

INFORMATION REPORT

May 3, 2005

SECY-05-0077

For: The Commissioners
From: William M. Dean, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO /RA/
Subject: SECY-05-0077 - "WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK
ENDING APRIL 22, 2005"

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*No input this week.

/RA/

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Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:
T. Kim, OEDO

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05/02/05

05/04/05

WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING APRIL 22, 2005

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

Contact: T. Kim, OEDO by E-mail: tjk3@nrc.gov.

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*No input this week

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 22, 2005

Waterford, Unit 3, Extended Power Uprate (EPU)

On April 15, 2005, NRR issued a license amendment approving an 8-percent EPU for Waterford Nuclear Plant, Unit 3, which increases its maximum steady state reactor core power level from 3441 megawatts-thermal (MWt) to 3716 MWt. The licensee plans to implement the EPU during its Spring 2005 outage.

Issuance of Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) 2005-07, "Compensatory Measures to Satisfy the Fire Protection Program Requirements"

On April 19, 2005, the NRC issued the subject RIS to inform addressees that alternate compensatory measures, as otherwise required by the approved fire protection program, may be used for a degraded or inoperable fire protection feature under certain circumstances. This RIS describes the proper method for changing the approved fire protection program to utilize an alternate compensatory measure.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 22, 2005

Mixed-Oxide Construction Quality Assurance and Inspection Workshop Presented by NRC to the Nuclear, Industrial and Environmental Regulatory Authority of Russia

On April 11-14, 2005, management and staff from the Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards and Region II presented a mixed-oxide (MOX) construction Quality Assurance (QA) and inspection workshop to management and staff of the Nuclear, Industrial and Environmental Regulatory Authority of Russia (Rostekhnadzor). This workshop was in support of regulatory development activities associated with the U.S./Russian Federation Surplus Weapons-Grade Plutonium Disposition Program. There were presentations on the U.S. MOX fuel facility licensing process and the MOX inspection program. The workshop was well-attended and the information presented was well-received by the Russians, as noted by comments and course evaluations. Other workshops requested by Rostekhnadzor include media interactions, inspector communications with applicants, and design QA inspection.

Meeting with National Academy of Sciences on Waste Incidental to Reprocessing

On April 14, 2005, staff from the Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection gave a presentation to a committee of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in Augusta, Georgia. The NAS committee is conducting a study of the Department of Energy's plans to manage tank waste at Hanford, Idaho, and Savannah River that exceeds Class C concentrations and which will not be disposed of in a geologic repository. The staff presentation discussed: (1) NRC's previous incidental waste review for Savannah River, which was completed in June 2000; (2) technical areas addressed in the review; and (3) how future reviews may be affected by the recently enacted National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2005.

Meeting of the Interagency Coordinating Committee on National Source Tracking at NRC

On April 20, 2005, the Interagency Coordinating Committee (ICC) on National Source Tracking met at NRC headquarters. The Committee received a briefing on the offsite source recovery program and an update on the status of the National Source Tracking rulemaking and information technology activities. The Committee also discussed communication outreach and the development of a communication plan specifically for the ICC. Attendees from other agencies included: (1) representatives from the Departments of State, Commerce, Transportation, and Energy; (2) the Environmental Protection Agency; (3) the Federal Bureau of Investigations; (4) the Department of Homeland Security - Infrastructure Protection; and (5) the Department of Homeland Security - Customs. The next meeting will be in late October.

Meeting with Holtec International to Discuss Amendment 3 to the HI-STORM 100 Certificate of Compliance

On April 21, 2005, staff from the Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) met with representatives from Holtec International on the subject issue. The discussion focused on enhancements to the HI-STORM 100U spent fuel underground cask storage system. The enhancements will be

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described in a revised Amendment 3 certificate of compliance (CoC) application scheduled to be submitted to NRC in May 2005. Staff review of the original December 30, 2004, Amendment 3 CoC application was suspended at the request of Holtec on March 11, 2005, after completion of the technical acceptance review, during which the staff had identified several technical issues.

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Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 22, 2005

International Meeting of Working Group on Integrity and Aging of Structures and Components (WGIAGE)

On April 11-13, 2005, RES staff participated in meetings of the subject working group of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Committee on the Safety of Nuclear Installations. Participation in the WGIAGE meetings provides a forum for the exchange of international research and operating experience related to the integrity of nuclear power plant structures and components. Activities discussed at the WGIAGE meeting included a survey on international experience and research related to primary water stress corrosion cracking (PWSCC); a benchmark analysis of pressurized thermal shock test data provided by Electricité de France; preparation of a state-of-the-art report on risk-informed in-service inspection (RI-ISI); development of seismic design criteria; and aging management practices. RES staff presentations were related to pressurized thermal shock, loss of coolant accident (LOCA) frequencies, and PWSCC projects.

