

INFORMATION REPORT

November 2, 2009

SECY-09-0163

For: The Commissioners

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

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING
OCTOBER 23, 2009

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*No input this week.

/RA/

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 23, 2009

Watts Bar, Unit 2, Refurbishment Program Audit

During the week of October 13, 2009, the staff conducted a technical audit of the Watts Bar, Unit 2, refurbishment program of the civil and structural systems, structures, and components. The staff found that Tennessee Valley Authority had adequately included the relevant civil and structural systems, structures, and components for monitoring and trending under the Watts Bar, Unit 1, Maintenance Rule Inspection Program. In addition, the staff confirmed that the steel containment vessel, reactor building interior concrete structures, and ice condenser and tank foundations were adequately incorporated into the Watts Bar, Unit 2, refurbishment program. The staff found the audit to be successful and was provided with all of the information needed to complete its review of the licensee's refurbishment program for Watts Bar, Unit 2.

Public Meeting on Topical Report Materials Reliability Program-227

On October 15, 2009, the staff held a public meeting with representatives from the Materials Reliability Program of the Electric Power Research Institute to discuss the staff's ongoing review of topical report MRP-227, Revision 0, "Materials Reliability Program: Pressurized Water Reactor Internals Inspection and Evaluation Guidelines." This topical report is intended to serve as the basis for the development of an aging management program for pressurized water reactor vessel internals in support of license renewal activities. This aging management program will permit pressurized water reactor licensees who have already received renewed licenses to fulfill commitments made as part of receiving their renewed licenses and will permit future license renewal applicants to submit the aging management program as part of their applications. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the industry's draft responses to initial staff requests for additional information and the industry's support for incorporating the aging management program into the NRC's Generic Aging Lessons Learned report for license renewal.

Issuance of the Safety Evaluation Report Related to the License Renewal of Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Units 1 And 2

By letter dated October 16, 2009, the staff issued the Safety Evaluation Report related to the license renewal of Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant Units 1 and 2. The Safety Evaluation Report addressed the license renewal application submitted in a letter dated April 11, 2008, by Northern States Power, in accordance with Title 10, Part 54, of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, "Requirements for Renewal of Operating Licenses for Nuclear Power Plants," to request renewal of Prairie Island's operating licenses for an additional 20 years. The current licenses expire at midnight on August 9, 2013, for Unit 1, and at midnight on October 29, 2014, for Unit 2. The staff is scheduled to meet with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards in a public meeting to be held in December 2009 to discuss the Safety Evaluation Report.

Boiling Water Reactor Owners' Group Regarding National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 805 Transition

On October 20, 2009, the staff met with representatives of the Boiling Water Reactor Owners' Group to discuss industry actions related to the transition to NFPA 805. The topics of discussion included the current status of boiling water reactor utilities commitments to NFPA 805 and the Boiling Water Reactor Owners' Group plans for addressing fire issues and fire probabilistic risk assessment issues.

North Anna Units 1 and 2 Measurement Uncertainty Recapture Power Uprate Approval

By letter dated October 22, 2009, the staff approved a license amendment which increased the licensed core thermal power level by 1.6 percent from 2893 megawatts thermal to 2940 megawatts thermal. By application dated March 26, 2009, as supplemented, the licensee had requested a 1.6 percent Measurement Uncertainty Recapture power uprate for North Anna Units 1 and 2. This increase will be achieved by the use of the Caldon Leading Edge Flowmeter CheckPlus™ ultrasonic flow measurement system, which allows for more accurate measurement of feedwater flow. The license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and will be implemented by July 14, 2010.

Fire Protection Meeting on NFPA 805 Frequently Asked Questions

The staff held a Category 2 Public Meeting with NEI NFPA Standard 805 Task Force, other stakeholders, and the public to discuss the Frequently Asked Questions related to licensees' adoption of NFPA 805. The staff began holding these monthly public meetings in July of 2006 and expects to continue holding them at least throughout the transition period for the pilot plants adopting NFPA 805.

Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 23, 2009

National Source Tracking System (NSTS) Presentation Made

On October 20, 2009, the NRC gave a presentation on the NSTS at the American Society for Nondestructive Testing, Inc. (ASNT), Fall Conference in Columbus, Ohio. The presentation was attended primarily by industrial radiographers, and participation at the ASNT conference is part of the staff's ongoing outreach to such users that have higher numbers of transactions in the NSTS. Following the presentation, the staff also provided a mini-workshop for additional one-on-one support to a number of attendees regarding inventory verifications, continuing the credentialing process, and accessing the system. The staff was encouraged by the interest in the presentation and follow-on workshop, and the desire of licensees to use the electronic system.

