

INFORMATION REPORT

September 13, 2012

SECY-12-0122

For: The Commissioners

From: Nader L. Mamish
Assistant for Operations
Office of the Executive Director for Operations

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
SEPTEMBER 7, 2012

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Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 7, 2012

Requirements for Maintenance of Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria; Final Rule and Regulatory Guide, Issuance; 10 CFR Parts 2 and 52 (RIN 3150-AI77; NRC-2010-0012)

On August 28, 2012, the NRC published a final rule in the *Federal Register* (77 FR 51880) to amend its regulations related to verification of nuclear power plant construction activities through inspections, tests, analyses, and acceptance criteria (ITAAC) under a combined license, and issued a revision to Regulatory Guide 1.215, "Guidance for ITAAC Closure Under 10 CFR (Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations) Part 52." The final rule contains new provisions that apply after a licensee has completed ITAAC and submitted an ITAAC closure notification. In addition, the NRC is including editorial corrections to existing language in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended. Regulatory Guide 1.215 describes a method that the NRC staff considers acceptable for use in satisfying the requirements for documenting the completion of ITAAC. The rule is effective September 27, 2012.

Receipts-Based, Small Business Size Standard; Confirmation of Effective Date; Direct Final Rule; 10 CFR Parts 2 and 171 (RIN 3150-AJ14; NRC-2012-0062)

On September 4, 2012, the NRC published a document in the *Federal Register* (77 FR 53769) confirming the effective date of August 22, 2012, for the direct final rule that appeared in the *Federal Register* on July 3, 2012 (77 FR 39385). The direct final rule amended the size standard that the NRC uses to qualify an NRC licensee as a "small entity" under the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980, as amended. The NRC increased its receipts-based, small business size standard from \$6.5 million to \$7 million to conform to the standard set by the Small Business Administration. The effective date of August 22, 2012, was confirmed for this direct final rule.

Clarification of Submission of Requests for Relief or Alternatives From the Regulatory Requirements Pertaining to Codes and Standards; Proposed Rule; 10 CFR Part 50 (NRC-2012-0204)

On September 6, 2012, the NRC published a document in the *Federal Register* (77 FR 54839) seeking public comment on a draft regulatory issue summary (RIS) that provides information on requests for alternatives to and relief from the regulatory requirements pertaining to codes and standards. The draft RIS also provides clarification when relief is requested by licensees and applicants where American Society of Mechanical Engineers Code requirements are determined impractical, and when proposed alternatives to the regulations are submitted to the NRC. Comments are due by October 22, 2012.

Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer Administrative Support Services for Region I

On August 22, 2012, as a result an 8(a) sole source solicitation, a hybrid firm-fixed price and labor hour prices contract (NRC-HQ-12-C-38-0095) was awarded to Access Personnel Services, Inc. of Lancaster, PA. The contractor will provide administrative services to Region I's Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer staff. The period of performance is September 30, 2012, to September 29, 2013 with four 1-year option periods. The total cost of the contract is \$583,989.80, inclusive of all options.

Technical Training Center Root Cause Training Program

On September 4, 2012, as a result of a full and open competitive acquisition, a firm-fixed price contract (NRC-HQ-12-C-38-0099) was awarded to Street Legal Industries, LLC of Oak Ridge, TN. This contract will provide training to ensure that NRC staff possesses the knowledge and ability to effectively perform root cause investigations including human performance issues. The period of performance is September 5, 2012, to September 4, 2013, with four 1-year option periods. The total estimated cost is \$950,536.72, inclusive of all options.

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ENCLOSURE A

Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer (OCHCO)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 7, 2012

Arrivals		
Greenwald, Courtney	DIRECTOR FOR COMMUNICATIONS	COMM
Picard, Nicole	LAW CLERK	ASLBP
Thurman, Carter	LAW CLERK	ASLBP
Williams, Onika	LAW CLERK	ASLBP
Retirements		
None		
Departures		
Bajwa, Christopher	SENIOR MECHANICAL ENGINEER	NMSS
Leedom, James	CONTRACT SPECIALIST	ADM

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ENCLOSURE B

Office of the Information Systems (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 7, 2012

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of August 31, 2012- September 7, 2012:

Special inspection regarding the leak at the Palisades Power Plant, Covert, Michigan	FOIA/PA-2012-0312
2009 email: Investigation of the October 21, 2003 incident at Callaway	FOIA/PA-2012-0313
2011-01-28 email: letter to NRC Inspector General and attachments	FOIA/PA-2012-0314
Electronic copies of specified e-mails	FOIA/PA-2012-0315
Most recent copy of the Materials License Tracking System Database (active and retired facilities)	FOIA/PA-2012-0316

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ENCLOSURE C

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 7, 2012

Second Extraordinary Meeting of the Convention on Nuclear Safety

On August 27 – 31, 2012, staff participated in the Second Extraordinary Meeting of the Convention on Nuclear Safety (CNS). This meeting was held at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna, Austria. The objective was to review and discuss lessons learned from the accident at Fukushima Daiichi. Over 600 people participated in the meeting representing 64 of the 75 contracting parties to the Convention. There were six topic areas discussed during working sessions. Plenary sessions were also held to discuss proposals for enhancing the effectiveness of the Convention. The importance of sharing lessons learned from the Fukushima Daiichi accident was stressed during the closing session of the meeting, which was open to the public and members of the media. The U.S. delegation consisted of representatives from NRC, the nuclear power industry, Department of State, and the Department of Energy.

