

INFORMATION REPORT

March 24, 2011

SECY-11-0038

For: The Commissioners

From: Mary C. Muessle
Acting Assistant for Operations
Office of the Executive Director for Operations

Subject: WEEKLY INFORMATION REPORT - WEEK ENDING MARCH 11, 2011

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*No input this week.

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 11, 2011

Issuance of Information Notice (IN) 2011-04

On February 23, 2011, staff released NRC IN 2011-04: Contaminants and Stagnant Conditions Affecting Stress Corrosion Cracking in Stainless Steel Piping in Pressurized Water Reactors (PWR). This IN serves to inform PWR Licensees of the effects of contaminants and stagnant conditions on the potential for stress corrosion cracking (SCC) in stainless steel piping. The IN discusses relevant operating experience and means for minimizing the potential for pipe failure from this cause.

Public Meetings Related to the License Renewal Process for South Texas Project (STP)

On March 2, 2011, the staff conducted two meetings to inform the public about the license renewal process and to solicit comments from the public on the scope of the environmental review for the STP, Units 1 and 2, license renewal application. Approximately 60 people attended the two meetings, including members of the public, the applicant, a representative of U.S. Congressman Ron Paul, a representative of Texas House Member Randy Weber, and local citizen organizations, news media, and government officials. The scoping period for the public to submit comments regarding the preparation of the environmental impact statement associated with the STP license renewal application ends on April 1, 2011.

Public Meeting with Subcritical Hybrid Intense Neutron Emitter (SHINE) Medical Technologies

On March 7, 2011, staff participated in a public meeting requested by SHINE Medical Technologies, Inc. SHINE is a recipient of a Department of Energy Cooperative Agreement. They are planning to use an accelerator to irradiate a homogeneous uranium solution tank in order to produce Molybdenum-99; therefore, they are planning to submit a Part 70 application for the irradiation facility and request an exemption from Part 50 for the production/separation facility. They provided a brief overview of their facility concept and focused on six questions submitted to staff in a letter dated February 14, 2011. The question topics included restricted data, agreement state interaction and responsibility; Applicability of Part 50, part 70 subpart H and, part 51; and the regulatory review framework. Staff will provide a formal response to the letter. SHINE is willing to hold another public meeting after receiving the answers and is willing to hold a closed meeting to discuss technical issues they consider proprietary.

Issuance of the Safety Evaluation Report (SER) Related to the License Renewal of Hope Creek Generating Station

On March 9, 2011, the NRC staff issued the Safety Evaluation Report (SER) related to the Hope Creek Generating Station license renewal application. By letter dated August 18, 2009, PSEG Nuclear, LLC, submitted the license renewal application to the staff requesting the extension of the operating license for an additional 20 years beyond the current 40-year term. The staff performed its review in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 54, "Requirements for Renewal of Operating Licenses for Nuclear Power Plants." The staff is scheduled to meet with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards on May 12, 2011, to discuss the SER.

Office of New Reactors (NRO)
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 11, 2011

Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for South Texas Project (STP) Units 3 and 4 Combined Operating License (COL) Published in Federal Register

On March 4, 2011, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued a Notice of Availability of the final EIS for the South Texas Project Units 3 and 4 STP combined operating license (COL) application in the *Federal Register*. The final EIS evaluates the impacts of building and operating two new reactors at the STP site located in Bay City, Texas. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers participated as a cooperating agency on the environmental review. The final EIS includes the NRC staff's recommendation that the COLs for STP Units 3 and 4 should be issued. In making this recommendation, the staff has concluded that there are no environmentally preferable or obviously superior sites.

Final Safety Evaluation Report issued for Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor (ESBWR) Design

On Wednesday, March 9, 2011, the NRC staff issued the Final Safety Evaluation Report (FSER) and Final Design Approval (FDA) for the GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy (GEH) ESBWR standard design. The staff is preparing to publish the proposed rule for the ESBWR Design Certification later this month pending issuance of the Commission Staff Requirements Memorandum.

Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 11, 2011

Meeting with Nuclear Assurance Corporation (NAC) International, Inc.