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Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 23, 2009

RES/Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Fire Probabilistic Risk Assessment (PRA) Workshop

October 12-16, 2009, RES, in conjunction with EPRI, conducted a workshop on NUREG/CR-6850, "EPRI/NRC-RES Fire PRA Methodology for Nuclear Power Facilities," at Dominion Power in Glen Allen, Virginia. This workshop, which included modules on circuit analysis, fire analysis, and PRA, is responsive to stakeholder requests for training to support implementation of the risk-informed, performance-based fire protection rule 10 CFR 50.48c. Over 80 participants attended this workshop including stakeholders from industry and within NRC as well as a number of international participants. Feedback on this workshop has been highly favorable, and future sessions are being planned for 2010.

RES Staff Visit Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) for Periodic Program Review

From October 19-20, 2009, the staff visited the SNL, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, for a periodic program review. SNL staff briefed the NRC staff on various NRC-sponsored research activities including cyber security, fire research, and reactor code development. NRC staff also visited several test sites and viewed a demonstration of a cable fire test.

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 23, 2009

Criminal Penalties: Unauthorized Introduction of Weapons; Final Rule, (10 CFR Part 73) (RIN 3150-AI31, NRC-2008-0458)

On October 14, 2009, the NRC published a final rule (74 FR 52667) in the *Federal Register* amending its regulations to authorize the imposition of Federal criminal penalties on those who, without authorization, introduce weapons or explosives into specified classes of facilities and installations subject to the regulatory authority of the NRC. This action is necessary to implement Section 229, "Trespass on Commission Installations," of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended. This rule is effective on April 12, 2010.

Industry Codes and Standard; Amended Requirements; Direct Final Rule, Confirmation of Effective Date (10 CFR PART 50) (RIN 3150-AI53, NRC-2008-0663)

On October 19, 2009, the NRC published a document (74 FR 53402) confirming the effective date of October 19, 2009, for the direct final rule (74 FR 38890) published in the *Federal Register* on August 5, 2009. The rule amends the NRC's regulations concerning the performance of in-service inspection of pressurized water reactor upper vessel head penetrations to revise the upper range of the axial flaws permitted in a specimen set used for the qualification of non destructive examination systems. The amendment is a result of the withdrawal of a stakeholder recommendation necessitated by a typographical error concerning the maximum percentage of flaws that should be oriented axially.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 23, 2009

Public Meeting Notice System (PMNS) Training for the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES)

On October 21, 2009, the Public Meeting Notice System Program Manager (PMNS-PM), Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)/Privacy Section, provided training at RES Monthly Secretaries Meeting. The PMNS-PM provided training to the RES secretaries on preparing, submitting, and posting a public meeting notice. This training was arranged in an effort to help RES improve its performance for the timely posting of public meeting notices.

FOIA and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of October 16, 2009, through October 22, 2009:

All incidents with Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) processes or equivalents resulting in a monetary settlement; ADRs involving AmerenUE or its Callaway plant	FOIA/PA-2010-0015
Construction permits for Dresden, Zion, Monticello, Quad Cities, Point Beach, Kewanee and Saxton; records or plans regarding underground pipes used for water and sewage	FOIA/PA-2010-0016
NRC-licensed facility in Muskogee County, Oklahoma, license SMB-0911 / SMB-911, review all records	FOIA/PA-2010-0017
Civil nuclear power program in the People's Republic of China, regarding the activities of Westinghouse Electric Company, January 2002 to present	FOIA/PA-2010-0018
Investigation transcripts on or about January 28, 2009	FOIA/PA-2010-0019
Information provided by named individual following investigation, all records	FOIA/PA-2010-0020

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 23, 2009

Arrivals		
Burki, Emaad	Senior Project Manager (LMS)	HR
Criscione, Lawrence	Reliability and Risk Engineer	RES
Lorette, Phillip Todd	Secretary (OA)	CSO
Padelford, Timothy	Fire Protection Engineer	NRR
Shankar, Sundar	Project Manager (Engineer & Design)	ADM
Stutzcage, Edward	Physical Scientist	NRO
Traiforos, Spyros	Project Manager	NRR
Williams, Megan Jean	Reactor Inspector (Civil Engineering)	RIV
Departures		
Dvir, Assaf Jacob	Reactor Systems Engineer	NRO
McDermott, Jeffrey	Branch Chief	ADM
Peckenpaugh, Jon	Hydrogeologist	FSME
Pierce, Stephen	General Engineer	NRR

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ENCLOSURE J

Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 23, 2009

OPA Received Significant Media Inquiries on the Following

The NRC inspection team was sent to Nuclear Fuel Service in Erwin, Tennessee, to follow-up on an incident involving processing of scrap material containing low-levels of uranium.