Modification to Agreement Between the NRC and the Russian Research Center (RRC) (Formerly the I.V. Kurchatov Institute) on Fuel Behavior and Material Science Research

On April 20, 2005, the Director, RES, signed the subject document which will affect new tasks that are to be conducted in 2005-2006. The tasks will include the completion of a data report on pulse reactor tests, and neutronic code benchmark analysis for a postulated reactivity accident with mixed-oxide (MOX) fuel.

First Meeting of the Interoffice Technical Advisory Group for Nuclear Analysis

The first meeting of the interoffice Technical Advisory Group for Nuclear Analysis (TAG-N) was held on April 20, 2005, and included representatives from the Offices of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR), Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS), and RES. The meeting was attended by eleven technical specialists representing nuclear analysis issues and activities in the following regulatory areas: power reactors and spent fuel pools; research and test reactors; fuel enrichment and fabrication facilities; material shipping packages; spent fuel storage and transport casks; high-level waste repository, and facility decommissioning and decontamination.

Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 22, 2005

Preliminary Notifications

1. PNO-I-05-17, Millstone Unit 3 Power Station - ALERT DECLARED AT MILLSTONE 3 DUE TO A MAIN STREAM SAFETY VALVE NOT RESEATING AFTER A SAFETY INJECTION ACTUATION ON LOW MAIN STEAM LINE PRESSURE
2. PNO-III-05-009, Prairie Island Nuclear Management Company - TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION REQUIRED SHUTDOWN OF PRAIRIE ISLAND UNIT 2 FOR GREATER THAN 72 HOURS

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 22, 2005

AP1000 Design Certification (AH56-Part 52)

On April 18, 2005, the NRC published a proposed rule in the Federal Register (70 FR 20062) that would certify the AP1000 standard plant design. The proposed rule would allow applicants or licensees who intend to construct and operate an AP1000 design to do so by referencing the AP1000 design certification rule. The comment period for this action closes July 5, 2005.

Model Milestones for NRC Adjudicatory Proceedings (AH71 - Part 2)

On April 20, 2005, the NRC published a final rule in the Federal Register (70 FR 20457) that amended its rules for the conduct of adjudicatory proceedings. The final rule presents model milestones for the conduct of NRC adjudicatory proceedings. The final rule also requires a presiding officer to refer to the model milestones as a starting point for establishing a hearing schedule and to manage the case in accordance with that schedule. The final rule becomes effective May 20, 2005.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 22, 2005

Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act Requests Received During the Period of
April 15 through April 21, 2005:

OIG Case 04811, final actions taken to close out findings	FOIA/PA-2005-0205
Three specific records not publicly available in ADAMS, re: White Eagle Toxicology Labs, Doylestown, PA	FOIA/PA-2005-0206
Millstone Unit 3, Class II emergency of 4/17/05, all records	FOIA/PA-2005-0207
Millstone Units 2 & 3, steam relief valves, all records re: inspections, LERs, condition reports of failures, malfunctions of subject valves	FOIA/PA-2005-0208
Millstone Units 2 & 3, all records re: defective fuel & defective fuel cladding	FOIA/PA-2005-0209
Millstone Units 2 & 3, all records re: defects including cracks & corrosion in steam generator tubing	FOIA/PA-2005-0210
Solicitation DR-04-0072 (Visa services & course services), name & address of incumbent, current contract, bid abstract of current contract, & dollar value for FY04	FOIA/PA-2005-0211

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Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 22, 2005

Arrivals		
Adrienne Redden	Secretary (OA)	NMSS
Christopher J. Fong	Engineering Technician	R-II
Retirements		
Jonathan Armenta, Jr.	Director, OI Field Office	OI
Patricia M. Celenza	Secretary (OA)	OHR

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Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 22, 2005

Media Interest

The Office of Public Affairs (OPA) received significant media inquiries on the following:

NRC's proposed civil penalty against Davis-Besse and an Order against a system engineer formerly employed at the plant.

An unplanned shutdown, resulting alert declaration, and subsequent inspection and root cause analysis at Millstone Power Station.

The return of contaminated soil to Maine Yankee from Envirocare in Utah.

A small amount of uranium aluminum oxide missing from a Teaneck, N.J., laboratory.

