### INFORMATION REPORT

<u>June 30, 2008</u> <u>SECY-08-0088</u>

For: The Commissioners

From: Vonna L. Ordaz, Assistant for Operations, Office of the EDO

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING

JUNE 20, 2008

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<sup>\*</sup>No input this week.

/RA/

Vonna L. Ordaz

Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:

V. Medina, OEDO

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<sup>\*</sup>No input this week.

/RA/

Vonna L. Ordaz

Assistant for Operations, OEDO

Contact:

V. Medina, OEDO

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# **WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING JUNE 20, 2008**

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

Contact: V. Medina, OEDO by E-mail: uss@nrc.gov.

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<sup>\*</sup>No input this week

# Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) Items of Interest Week Ending June 20, 2008

American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code for Operation and Maintenance (OM) of Nuclear Power Plants Check Valve and Nuclear Industry Check Valve (NIC) Users' Group Meetings

From June 9-13, 2008, NRC staff attended meetings of the ASME OM Code Subgroup for Check Valves and NIC Users' Group. At both meetings, the staff made presentations discussing regulatory activities related to in-service testing (IST), the new NRC acceptance review process as related to IST issues, recent information notices related to IST issues, and the NRC staff evaluations of recent code relief requests regarding on-line testing of check valves. Major topics presented by the membership at the NIC users' group meeting included condition monitoring programs for check valve IST, recent industry check valve operating experience, and check valve diagnostic techniques. A portion of the meeting was held at the Diablo Canyon Power Plant, where the licensee provided demonstrations of non-intrusive testing techniques utilized for check valve diagnostic activities and check valve disassembly.

#### North Anna Dam Inspection

On June 12, 2008, staff and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Dam Safety Inspector performed the North Anna Nuclear Power Plant Bi-Annual Dam Inspection. On June 12 and 13, 2008, staff met with Exelon licensing managers and staff to discuss the recent issuance of LIC 109, Acceptance Review Procedures.

#### Meeting with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to discuss NRC's Rulemaking Process

On June 12, 2008, the NRC staff held a Category 2 meeting with representatives of various NGOs to talk about NRC's rulemaking process. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an overview of the rulemaking process; specifically, opportunities for public participation and also to obtain the NGOs' perspectives on how the NRC can improve the rulemaking process. Approximately 40 people attended the meeting, including participation of representatives from seven NGOs. In general, their comments concerned the interactions between the NRC and NGOs during rulemaking activities, the tools available to the NGOs, and public access to rulemaking information. The NRC staff will consider their comments and provide a formal response with our conclusions.

#### License Renewal Application for Prairie Island Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2

By letter dated April 14, 2008, the Prairie Island Indian Community (PIIC) requested cooperating agency status for the environmental review of the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant license renewal application. The staff drafted a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to establish roles and responsibilities and a general framework for this collaborative arrangement. The MOU was signed by the Director, NRR, on June 14. Signature by the PIIC official will commence the PIIC's status as a cooperating agency.

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#### TORMIS Computer Code for Assessment of Tornado Missile Protection

On June 16, 2008, the NRC issued Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) 2008-14, "Use of TORMIS Computer Code for Assessment of Tornado Missile Protection," (ADAMS Accession No. ML080230578). The RIS reiterates and clarifies the staff position on the NRC-approved usage of the TORMIS computer code, which was approved for licensees to address, in a probabilistic manner, identified deficiencies in complying with their current licensing basis for tornado missile protection, instead of having to modify their plant to provide positive tornado missile protection (i.e., barriers). The Safety Evaluation Report approving this use of the TORMIS computer code for this use is dated October 26, 1983 (ADAMS Accession No. ML080870291). The RIS also discusses issues that have been identified with recent license amendment requests to use the TORMIS computer code, including licensee requests to use the TORMIS computer code outside the scope of its approved usage, and clarifies the information needed in license amendment applications requesting to use the TORMIS computer code.