On March 3, 2011, NMSS staff met with Zion *Solutions* and NAC International, Inc., to discuss plans for dry cask storage at Zion Nuclear Power Station. Discussions at the meeting focused on: design of the independent spent fuel storage facility and fuel building crane upgrades; fuel modifications and inspections; fuel loading strategy; and issues associated with staff's review of Amendment 3 to Certificate of Compliance No. 1031 for the Model No. MAGNASTOR storage system. External stakeholders (including print media) participated in the meeting. No regulatory commitments were made.

Informational exchange meeting with the European Commission (EC)

On March 8, 2011, NMSS and the Office of International Programs staff met with Mr. Finlay Maclean, Administrator at the Directorate General for Energy of the EC. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the differences between the import/export controls between the U.S. and European Union (EU) and potential areas of collaboration between the NRC and the EC. Mr. Maclean provided a brief summary of the internal process of approval of imports and exports from the EU to the US. The NRC provided information about best practices for the approval of exports of nuclear material and equipment from the U.S. to the EU under the EURATOM Agreement of Cooperation. Mr. Maclean also conveyed an interest in establishing a set of videoconferences to exchange information between both entities.

Submission of the NRC Vetting Record for the Calendar Year (CY) 2010 Update to the U.S. Additional Protocol

On March 11, 2011, staff from NMSS submitted to the Department of Commerce the official NRC vetting record for the CY 2010 update to the U.S. Government's AP declaration. As part of the interagency review, NMSS is responsible for vetting the annual updates to the U.S. Government's AP declaration for issues of direct national security significance, and providing an official vetting record to the Department of Commerce. The updated declaration is submitted to Congress for a mandatory 60-day Congressional review before the final document is sent to the International Atomic Energy Agency, which is due by May 15, 2011.

Office of Administration (ADM)
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 11, 2011

Guidelines & Tools for Evaluating Safety Aspects of Human Performance Associated with Advanced Technologies in Nuclear Power Plant Control Stations

On March 4, 2011, as a result of a full and open competition, a labor hour contract (NRC-HQ-11-C-04-0009) was awarded to the University of Central Florida in Orlando, Florida. This contract will develop knowledge base guidelines and tools for evaluating the safety aspects of human performance associated with advanced technologies in nuclear power plant control stations. The period of performance for the contract is from March 15, 2011, through December 31, 2013, with no option periods. The total contract value is \$557,251.

James Luehman; Denial of Petition for Rulemaking (PRM-50-92, NRC-2008-0492)

On March 7, 2011 (76 FR 12295), the NRC published a denial of a petition for rulemaking (PRM) submitted by James Luehman (the petitioner). The petitioner requested that the NRC amend its standard for sustaining a whistleblower retaliation violation of the Employee Protection Rule.

List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: NUHOMS[®] HD System, Revision 1; Confirmation of Effective Date (RIN 3150-AI89, NRC-2011-0002)

On March 9, 2011 (76 FR 12825), the NRC published a confirmation of effective date for the direct final rule that was published in the *Federal Register* on January 13, 2011 (76 FR 2243). This direct final rule amended the NRC's spent fuel storage regulations in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 72.214, to revise the NUHOMS[®] HD System listing to include Amendment Number 1 to Certificate of Compliance Number 1030. The effective date for this direct final rule is March 29, 2011.

Office of Information Services (OIS)
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 11, 2011

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act (PA) Requests Received During the Period of March 4, 2011 through March 10, 2011:

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Zoysia Farm Nurseries involvement with Atomic Energy Commission in 1950 | FOIA/PA-2011-0102 |
| 9-17-10 10 CFR 2.206 Request between Ameren Corporation and NRC | FOIA/PA-2011-0103 |
| Listing of all specific radioactive materials license holders in the jurisdiction of RGN III | FOIA/PA-2011-0104 |
| Named individual employee file | FOIA/PA-2011-0105 |
| NRC's FOIA Log 7/1/10-1/1/11 | FOIA/PA-2011-0106 |
| Listing of all general licenses | FOIA/PA-2011-0107 |
| Sealed Source Device Registration for City Labs, Inc., issued on 10/28/10 | FOIA/PA-2011-0108 |

March 11, 2011

ENCLOSURE H

Office of Human Resources (HR)
Items of Interest
Week Ending March 11, 2011

| Arrivals | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Goldau, Andreas | OPERATIONS ENGINEER | R-II |
| Shah, