with the Commissioners to express the value that our bilateral activities have been to the South African regulatory organization and to obtain our views on the regulatory challenges of licensing a Pebble-bed, modular gas reactor. Earlier in the week he attended the Regulatory Information Conference.

Visit of NEA Officials

NEA representatives Gianni Frescura and Barry Kaufer met with the Director of the Office of International Programs to discuss several upcoming cooperative activities which are of high priority to the NRC. A written proposal was presented for continuing the Nuclear Emergency Warning System, and is available for information. The general status of plans for conducting the NEA Workshop on Public Trust and the Workshop on Safety in the Nuclear Fuel Cycle were discussed. Both of these workshops involve participation by high level representatives of the NRC. There was also a brief exchange of opinions concerning future developments regarding the MOU/Coordination with IAEA and INRA.

Office of the Secretary
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 31, 2000

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SECY-00-0035	2/11/00	Public Confidence Survey
SRM on 00-0035	3/27/00	(same)
Comm. Voting Record on 00-0035	3/27/00	(same)
2. SRM on SECY-00-0047	3/27/00	Draft Regulatory Guide Providing Guidance and Examples for Identifying 10 CFR 50.2 Design Bases
Comm. Voting Record on 00-0047	3/27/00	(same)
3. SRM on SECY-00-0049 (Part 1)	3/28/00	Results of the Revised Reactor Oversight Process Pilot Program (Part 1)
4. SRM on SECY-00-0007	3/31/00	Proposed Staff Plan for Low Power and Shutdown Risk Analysis Research to Support Risk-Informed Regulatory Decision Making
Comm. Voting Record on 00-0007	3/31/00	(same)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-00-0064	3/13/00	Equal Employment Opportunity Briefing
2. SECY-00-0073	3/23/00	SECY-00-0073 Weekly Information Report - Week Ending March 17, 2000
Memoranda		
1. M000324	3/27/00	Briefing on Evaluation of the Requirement for Licensee to Update Their Inservice Inspection and Inservice Testing Program Every 120 Months (SECY-00-0011)
2. M000330A	3/30/00	Staff Requirements - Affirmation Session, March 30, 2000 (SECY-00-0051, SECY-00-0065)

March 31, 2000

ENCLOSURE O

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Judith Melin, Swedish Nuclear Power Inspectorate (SKI), dated March 21, 2000, concerns informal continuation of nuclear safety cooperation while NRC and SKI actively negotiate a renewal information exchange and general cooperation arrangement.
2. Letter to Bill Owens, Governor of Colorado, dated March 22, 2000, concerns continued participation in the NRC's State Liaison Officer program.
3. Letter to Richard W Riley, Secretary of Education, dated March 22, 2000, submits Fiscal Year 2001 Annual Federal Plan of Executive Agency Actions to Assist Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).
4. Letter to Senator George V. Voinovich, dated March 22, 2000, concerns the announcement by the United States Enrichment Corporation to reduce its workforce at the Portsmouth and Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plants by 20 percent.
5. Letter to Congressman Ted Strickland, dated March 24, 2000, concerns recent downgrading in the credit rating of the United States Enrichment Corporation and a subsequent announcement by USEC to lay off 850 workers.
6. Letter to Congress, dated March 24, 2000, concerns revised application for the export of highly enriched uranium fuel to the High Flux Materials Testing Reactor at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre in Petten, The Netherlands (known as HFR Petten) .

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Washington Public Power Supply System (Nuclear Project No. 1); Docket No. 50-460-OL; Memorandum and Order (Order to Show Cause).
2. ACRS Joint Meeting of the Subcommittees on Materials and Metallurgy and on Reliability and Probabilistic Risk Assessment; Notice of Meeting.
3. ACRS Joint Meeting of the Subcommittees on Plant Operations and on Reliability and Probabilistic Risk Assessment; Notice of Meeting.

March 31, 2000

ENCLOSURE O

Region I
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 31, 2000

NYPA Sells FitzPatrick and Indian Point Unit 3 to Entergy

On March 28, 2000, the New York Power Authority (NYPA) announced that its Board of Trustees approved the sale of the FitzPatrick and Indian Point Unit 3 nuclear plants to Entergy Corp. The licensee expects to complete the sale in October 2000.

Indian Point 2 to Enter Refueling Outage

On March 29, 2000 the augmented inspection team (AIT), following up on that event, held a public exit meeting with the licensee to present its findings. The NRC responded to questions from members of the public after the meeting with ConEd.