#### International Atomic Energy Agency Led Entrance Meeting

On June 16, 2008, NRR staff participated in the entrance meeting for the International Atomic Energy Agency led Operational Safety Review Team (OSART) inspection at Arkansas Nuclear One (ANO). The OSART consists of an international team of experts who will conduct a three-week in-depth review of operational safety performance at ANO. An exit meeting will be conducted on or about July 2, 2008.

#### Public Meeting to Discuss the Integration of Traditional Enforcement into Plant Assessment

On June 17, 2008, staff from NRR, Office of Enforcement and the Regions held a public meeting with the industry and other stakeholders on the use of traditional enforcement in plant assessment. Participants provided their initial reactions and ideas to making changes to the assessment process. In the future, stakeholders will be kept informed of progress in this area through briefings at the regularly scheduled monthly Reactor Oversight Process working group meetings.

#### National Fire Protection Association Technical Committee meeting

On June 17 and 18, 2008, NRC representatives from both NRR and the Office of New Reactors participated in a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Nuclear Facility Technical Committee meeting to discuss changes to NFPA's nuclear facility technical standards, including NFPA Standard 805. During the meeting, the participants discussed a new NFPA Standard 806, which is a proposed risk-informed performance-based standard for managing changes to approved fire protection programs for new reactors.

## Reactor Oversight Process Working Group public meeting

On June 18, 2008, the staff held the monthly Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Working Group public meeting. Discussions included safety culture lessons-learned, ROP assessment process changes, forthcoming revisions to inspection guidance, possible changes to performance indicator guidance, Mitigating Systems Performance Index issues, and other performance indicator frequently asked questions (FAQs).

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## Office of New Reactors (NRO) Items of Interest Week Ending June 20, 2008

Meeting with Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to Discuss Requests for Additional Information (RAIs) Associated with the Electrical Power and Fire Safety Program for the Bellefonte Combined License Application (COLA)

On June 10, 2008, the staff held a Category I public meeting with TVA to discuss RAIs associated with the electrical power and fire safety program for the Bellefonte COLA. The meeting discussed these concerns in two parts allowing the public to interact between each session. NRC staff, TVA, and Westinghouse representatives considered the public meeting to be helpful in identifying information needed by the staff to complete its review of the Bellefonte COLA. At the conclusion of the meeting, TVA identified that their respective topic areas were adequately addressed and will respond to the RAIs that were issued by confirming, modifying, or developing necessary information needed to complete processing the RAIs.

# Staff Holds Public Outreach Meeting to Discuss the COLA for Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant. Units 3 and 4

On June 12, 2008, the staff participated in a public outreach meeting to discuss the COLA for Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant. The meeting was conducted at the Somervell County Expo Center in Glen Rose, Texas. Approximately 200 people attended this meeting, including representatives of the NRC staff, Luminant Power, Mitsubishi Nuclear Energy Systems, state and local governments, the nuclear industry, and members of the public. After the staff explained the process for reviewing the COLA, the public was given an opportunity to comment. In addition, the NRC staff hosted an informal "open house" for one hour prior to the meeting. The NRC staff used poster displays and provided brochures to answer questions about the proposed COLA.

#### Issuance of Regulatory Guide 4.21

On June 12, 2008, the staff published Regulatory Guide 4.21, "Minimization of Contamination and Radioactive Waste Generation: Life-Cycle Planning." The document provides regulatory guidance to new license applicants for compliance to 10 CFR 20.1406, which was issued as a part of the decommissioning rule (10 CFR Part 20, Subpart E) in 1997. Since the regulatory guide affects several areas of review, the staff will be conducting awareness workshops to inform effected staff of the impact of the guidance.

#### New Reactor Health Physics Meeting

On June 12, 2008, the staff participated in a public meeting with representatives of the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) to discuss the implementation of Regulatory Guide 4.21, "Minimization of Contamination and Radioactive Waste Generation: Life-Cycle Planning." NEI indicated that they plan to create a template to address the operational portions of the regulatory guide. NEI stressed that the template will only address operational programs and each design will need to respond to the appropriate design features related to the regulatory guide. NEI also indicated

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they plan to hold a mid-summer public workshop to address the template and other features of the Regulatory Guide. The meeting also included updates to the status of the NEI radiation protection templates and industry support of updates to NRC health physics computer codes.

# <u>Level 1 Change to the Vogtle Early Site Permit (ESP) and Limited Work Authorization (LWA)</u> Review Schedule

On June 19, 2008, a level one change request, defined as a significant schedule impact that affects publically established milestones for the Vogtle ESP and LWA, was approved. The staff changed the issuance date for the Vogtle ESP final safety evaluation report from August 8, 2008 to February 5, 2009. This new schedule still supports Southern Nuclear Operating Company's (SNC's) construction plans; however, any additional extensions to the schedule could impact those plans. Additional time is needed to address a newly identified issue related to SNC's LWA request (which is part of the ESP application). The updated Vogtle ESP project status report provides additional details of the change. The report can be found at: http://nrr10.nrc.gov/NRO/new-rx-status/status-reports/2008/docs/esp-vogtle-20080620.pdf. The public website will be updated concurrently with issuance of the staff's letter to SNC, communicating this schedule delay.

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# Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) Items of Interest Week Ending June 20, 2008

### Meeting with General Electric-Hitachi Uranium on Environmental Report

On June 16, 2008, staff from NMSS and the Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs met with staff from General Electric-Hitachi's (GEH's) proposed uranium enrichment plant, to discuss the Environmental Report for this proposed facility, in Wilmington, North Carolina. GEH staff indicated that the document had been prepared as a final draft and will be submitted with the application later this year. GEH evaluated most impacts as small; the remainder were evaluated as having a moderate impact (e.g. whether there is transportation near the site, displacement of ecological species during construction; and noise during construction).

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# Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME) Items of Interest Week Ending June 20, 2008

## Public Discussions and Comments on Zion Nuclear Power Station and Decommissioning Activities

On June 18, 2008, the staff held a public meeting in Zion, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and accept public comments on both the Zion Nuclear Power Station proposed license transfer from Exelon to EnergySolutions and the revised Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report. The plan envisions active decommissioning at Zion, Units 1 and 2.

#### Agreement State Application Submission by the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Health

On June 18, 2008, representatives from the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Health, delivered their final Agreement State application. A team from several Offices and Region I will start review of the application and prepare a staff analysis for Commission approval and public comment. Approval of the final Agreement by the Commission is expected in the spring, 2009.

### Visit to United States Department of Energy (DOE) Office of River Protection

June 11-12, 2008, the NRC staff met with DOE, State of Washington, and DOE contractor personnel at the DOE's Office of River Protection in Hanford, Washington. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss DOE's recent request to NRC to review a "Basis for Exception" document related to waste retrieved from Single Shell Tank 241-C-106, located at the Hanford reservation. NRC's involvement in this review is being conducted in accordance with an Interagency Agreement between NRC and DOE. Discussions were held to gain a common understanding between all of the meeting participants about the scope of the review, and were focused on the retrieval technologies utilized, the criteria by which the retrieval will be reviewed, and the history of NRC's involvement in the project. In addition, discussions were held to clarify how routine communications and data requests will be handled. Finally, a preliminary schedule for the review was established. DOE plans to issue a publicly available meeting summary for this meeting.

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# Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) Items of Interest Week Ending June 20, 2008

RES Withdrawal of Regulatory Guide (RG) 3.42, "Emergency Planning for Fuel Cycle Facilities and Plants Licensed Under 10 CFR Parts 50 and 70"

On June 19, 2008, the staff withdrew this outdated RG. The RG was last revised in September 1979, and provided guidance on developing emergency plans for fuel cycle facilities under 10 CFR Parts 50 and 70. The RG is being withdrawn because no fuel cycle facilities are currently licensed under both 10 CFR Parts 50 and 70, or under Part 50 alone. For fuel cycle and materials facilities licensed under 10 CFR Part 70, RG 3.67, "Standard Format and Content for Emergency Plans for Fuel Cycle and Materials Facilities" provides adequate guidance for developing emergency plans.

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# Office of Administration (ADM) Items of Interest Week Ending June 20, 2008

List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: HI-STORM 100 Revision 5; Final Rule 3150-Al24

On June 12, 2008, the NRC published a document (73 FR 33291) in the *Federal Register* amending its regulations by revising the Holtec International HI-STORM 100 cask system listing within the "List of approved spent fuel storage casks" to include Amendment No. 5 to Certificate of Compliance Number 1014. The rule allows the holders of power reactor operating licenses to store spent fuel in this approved cask as specified in the revised conditions under the NRC's general license provisions. The rule becomes effective on July 14, 2008.

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# Office of Information Services (OIS) Items of Interest Week Ending June 20, 2008

# <u>Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of June 13, 2008 through June 19, 2008</u>:

Tritium exit signs purchased by listed contractors with Wal-Mart as General Licensee/end-user	FOIA/PA-2008-0253
NorAm Energy Corporation Houston Industries, Inc., Reliant Energy Inc., CenterPoint Energy Inc. and any subsidiaries, complaints and investigations	FOIA/PA-2008-0254
License Number 21-13255-01, Institution code 13255, 22341 West Eight Mile Road, Detroit, MI 48219, any file material	FOIA/PA-2008-0255
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station, records of communications, letters, notes, calendars, regarding Entergy "contingency plan" if workers walk off the job	FOIA/PA-2008-0256

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# Office of Human Resources (HR) Items of Interest Week Ending June 20, 2008

Arrivals		
ALEXANDER, GEORGE STUDENT ENGINEER		FSME
ARTAYET, ALAIN	SR. CONSTRUCTION INSPECTOR (WELDING)	RII
BALLAM, NICHOLAS	STUDENT IT SPECIALIST (CO-OP)	OIS
CHEUNG, FAN-BILL	REACTOR SYSTEMS ENGINEER (FACULTY)	RES
CHEW, ELIZABETH	IT SPECIALIST (SECURITY)	OIS
CHOU, ALBERT	ELECTRICAL ENGINEER	NRO
CREASY, CASSANDRA	STUDENT CLERK	SBCR
DICKEY, SYLVIA KAREN	SECRETARY (OA)	OCFO
EVANS, GLENDA	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	COMM
FICKEN, RUSSELL	IT SPECIALIST	OIS
FIGUEROA, GLADYS	STUDENT ENGINEER	RES
FREDETTE, THOMAS	ELECTICAL ENGINEER	NRO
GATELY, MATTHEW	STUDENT IT SPECIALIST (CO-OP)	RI
GIBSON, JAMES	STUDENT ELECTRONICS ENGINEER (CO-OP)	NRO
HANSON, LATISCHA	HEALTH PHYSICIST	RIV
HARMON, DAVID	REACTOR INSPECTOR (NSPDP)	RII
JACKSON, ROBERT	STUDENT ENGINEER	RES
JORDAN, ASHLEY	STUDENT CLERK	OHR
LAM, NATHANIEL	STUDENT CLERK	RES
LAWERNCE, TIMOTHY	STUDENT CLERK	RES
LENT, SUSAN	SECRETARY	NRR
MAGEE, MICHAEL	PROJECT MANAGER	NRO

