

# INFORMATION REPORT

March 8, 2001

SECY-01-0037

For: The Commissioners  
From: John W. Craig, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO  
Subject: SECY-01-0037 WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK  
ENDING MARCH 2, 2001

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\*No input this week.

/RA by Debra J. Corlay Acting For/

John W. Craig  
Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:  
J. Shea, OEDO

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## WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING MARCH 2, 2001

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: [jas@nrc.gov](mailto:jas@nrc.gov).

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\*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 2, 2001

Steam Generator Workshop

NRR's Materials and Chemical Engineering Branch hosted a steam generator workshop on February 27 and 28, 2001, in Bethesda, Maryland. This was conducted as part of the staff's activities under the Steam Generator Action Plan (SGAP). The workshop consisted of four sessions that covered the following topics: programmatic issues, NRC inspection oversight issues, eddy current test inspection technical issues, and tube integrity technical issues. Presentations were made in each of the four sessions by NRC, Institute of Nuclear Power Operations, Nuclear Energy Institute, Argonne National Laboratory, and industry representatives. The workshop included panel discussions held after each session which allowed for open discussions of various items of current interest to the agency, the industry, and other public stakeholders. The workshop attracted approximately 100 attendees representing utilities, Electric Power Research Institute, state agencies, private consultants, and public interest groups. The staff received positive feedback on the opportunity for information and discussion provided by the workshop. A summary of the workshop, including the panel discussions, will be issued shortly and placed on the SGAP web page.

Fuel Cladding Embrittlement during Loss-of-Coolant Accident

The staff met with representatives from Framatome on February 23, 2001, and from Westinghouse on February 26, 2001, to discuss the behavior of M5 and Zirlo fuel cladding materials, respectively, during loss-of-coolant accidents. Of particular interest was the oxidation and subsequent embrittlement of the cladding. The meetings were held as a result of several papers published since 1992 by European researchers which called into question the appropriateness of one of the NRC's fuel limits (the 17% oxidation limit), for a type of fuel cladding called E110, which is used in VVER-type (Russian designed) reactors. The researchers conducted tests on E110 which indicated increased embrittlement well below the oxidation limit. Because E110, M5, and Zirlo all contain about 1 percent Niobium, it was thought that M5 and Zirlo might exhibit behavior similar to E110. If this were the case, the NRC's approval of M5 and Zirlo may not have been consistent with the intent of 10 CFR 50.46, with respect to maintaining ductility at the 17 percent oxidation limit, which was originally established for Zircaloy-4.

At the two meetings, both Westinghouse and Framatome presented data to demonstrate that (1) the composition of their alloys is different from E110, in several significant aspects; (2) the performance of their alloys in reactor cores would result in lower hydrogen absorption than E110, and therefore the E110 tests, which showed high hydrogen uptake, were not appropriate for comparison to either M5 or Zirlo; and (3) the metallographic structure (morphology) of oxidized M5 and Zirlo is significantly different from E110. In addition, both vendors provided the staff with the results of ductility tests of their material and Zircaloy-4, which showed that the ductility of the new alloys as they oxidize up to the 17 percent limit follows closely the values of Zircaloy-4, and is significantly better than E110. Westinghouse indicated that their test information was preliminary and further confirmatory test data would be provided in May 2001. The staff will review the final Westinghouse data when it is submitted.

March 2, 2001

ENCLOSURE A

## Oconee Nuclear Station

On February 19, 2001, Oconee Unit 3 was being shut down to replace pressurizer relief valves when a visual inspection of the reactor vessel head found indications of a small amount of boron residue surrounding six control rod drive mechanism (CRDM) head penetrations. Consequently, the unit was brought to Mode 6 (Refueling) and the reactor vessel head removed. During plant operation, there was no indication by leakage detection instrumentation or by reactor heat balance calculations that any such leakage had existed. Ultrasonic testing of the six CRDM nozzles have been completed in both the axial and circumferential directions. Evaluation of the results is currently underway. Dye Penetrant testing of the welds and the nozzles below the welds has been completed and some unacceptable indications have been found, which are being evaluated. The results of eddy-current tests of the nozzles are also being evaluated. In addition to the six original boron indications, three additional CRDMs may have some evidence of boron residue and are being evaluated. In order to allow access for the non-destructive tests, 28 CRDMs have been temporarily removed. NRR, Region II, and the Resident Inspector are actively involved in resolution of the leaks and determining their generic applicability. Similar leakage was found and repaired on Unit 1 during its refueling outage that ended in January 2001, which was determined to be caused by primary water stress-corrosion cracking.