Meetings with Union Electric Company

On August 29, 2012, representatives of Union Electric Company and staff held two pre-licensing meetings at NRC Headquarters, Rockville, MD, concerning Callaway Plant, Unit 1. The first meeting was to discuss the licensee's planned submittal of an amendment to modify the Technical Specification 3.7.9, "Ultimate Heat Sink," to incorporate more restrictive limits for pond retention level and temperature. The second meeting was to discuss the planned submittal of a new Technical Specification to provide operability and surveillance requirements for the Class 1E Electrical Equipment Air Conditioning System.

Meeting with Arizona Public Service Company

On August 30, 2012, representatives of Arizona Public Service Company and the staff held a meeting at NRC Headquarters, Rockville, MD, to discuss the licensee's proposed relief request to use Phased Array Ultrasonic Examination Techniques as an alternative to radiography in relation to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section III, at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3.

Organizational Meeting for the Sixth Convention on Nuclear Safety (CNS)

On August 31, 2012, staff participated in the Organizational Meeting for the Sixth CNS. This meeting was held at the IAEA in Vienna, Austria. The meeting purpose was to select Officers, establish Country Groups, and discuss next steps including schedule. The US obtained two officers positions: Vice-Chair for Country Group 4 and Rapporteur for Country Group 2. The U.S. is in Country Group 1. The Review Meeting for the Sixth CNS will be held from March 24 – April 3, 2014.

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 7, 2012

OPA received significant media inquiries on the following:

The Commission paper that directed the staff to develop a generic environmental impact statement to support the new waste confidence rule

The issuance of the mid-cycle assessment letters

The ongoing special inspection at the Palisades (MI) nuclear plant

The GE-Hitachi laser enrichment application

The NRC Level 3 probabilistic risk assessment pilot program

Other Public Affairs Items:

OPA supported the following activities:

- OPA facilitated a recorded interview with NRC staff and a variety of Harrisburg media about recent restart after repairs at the Three Mile Island (PA) nuclear plant.
- OPA facilitated a reporter interview with Northwest News Network and NRC staff to discuss the significance of three inspection findings at the Columbia (WA) nuclear plant.
- OPA facilitated interviews with San Diego Union Tribune and California Current newsletter and NRC staff to discuss what it means to move the San Onofre (CA) nuclear plant into Manual Chapter 0351 oversight.

OPA Social Media items:

Blog:

- A Day in the Life of the NRC Public Document Room
- Harnessing Technology to Make the NRC More Effective and Efficient

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
12-098	NRC Directs Staff to Conduct Two-Year Environmental Study and Revision to Waste Confidence Rule (9/6)
12-099	NRC Issues Mid-Cycle Assessments for Nation's Nuclear Plants (9/6)
Regions:	
II-12-056	NRC Schedules Meeting to Discuss April Power Loss Event at Catawba Nuclear Station (9/5)
III-12-036	NRC to Hold Public Meeting to Discuss Palisades' Safety Culture Assessment Results (9/7)
IV-12-035	NRC to Hold Meeting With Entergy Operations, Inc, at the Agency's Regional Office in Texas (9/4)
IV-12-036	NRC to Hold Regulatory Conference with Energy Northwest on Columbia Generating Station (9/5)

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending September 7, 2012

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. COMSECY-12-0018	8/15/12	Request to Solicit for the Appointment of a New Member on the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS)
SRM on COMSECY-12-0018	9/4/12	(Same)
2. COMSECY-12-0016	7/9/12	Approach for Addressing Policy Issues Resulting from Court Decision to Vacate Waste Confidence Decision and Rule
SRM on COMSECY-12-0016	9/6/12	(same)
Commission Voting Record on COMSECY-12-0016	9/6/12	(same)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-12-0119	8/31/12	Weekly Information Report – Week Ending August 24, 2012
2. SECY-12-0114	8/21/12	Periodic Assessment of the Activities of the Committee to Review Generic Requirements from June 1, 2011, Through May 31, 2012

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. ACRS, Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Regulatory Policies and Practices, notice of meeting (09/18/2012).
2. ACRS, Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Radiation Protection and Nuclear Materials, notice of meeting (09/18/2012).
3. ACRS, Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Plant License Renewal, notice of meeting (09/19/2012).
4. ACRS, Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on U.S. APWR, notice of meeting (09/20/2012).
5. Applications and Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses and Combined Licenses Involving Proposed No Significant Hazards Considerations and Containing Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguard Information and Order Imposing Procedures for Access to Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information [NRC-2012-0208].