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MEDLEY, MONTIA	STUDENT CLERK	NSIR
MOSER, MICHELLE	PHYSICAL SCIENTIST	NRO
MULGREW, YVONNE	MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT	RES
MUNOZ-OJEDA, CRISTINA	STUDENT ENGINEER	RIII
MURRY, MAISHA	STUDENT HEALTH PHYSICIST	RI
NAQUIN, TYRONE	HEALTH PHYSICIST	NMSS
NEGRETE, PHILLIP ANDREW	SECURITY SPECIALIST	NSIR
NORWOOD, DONALD	NUCLEAR SYSTEMS ENGINEER	NSIR
OTERO-GONZALEZ, LAURA	STUDENT CIVIL RIGHTS SPECIALIST	SBCR
PHILIPS, HOLLY	PHYSICAL SCIENTIST (NSPDP)	NSIR
QUINLAN, KEVIN	PHYSICAL SCIENTIST (METEROLOGIST)	NRO
RATHBUN, HOWARD	MECHANICAL ENGINEER	RES
RUBIC, MARK	HUMAN RESOURCES TEAM LEADER	RIII
SIPPEL, TIMOTHY	NUCLEAR ENGINEER (NSPDP)	NMSS
TRAYHAM, BROOKE	STUDENT ENGINEER	FSME
WARD, STEVEN	STUDENT ENGINEER	NMSS
WILLIAMS, ANTHONY	SR. PROGRAM ANALYST	OCFO
ZARE, DAVID	STUDENT CLERK	NRR
Retirements		
RAY, STEVEN	SENIOR RESIDENT INSPECTOR (PWR)	RII
Departures		
BARTH, THOMAS	SENIOR CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR	OIG
LAVRETTA, ANGIE	REACTOR SYSTEMS ENGINEER	NRR
TOMLINSON, JOHN	SENIOR LEVEL ADVISOR ON SECURITY	NSIR
		·

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## Office of Public Affairs (OPA) Items of Interest Week Ending June 20, 2008

### OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following:

Indian Point nuclear power plant (NY) license renewal proceeding and inspection; Mother's Milk Project;

Commission decision to reject a request for a stay in the Oyster Creek nuclear plant (NJ) license renewal proceeding;

Exemption NRC granted to Entergy for late filing of Pilgrim nuclear plant (MA) decommissioning coast estimate; and

NRC review process for Yucca Mountain (NV) application for a nuclear waste repository

### Other Public Affairs Items:

OPA supported the Fuel Cycle Information Exchange 2008 Third Annual Seminar and the 2-day meeting on the United States Department of Energy presentation on its license application for a high-level waste geologic repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada

Press Releases			
Headquarter	s:		
08-116	DOE to "Walk Through" its Yucca Mountain Application in Public Meeting June 19-20 in Rockville, Maryland (6/16)		
Regions:			
II-08-035	NRC Issues Confirmatory Order to FPL Following Alternative Dispute Resolution (6/16)		
III-08-025	NRC Names New Resident Inspector Team at Braidwood Nuclear Power Plant (6/17)		
III-080-026	NRC to Discuss 2007 Performance Assessment for Braidwood Nuclear Power Plant (6/16)		
IV-08-028	NRC to Provide Additional Oversight to Cooper Nuclear Station (6/16)		
IV-08-029	NRC Names New Senior Resident Inspector at Comanche Peak Nuclear Plant (6/18)		

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# Office of the Secretary (SECY) Items of Interest Week Ending June 20, 2008