## Reactor Oversight Process

The IIPB staff provided support at the Region II Reactor Inspector Counterpart meeting on February 22, 2001. At this meeting the IIPB staff presented the key changes to the MC 0610\*, "Inspection Reports," and answered inspectors' questions regarding inspection report structure and content.

The NRC's ROP safety system unavailability (SSU) performance indicator focus group conducted a public meeting with NEI's focus group on the SSU performance indicator on February 22, 2001. The focus group discussed potential near-term improvements to the SSU indicators that will provide meaningful and appropriate indication of the availability of the monitored systems including development of common definitions.

The IIPB staff participated in the public meeting sponsored by the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research on the results of phase 1 development of risk-based performance indicators (RBPIs) on February 21, 2001. At this meeting, the IIPB staff provided an overview of the perspective on relationship of potential RBPIs to the ROP.

## Turkey Point License Renewal Application

On January 18, 2001, pursuant to the Commission order CLI-00-23, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board held a prehearing conference in Homestead, Florida, to hear arguments on the standing of petitioner Mark Oncavage and the admissibility of the contentions submitted by Mr. Oncavage and Joette Lorion. In a Memorandum and Order dated February 26, 2001, the Board ruled that both parties have standing to intervene; however, neither petitioner identified admissible contentions. Therefore, the Board concluded that the intervention petitions were denied and the hearing proceedings terminated.

March 2, 2001

ENCLOSURE A

NRC Regulatory Issue Summary 2001-07: 10 CFR 50.75(f)(1) Reports on the Status of Decommissioning Funds dated February 23, 2001

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission issued this regulatory issue summary (RIS) to clarify the reporting requirements of 10 CFR 50.75(f)(1) regarding the status of decommissioning funding.

Indian Point 3

On February 27, 2001, the staff issued a license amendment that replaced the Indian Point 3 technical specifications (TS) in their entirety with new TS based on the improved Standard Technical Specifications (iSTS). The licensee will implement the revised TS within 180 days. Issuance of this amendment completes an item in the Commission Tasking Memorandum.

With Indian Point 3, 54 units have converted to the iSTS. This number includes Watts Bar, which was originally licensed with the iSTS and Browns Ferry 1. The Zion units have never implemented their approved iSTS, therefore they are not counted among the 54 that have converted to the iSTS. Applications for 7 more units are expected, 19 units are undecided, and 10 have indicated that they will not be converting.

Fourteen applications for conversion to the iSTS are currently under review, including reviews for 6 units (Dresden, Quad Cities, and La Salle) that are near completion.

March 2, 2001

ENCLOSURE A

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 2, 2001

Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste Working Group on Yucca Mountain Chemistry Issues

On February 21-22, 2001, the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) held a working group meeting to review documents intended to support the Department of Energy's (DOE) Yucca Mountain Site Recommendation Considerations Report and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)/DOE issue resolution process. Staff from the Division of Waste Management participated in the meeting. The meeting is part of a "vertical slice review" of chemical issues impacting repository performance. The purpose of the meeting was to gather information, analyze relevant issues and facts, and to formulate proposed positions and actions for deliberation by the full ACNW Committee. The Working Group included Dr. Wymer (ACNW), consultants, and ACNW staff. The group discussed chemistry issues relating to the effect of the near-field environment on corrosion of the drip shield and waste package, waste form dissolution, and radionuclide transport. These topics are being addressed by the staff on the Evolution of the Near-Field, Container Life and Source Term, and Radionuclide Transport Key Technical Issue teams. Based on the vertical slice reviews, the ACNW will evaluate whether the NRC's issue resolution agreements and the information that the NRC is requesting of DOE is reasonable and appropriate, realistic, and whether a risk-based approach appears evident.