Meeting with Materials Licensee

Representatives of Region I and NMSS' Division of Waste Management met on March 27, 2000, with II-VI, Inc. (License No. STA-1455) to discuss the licensee's request for disposal of filtercake containing small amounts of thorium pursuant to 10 CFR 20.2002. The meeting was held at NRC HQ, to discuss the technical evaluation of the proposed disposal, and the disposal options acceptable to the NRC. II-VI Inc. manufactures specialty crystals for the laser industry. One of the product lines includes a thorium coating of certain components. The filtercake results from filtration of liquid effluent to remove zinc, selenium, and other metal fines that are produced during wet-grinding and polishing operations, prior to disposal to the public sewage treatment facility.

Region II
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 31, 2000

Regulatory Information Conference

On March 27-29, 2000, the Regional Administrator and the Director of the Division of Reactor Safety attended the Regulatory Information Conference at the Capital Hilton Hotel in Washington, DC. The Region also had regional and resident inspectors attend as part of their development.

Southern Nuclear Operating Company - Vogtle Emergency Exercise

On March 29, Region II participated in the Vogtle Emergency Exercise. The Region II participation included a Base Team and a Site Team. The Deputy Regional Administrator was the Director of Site Operations for the Site Team.

U.S. Navy Master Material License, Vieques, Puerto Rico Navy Firing Range

The Division of Waste Management, NMSS assisted Region II in reviewing the Navy's plan to recover depleted uranium (DU) penetrators on the Vieques, Puerto Rico firing range. The Navy's survey work plan is sufficient to locate and retrieve the penetrators; however is not considered to be a complete decommissioning plan, which would be required for unrestricted release. The NRC's review was provided to the Navy on March 21, 2000. Region II provided a copy of the plan and the NRC's review to the Secretary of Health in Puerto Rico on March 23, 2000.

Westinghouse Electric Corporation - Licensee Performance Review

On March 31, 2000, the Deputy Regional Administrator the Director of the Division of Nuclear Materials Safety in Region II and the Deputy Director, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards in NMSS held a public meeting with representatives of the Westinghouse Electric Company, Columbia Plant in Columbia, SC. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the results of the NRC's review of licensee performance for the period February 1998 through January 2000.

Region III
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 31, 2000

Paducah, Kentucky Predecisional Enforcement Conference

On March 30, 2000, the staff conducted a predecisional enforcement conference with representatives of USEC to discuss an alleged employment discrimination case at the company's Paducah, Kentucky site. Consistent with NRC policy for employment discrimination cases, the conference was closed to the public.

March 31, 2000

ENCLOSURE P

Region IV
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 31, 2000

Predecisional Enforcement Conference with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Region IV, OE and NMSS staff conducted an open, predecisional enforcement conference on March 31, 2000, with representatives of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Robert S. Kerr Research Center in Ada, Oklahoma. The purpose of the conference was to discuss apparent violations identified as the result of the NRC inspection conducted at that facility on January 18, 2000. The conference was attended by a representative of the State of Oklahoma.

Predecisional Enforcement Conference with Southwest X-Ray Corporation

Region IV and OE staff conducted a closed, predecisional enforcement conference with Southwest X-Ray Corporation on March 31, 2000. The purpose of the conference was to discuss an apparent violation identified during an NRC inspection completed on February 24, 2000.

Office of Congressional Affairs
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 31, 2000

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 10

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Combs	04/05/00 2123 RHOB	10:00	TBA	Uranium Mill Tailings Control Act Amendments, H.R. 2641	Reps. Barton/Boucher Energy and Power Commerce
Gerke	04/11 & 04/13 SD-366	10:00 9:30	TBA	Electricity Deregulation	Senators Murkowski/Bingaman Energy and Natural Resources
Combs	04/12/00 TBA	TBA	Dr. Paperiello, Corps of Engineers, DOE	FUSRAP	Senators Smith/Baucus Environment and Public Works
Combs	04/13/00 2322 RHOB	11:00	Dr. Paperiello, USEC, Treasury	Privatization of the USEC	Reps. Upton/Klink Oversight & Investigations Commerce
Rathbun	04/27/00 TBA	2:00	Commissioner McGaffigan	Confirmation	Senators Smith/Baucus Environment and Public Works
Gerke	05/03/00 2154 RHOB	10:00	TBA	Financial Management Act	Reps. Horn/Turner Gov't Mgmt, Info, & Technology Government Reform
Gerke	05/09/00 2154 RHOB	TBA	TBA	Effectiveness of GPRA	Reps. Horn/Turner Gov't Mgmt, Info, & Technology Government Reform

March 31, 2000

ENCLOSURE R