Update on the license renewal application for Vermont Yankee's nuclear power plant in Vermont.

Approval of the uprate for North Anna's nuclear power plant in Virginia.

The license renewal issued to Three Mile Island, Unit 1 nuclear power plant in Pennsylvania, for an additional 20 years.

Notice of Violation issued to Seabrook nuclear power plant in New Hampshire over a contract worker who failed to report a driving under the influence arrest.

President Obama's nomination of two individuals, Dr. George Apostolakis and Mr. William D. Magwood, for seats on the Commission.

Other Public Affairs Items

An article authored by Randy Sullivan, staff member from the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response appeared in the latest issue of *Operational Radiation Safety*.

OPA sent out a letter to the managing editor of *The International Herald Tribune* pointing out numerous errors in a story about aging reactors.

Press Releases	
Headquarters:	
09-175	NRC Approves Power Uprate for North Anna Nuclear Power Plant
09-176	NRC Renews Operating License for Three Mile Island Nuclear Power Plant for Additional 20 years
09-177	NRC Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards to Meet November 5-7 in Rockville, Maryland
09-178	NRC Announces Opportunities for Hearing on Applications to Renew Operating Licenses for Salem and Hope Creek Nuclear Power Plants
09-179	General Services Administration Signs Lease for Third NRC Headquarters Building
Regions:	
II-09-058	NRC Begins Special Inspection at Nuclear Fuel Services
II-09-059	NRC Augments Inspection at Nuclear Fuel Services

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
Items of Interest
Week Ending October 23, 2009

Document Released to Public	Date	Subject
Decision Documents		
1. SRM-SECY-09-0075	10/16/09	Safety Culture Policy Statement
Commission Voting Record on SECY-09-0075	10/16/09	(same)
2. SECY-09-0101 (REDACTED VERSION)	07/09/09	Licensing of a Babcock and Wilcox Medical Isotope Production System
SRM on SECY-09-0101	10/09/09	(same)
Commission Voting Record on SECY-09-0101	10/09/09	(same)
Information Papers		
1. SECY-09-0143	09/29/09	Status of the Accident Sequence Precursor Program and the Standardized Plant Analysis Risk Models
2. SECY-09-0148	10/15/09	Weekly Information Report – Week Ending October 2, 2009
3. SECY-09-0146	10/06/09	2009 Summary of Decommissioning Funding Status Reports for Nuclear Power Reactors
4. SECY-09-0151	10/19/09	Weekly Information Report – Week Ending October 9, 2009
Memoranda		
1. M090922	10/16/09	Staff Requirements – Periodic Briefing on New Reactor Issues - Progress in Resolving Issues Associated with Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Congressman Joe Barton, dated October 16, 2009, responds to questions regarding the current status of the processing of combined license applications for new nuclear plant applications.

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ENCLOSURE O

2. Letter to Congressman Dennis Kucinich, dated October 16, 2009, responds to letter requesting that the NRC maintain independent and intensified scrutiny over FirstEnergy management of the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station.

Federal Register Notices Issued

1. Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Reliability and Probabilistic Risk Assessment, notice of meeting (11/13/2009).
2. ACRS, Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Economic Simplified Boiling Water (ESBWR), notice of meeting (11/17-18/2009).
3. ACRS, Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on U.S. Evolutionary Power Reactor, notice of meeting (11/19/2009).
4. ACRS, Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Reliability and Probabilistic Risk Assessment, notice of meeting (11/12/2009).
5. ACRS, Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on AP1000, notice of meeting (11/19-20/2009).

Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending October 23, 2009

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS SCHEDULE, NO. 27

OCA Contact	Date & Place	Time	Committee	Subject	Witnesses
Decker	10/27/09 10/28/09 10/29/09 406 DSOB	TBA	Senate Environment and Public Works (Senators Boxer / Inhofe)	Hearings on Global Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steven Chu – Secretary of Energy • Lisa Jackson – Administrator, EPA • Ray LaHood – Secretary of Transportation • Jon Wellinghoff – Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Decker	Week of 11/02/09 or 11/09/09 366 DSOB	TBA	Senate Environment and Public Works (Senators Boxer / Inhofe)	Climate Change and Energy Bill, S. 1733	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBD

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ENCLOSURE R