Observation Audit of the Department of Energy's Activities that Constitute Scientific Analyses and Models Pertaining to the Engineered Barrier System Process Model Report

On February 20-23, 2001, staff from the Division of Waste Management observed the Department of Energy's (DOE's), Office of Quality Assurance (OQA) audit of the Engineered Barrier System (EBS) Process Model Report (PMR). The audit was conducted at the Yucca Mountain project office in Las Vegas, Nevada. Two analysis model reports supporting the EBS PMR were selected for review during the audit. The scope of the audit included evaluating the technical adequacy of the analyses, models, data, and software. Also, the audit evaluated the extent to which the analyses, models, data, and software were prepared in accordance with applicable procedures. Two potential deficiencies were identified and two NRC Audit Observer Inquiries requesting clarification and information were generated. DOE's OQA stated that the deficiencies will be further evaluated to determine if they represent recurrent problems.

Public Meeting on Dry Cask Storage at San Onofre

On February 22, 2001, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) management and staff conducted a meeting in San Clemente, California, to provide information to the general public on the licensing and inspection processes used to certify the Advanced NUHOMS dry cask storage system for use at San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station. In addition, representatives from Southern California Edison (SCE) presented an overview of the cask system and storage location. At the conclusion of the presentations both NRC and SCE responded to the public's questions.

March 2, 2001

ENCLOSURE B

### Certification of Model No. NPC Package for the Transport of Uranium Oxide Powder

On February 23, 2001, the Spent Fuel Project Office issued Certificate of Compliance No. 9294 for the Model No. NPC package, designed for the transport of low-enriched uranium oxide powder. The package is cubic in shape, about 45 inches on a side, with a stainless steel outer shell and rigid polyurethane foam filler. The uranium oxide is contained within nine stainless steel vessels that incorporate neutron moderator and poison materials for criticality control. The gross weight of the package (packaging and contents) is 1,293 kg (2,850 pounds) with a maximum load of uranium oxide powder of 540 kg (1,190 pounds). The package will be used by Global Nuclear Fuel - Americas, LLC, in Wilmington, North Carolina, primarily for the shipment of uranium oxide powder to Japan.

### Final Assessment Report for the Centralized Interim Storage Facility Topical Safety Analysis Report Issued

On February 26, 2001, Spent Fuel Project Office issued the Final Assessment Report for the Centralized Interim Storage Facility Topical Safety Analysis Report (TSAR). This completed a review which began in May 1997 with the receipt of the TSAR from the Department of Energy, and which utilized the services of the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses. Because the TSAR was not site-specific and was lacking certain specific detailed information, a complete review addressing all of the pertinent Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations was not possible and an assessment report was issued instead of a Safety Evaluation Report.

### Meeting with Exelon Regarding Dresden Part 72 Exemptions

On February 27, 2001, the Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) held a public meeting with Exelon Generation Company, LLC (Exelon) to discuss the need for a number of recently submitted exemption requests at the Dresden independent spent fuel storage installation. The meeting was held at the request of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to ensure that the staff understands the reasons the exemptions are needed and the operational basis for the requested processing urgency. In the meeting Exelon provided details describing why the exemptions are needed to prevent loss of full core offload capability prior to the fall 2001 Unit 2 refueling outage. Exelon also indicated that a lack of understanding of the processes and the extent of NRC technical review contributed to the need for expedited processing. SFPO indicated that the Dresden exemption requests are defined as a very high priority work item and that resources will have to be reprogrammed from currently scheduled casework to process the requests. No regulatory decisions or commitments were made at the meeting.

### Proposed Rule Signed by the Executive Director for Operations

On March 1, 2001, the Executive Director for Operations approved a proposed rule that amends 10 CFR Part 72.214, "List of approved spent fuel storage casks" revising the Holtec International HI-STAR 100 cask system listing within the list of approved spent fuel storage casks. This amendment will allow the holders of power reactor operating licenses to store spent fuel in the approved cask under a general license.

The proposed rule can be found in ADAMS at ML010300268.

March 2, 2001

ENCLOSURE B



Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 2, 2001

MOU Extended Between NRC and EPRI on Cooperative Nuclear Safety Research

On February 16, 2001, Mr. Ashok C. Thadani, Director of the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES), met with Mr. Theodore U. Marston, Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), to sign an addendum to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the NRC and EPRI on Cooperative Nuclear Safety Research. The NRC and EPRI both conduct research associated with nuclear technology. Although the goals of the NRC and EPRI research programs differ in many respects, the basic data and technical information obtained through joint research can be useful to each organization in appropriate cases. Accordingly, to conserve resources and to avoid duplication, it is in the best interest of both parties to cooperate and share information and costs related to such research, whenever cooperation and cost sharing can be done in a mutually beneficial fashion. This addendum extends the effective period of the MOU to September 30, 2003.