Document Released	Date	Subject
to Public		-
Decision Documents		
1. SRM-SECY-08-0056	06/16/08	Estimated Costs for Broadcasting Public Meetings Over the Internet (Web Streaming)
Commission Voting Record on SECY-08-0056	06/16/08	(same)
2. SECY-08-0077	05/30/08	Options for NRC Involvement with the Navy's Remediation of the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard Site in California
Information Papers		
1. SECY-08-0078	06/03/08	Status Report on Power Uprates
Memoranda		
1. M080617	06/17/08	SRM-Affirmation Session: I. SECY-08-0065  – United States Department of Energy (HLW Repository: Pre-Application Matters), Docket No. PAPO-00 – The State of Nevada's Notice of Appeal From The PAPO Board's January 4, 2008 and December 12, 2007 Orders and The State Of Nevada's Motion to File a Limited Reply; II. SECY-08-0071 – AmerGen Energy Company, LLC, (License Renewal for Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station); Citizens' Motion to Stay Proceedings; III. COMSECY-08-0017 – UNITED STATES Department of Energy (High-Level Waste Repository: Pre-Application Matters, Advisory PAPO Board), Advisory PAPO Board Request for Additional Authority
2. M080516B	06/17/08	SRM-Briefing on NRC Infrastructure

# Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congress, dated June 9, 2008, provides the NRC's report on Orders that designate new types of information that are protected as "Safeguards Information."

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2. Letter to Congress, dated June 9, 2008, provides an NRC draft bill that would amend the Atomic Energy Act and the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974.

#### Federal Register Notices Issued

- 1. NRC Application for a License to Export Major Components for Nuclear Reactors (Curtiss-Wright Electro-Mechanical Corporation), Application No. XR172.
- 2. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), Subcommittee Meeting on Planning and Procedures, notice of meeting (07/08/2008).
- ACRS, Subcommittee Meeting on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena, notice of meeting (07/07/2008).
- 4. ACRS, Subcommittee Meeting on Power Uprates (Hope Creek), notice of meeting (07/08/2008).
- 5. ACRS, notice of 554<sup>th</sup> meeting (07/09-11/2008).
- 6. Establishment of Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, Tennessee Valley Authority (Bellefonte Nuclear Power Plant, Units 3 & 4).

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# Region IV (RIV) Items of Interest Week Ending June 20, 2008

# Columbia Generating Station End-of-Cycle Public Meeting

On June 17, 2008, the NRC held a public meeting with representatives of Energy Northwest to discuss the annual assessment of the Columbia Generating Station for 2007. Approximately 25 people attended the meeting, including three local officials. No media was present.

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# Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA) Items of Interest Week Ending June 20, 2008

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 21					
OCA Contact	Date & Place	Time	Committee	Subject	Witnesses
Decker	06/17/08 TBA	ТВА	House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development (Representatives Visclosky / Hobson)	Draft Fiscal 2009 Energy and Water Appropriations	Markup
Decker	06/18/08 342 DSOB	10:00	Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs (Senators Lieberman / Collins)	Protecting Personal Information: Is the Federal Government Doing Enough?	<ul> <li>Linda Koontz – Director, Information Management Issues, Government Accountability Office</li> <li>Hugo Teufe III – Chief Privacy Officer, Department of Homeland Security</li> <li>Peter p. Swire – Professor of Law, Moritz College of Law, Ohio State University</li> <li>Ari Schwartz – Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Center for Democracy and Technology</li> </ul>
Decker	06/18/08	10:00	Senate Finance Committee (Senators Baucus / Grassley)	123 Agreement w/Russia	Markup
Kron	06/19/08 2123 RHOB	9:30	House Energy and Commerce Committee Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality (Representatives Boucher / Upton)	Legislative Proposals to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions: An Overview	• TBD
Decker	06/24/08	TBA	House Appropriations	Draft Fiscal 2009 Energy	Markup

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	TBA		Committee (Representatives Obey / Lewis)	and Water Appropriations	
Powell	07/08	ТВА	House Energy and Commerce Committee, Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality (Representatives Boucher / Upton)	Yucca Mountain	• TBD
Shane/Dacus	07/16/08 406 DSOB	10:00	Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety (Senators Carper / Voinovich)	New Reactors and License Renewal	<ul><li>NRC Commission</li><li>Others TBD</li></ul>
Powell	TBD	ТВА	House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations (Representatives Stupak / Whitfield)	Inattentive Guards at Peach Bottom and other Security Related Topics	• TBD

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