Other Public Affairs Items:

Regional OPA staff continued to assist at end-of-cycle meetings for the annual assessments of nuclear plant performance.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
05-068	NRC Adopts Model Milestones to Increase Fairness and Efficiency of Adjudicatory Hearings (4/19)
05-069	NRC Finds no Significant Environmental Impact from Extended Operation of ANO-2 (4/20)
05-070	\$5,450,000 Fine for Davis-Besse Reactor Vessel Head Violations
05-071	NRC Publishes Regulatory Issue Summary on Fire Protection Compensatory Measures (4/22)
Regions:	
I-05-021	NRC Monitoring Event at Millstone 3 (4/17)
I-05-022	NRC Begins Special Inspection at Millstone Unit 3 Nuclear Power Plant (4/20)
I-05-023	NRC to Discuss 2004 Performance Assessment for James A. Fitzpatrick Nuclear Power Plant (4/21)
I-05-024	NRC to Discuss 2004 Performance Assessment for Nine Mile Point Nuclear Power Plant (4/21)

II-05-021	NRC to Meet with Southern Nuclear Officials to Discuss Safety Performance at Farley Nuclear Power Plant (4/22)
II-05-022	NRC to Discuss 2004 Performance at Oconee Nuclear Power Plant (4/22)
IV-05-013	NRC to Discuss 2004 Performance Assessment for Callaway Nuclear Plant (4/18)

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Office of the Secretary (SECY)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending April 22, 2005

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SECY-05-0054	3/31/05	Proposed Rule: Radiological Criteria for Controlling the Disposition of Solid Materials (RIN 3150-AH18)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-05-0063	4/19/05	"Weekly Information Report - Week Ending April 8, 2005"
Memoranda		
1. M050420A	4/20/05	Staff Requirements - Affirmation Session: I. SECY-05-0053 (1) Exelon Generation Company, LLC; (2) Dominion Nuclear North Anna, LLC; (3) System Energy Resources, Inc.; (4) Louisiana Energy Services, L.P.; (5) USEC Inc.
2. M050421A	4/21/05	Staff Requirements - Affirmation Session: I. SECY-05-0059 - Duke Energy Corp. (Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2), Commission sua sponte review of portions of the Licensing Board's March 10, 2005 final decision on security contention

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Application for License to Export Major Components for Nuclear Reactors.

Region II (RII)
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 22, 2005

Florida Power and Light Company - Turkey Point Management Meeting

On April 18, 2005, Region II management and staff met with representatives from Florida Power and Light Company (FPL) to discuss the results of FP&L's evaluation of plant challenges, secondary equipment maintenance issues, and performance improvement initiatives relating to cross-cutting aspects at Turkey Point Nuclear Plant.

Framatome Emergency Exercise

On April 20, 2005, Region II participated in the Framatome Emergency Exercise in Richland, WA. The Region II participation included a Site Team that is staffed for a fuel facility response. The Deputy Regional Administrator was the Site Team Director.

Region IV (RIV)
Items of Interest
Week Ending April 22, 2005

Regional Administrator Visits Arkansas Nuclear One

On April 21, 2005, the Regional Administrator attended a ceremony for newly licensed operators for the Arkansas Nuclear One (ANO) plant and presented operator license certificates. On the following day, he toured the ANO facility with the resident inspectors, and met with licensee officials to discuss general items of interest involving the facility.

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Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending April 22, 2005

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 16

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Keeling	April 26 SD-366	10:00	Chairman Diaz, DOE, Jim Asselstine, Lehman Brothers, Mike Wallace, Constellation	DOE's NP 2010 Program	Senators Domenici/Bingaman Energy and Natural Resources
Shane	April 28 2247 RHOB	10:00	TBA	Hearing on Nuclear Power's place in a National Energy Policy	Reps. Issa/Watson Energy and Resources Government Reform
Shane	April 28 2154 RHOB	2:00	DHS, OPM, GAO and Systems and Software Consortium and Cisco Systems	Hearing on Federal agencies' continuity of Operations Plans	Reps. Davis/Waxman Government Reform
Combs	TBA SD-366	TBA	DOE, NRC	Status of Yucca Mountain	Senators Domenici/Bingaman Energy and Natural Resources
Combs	April 13 2247 RHOB Postponed	10:00	TBA	Yucca Mountain Project: Digging for the Truth	Reps Porter/Davis Federal Workforce and Agency Organization Government Reform

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CONGRESSIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE, NO. 16

OCA Contact	DATE & PLACE	TIME	WITNESS	SUBJECT	COMMITTEE
Keeling	TBA 2359 RHOB	TBA	TBD	FY 2006 Homeland Security Budget, Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness	Reps Rogers/Sabo Homeland Security Appropriations