Mr. Thadani and Mr. Marston, along with staff from both organizations, also discussed potential future cooperative research topics and ways to improve future cooperative efforts. The future research topics discussed included steam generator tube integrity, cable aging, high burnup fuel, dry cask storage, risk-informed regulation, and advanced reactor designs. There was general agreement to further enhance cooperation, where appropriate.

Draft Regulatory Guide on Evaluating the Habitability of a Control Room

RES has issued DG-1087, "Evaluating the Habitability of a Nuclear Power Plant Control Room During a Postulated Hazardous Chemical Release," which is a proposed Revision 1 to Regulatory Guide 1.78. This revision is being developed to provide guidance on evaluating control room habitability during a postulated hazardous chemical release, including chlorine. It is being developed to update specifications of toxicity limits, to bring risk insights into the evaluation process, and to make the guidance more performance-based. DG-1087 also proposes to incorporate and withdraw Regulatory Guide 1.95, "Protection of Nuclear Power Plant Control Room Operators Against an Accidental Chlorine Release," since many regulatory positions in these two guides are the same or similar.

Draft Regulatory Guide on Site Investigations for Nuclear Power Plants

RES has issued Draft Regulatory Guide DG-1101, a proposed Revision 2 of Regulatory Guide 1.132, "Site Investigations for Foundations of Nuclear Power Plants." This revision is being developed to describe methods acceptable to the NRC staff for conducting field investigations to acquire the data on geological and engineering characteristics of a site needed for a nuclear power plant site application.

Withdrawal of Regulatory Guide 8.14

RES has withdrawn Regulatory Guide 8.14, "Personnel Neutron Dosimeters." The guide was withdrawn because it endorsed an outdated ANSI standard and because regulations now require licensees to have an adequate dosimetry program.

March 2, 2001

ENCLOSURE C

Incident Response Operations  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 2, 2001

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-II-01-010, GE Inspection Services, POTENTIAL RADIOGRAPHER OVEREXPOSURE.
2. PNO-III-01-006, IMCO Recycling of Ohio, Inc., DEPLETED URANIUM CONTAMINATION IN ALUMINUM INGOTS.
3. PNO-III-01-007, Nuclear Management Company (Monticello Nuclear Power Plant), SHUTDOWN TO PERFORM AND REVIEW REQUIRED INSERVICE TESTING.
4. PNO-III-01-008, Central Michigan Community Hospital, SENTENCING OF MEDICAL TECHNICIAN FOR FALSE STATEMENTS TO NRC.
5. PNO-IV-01-010, Diablo Canyon 1 & 2, Humboldt Bay, Columbia Generating Station, Siemens Fuel Fabrication Facility, Trojan, EARTHQUAKE IN PACIFIC NORTHWEST GREATER THAN 6.5 ON RICHTER SCALE.

March 2, 2001

ENCLOSURE D

Office of Administration  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 2, 2001

Changes, Tests, and Experiments: Corrections (Part 72)

A document correcting two editorial errors in a final rule that amended regulations concerning the authority for licensees of production or utilization facilities to make changes to the facility or procedures, or to conduct tests or experiments without prior NRC approval was published in the Federal Register on February 26, 2001 (66 FR 11527). The corrected portions of the final rule become effective April 5, 2001.

List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: Fuel Solutions (Part 72)

A direct final rule that revises the Fuel Solutions cask system listing within the list of approved spent fuel storage casks was published in the Federal Register on February 27, 2001(66 FR 12435). The amendment will modify the present cask system design to allow the Big Rock Point nuclear facility to store mixed-oxide fuel assemblies, partial fuel assemblies, and damaged fuel assemblies (in a can). The direct final rule becomes effective May 14, 2001.

The companion proposed rule to this direct final rule was published in the Federal Register on February 27, 2001 (66 FR 12439). The comment period closes March 29, 2001.

Chief Information Officer  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 2, 2001

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Requests received during the Period of  
February 23, 2001 through March 1, 2001:

Braidwood plant, Braidwood, IL, re incident report #533140 related to release of oil.  
(FOIA/PA-2001-0153)

Sterigenics International, inspection reports for dockets 3022307 (Salem, NJ), 3034162  
(Rockaway, NJ) & 3034768 (Somerset, NJ). (FOIA/PA-2001-0154)

Isomedix Operations, Inc., inspection reports for dockets 3020466 (Whippany, NJ) and  
3030578 (Vega Alta, Puerto Rico). (FOIA/PA-2001-0155)

MLTS database, active licensees. (FOIA/PA-2001-0156)

Referral from DOE of 1 record concerning Olin Corp. in Joliet, IL. (FOIA/PA-2001-0157)

Inspection reports, various nuclear power plants, 1999 and 2000. (FOIA/PA-2001-0158)

Site assessment of 4 Pearl Court, Allendale, NJ, associated entities are Degussa Corp.,  
PharmaGenics, Genzyme Molecular Oncology, Prostagin, and Molecular Staging, Inc.  
(FOIA/PA-2001-0159)

Office of Human Resources  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 2, 2001

<b>Arrivals</b>		
VOYTKO, Victoria	REGULATIONS SPECIALIST	ADM
<b>Retirements</b>		
COX, Thomas	SR. PROJECT MANAGER	NMSS
EBERT, David	SR. NUCLEAR ENGINEER	RES
MIRAGLIA, Jr., Frank	DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS FOR REACTOR PROGRAMS	OEDO
PARCOVER, Herbert	MANAGEMENT ANALYST	CIO
TOMLIN, Gerald	SR. RESEARCH PROGRAM COORDINATOR	RES

March 2, 2001

ENCLOSURE I

Office of Public Affairs  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending March 2, 2001

Media Interest

Region I reported heavy media interest in the Indian Point 2 meeting on Friday.

There was some local media interest in the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board's Shearon Harris spent fuel pool decision.

<b>Press Releases</b>	
<b>Headquarters:</b>	
01-019	NRC Issues Safety Evaluation Concluding Summer Plant Can Safely Resume Operation
01-020	NRC Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Subcommittees to Hold Meetings in Rockville, Maryland, on March 15 and 16
01-021	NRC Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste to Meet in Rockville, Maryland, on March 21-23
01-022	NRC Names William F. Kane Deputy for Reactor Programs; Announces Related Management Changes
01-023	NRC Receives Construction Application for Proposed Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility
<b>Regions:</b>	
I-01-10	NRC to Discuss Apparent Violation at Washington, D.C. Hospital
I-01-11	NRC Chairman to Hold News Briefing Following Visit to Indian Point 2
III-01-07	NRC Staff Proposes \$8,800 Fine Against St. Louis Medical Service for Deliberate Violation of Regulations
III-01-08	NRC Staff Completes Safety Review of Design Issue at Prairie Island Nuclear Power Station
III-01-09	NRC Staff Completes Safety Review of Radiation Protection Planning at Quad Cities Nuclear Power Station
IV-01-07	Tim Hoeg Named Senior Resident Inspector at Grand Gulf Nuclear Plant

Office of the Secretary  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 2, 2001

<b>Decision Documents</b>		
1. SECY-00-0210	10/20/00	Denial of Petition for Rulemaking to Delete the Requirement from 10 CFR Part 51 to Consider Severe Accident Mitigation Alternatives in Operating License Renewal Reviews
SRM on 00-0210	01/17/01	(same)
Commission Voting Record on 00-0210	01/17/01	(same)
<b>Memoranda</b>		
1. SRM on M010226B	03/02/01	Meeting with NARUC, 2/26/01

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to The Honorable Donald T. DiFrancesco, Acting Governor of New Jersey, dated February 20, 2001, concerns the NRC's State Liaison Program.
2. Letter to The Honorable Scott McCallum Governor of Wisconsin, dated February 20, 2001, concerns the NRC's State Liaison Program.
3. Letter to Mr. Robert R. Loux, Agency for Nuclear Projects, dated February 20, 2001, concerns a possible modification to NRC's hearing procedures applicable to a potential application from the Department of Energy for a license for a geologic repository for the disposal of high-level waste at Yucca Mountain, Nevada.
4. Letter to Congress dated February 20, 2001, provides a summary of actions taken by the NRC in response to recommendations contained in various General Accounting Office reports that address NRC activities.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste; Notice of Meeting
2. ACRS Subcommittee on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena; Notice of Meeting
3. ACRS Joint Meeting of the Subcommittees on Materials and Metallurgy, Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena, and Reliability and Probabilistic Risk Assessment; Notice of Meeting
4. 10 CFR Part 50 [Docket No. PRM-50-72]; Union of Concerned Scientists; Petition for Rulemaking; Notice of Receipt

March 2, 2001

ENCLOSURE O



5. International Uranium (USA) Corporation; Docket No. 40-8681-MLA-9; Designation of Presiding Officer

March 2, 2001

ENCLOSURE O

Region I  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 2, 2001

Indian Point 2

The 95003 Inspection Team presented its findings to ConEd at an exit meeting on the evening of March 2, 2001. The meeting was held at the Cortlandt Town Hall, in Cortlandt Manor, NY, and was open for public observation. A separate open discussion with the public was conducted immediately after the exit meeting. Approximately 200 members of the public attended the meeting, as did Congresswoman Sue Kelly and Congressman Benjamin Gilman.

Periodic Meetings with New York Radiation Programs

On February 27-28 and March 1, 2001, the Region I State Agreement Officer and the Agreement State Project Officer from the Office of State and Tribal Programs met with the management and staff of the four New York agencies that implement the Agreement State program for the State of New York. The New York Agreement program is implemented by the New York City Department of Health, New York State Department of Health, New York State Department of Labor and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. The current status of the programs was discussed, and the participants exchanged information and discussed the implementation options for the next IMPEP review scheduled for FY 2002.

Region II  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 2, 2001

ADAMS Action Plan - OCIO visit to Region II

On February 28, 2001, the Director, Information Management Division, Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) and other members of the OCIO ADAMS Project Team were in the Region II office to meet with the staff to discuss the ADAMS Action Plan activities that impact end-users and to demonstrate the new features and changes of ADAMS release 3.3.

Carolina Power and Light Company - H. B. Robinson

On March 1-2, 2001, the Director, Division of Reactor Projects, was at the H. B. Robinson Plant to meet with the resident inspector, tour the plant and participate in the annual Problem Identification and Resolution inspection exit meeting.

Initial Implementation Evaluation Panel Meeting

On February 26-28, 2001, the Director, Division of Reactor Projects, was in Headquarters to participate in the Initial Implementation Evaluation Panel meeting. The Panel continued its evaluation of the revised reactor oversight program implementation.

Mid-IMPEP Cycle Meeting

On February 27, 2001, a representative of the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards conducted a Mid-IMPEP Cycle review of Region II's Materials Licensing and inspection programs. The review included common and non-common performance indicators. The Region was found to be performing satisfactory in all indicators.

Region III  
Items of Interest  
Week Ending March 2, 2001

Student Outreach

On February 27, 2001, Cindy Pederson, director of the Division of Nuclear Materials Safety spoke to more than 30 student members of the University of Illinois-Chicago chapter of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers about the NRC's mission and duties. To date, 14 resumes have been generated from this outreach effort. A similar outreach effort by Pederson in January 2001 to a University of Illinois-Chicago women's engineering group resulted in the generation of 10 resumes which led to four interviews and at least two offers that were made.

Regional Staff Meets with Detroit Edison Officials

Members of regional staff met with officials from Detroit Edison on February 28, 2001, in the Region III office to discuss the Fermi 2 nuclear power plant's radiation protection program.

March 2, 2001

ENCLOSURE P

Office of Congressional Affairs  
 Items of Interest  
 Week Ending March 2, 2001

**CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 5**

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Gerke	03/06/01 2123 RHOB	1:00	Members of Congress	National Energy Policy	Reps. Barton/Boucher Energy and Air Quality Energy and Commerce
Combs	03/13/01 SD-124	9:30	TBA	National Nuclear Security Administration--FY02 Appropriations	Senators Domenici/Reid Energy and Water Development Appropriations
Gerke	03/15/01 SH-216	9:30	TBA	Western Energy Problems and S. 26, S. 80, S. 287 (price caps, discriminatory pricing, FERC authority)	Senators Murkowski/Bingaman Energy and Natural Resources
Combs	03/27/01 SD-124	10:30	DOE	Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Storage Facility--FY02 Appropriations	Senators Domenici/Reid Energy and Water Development Appropriations

March 2, 2001

ENCLOSURE R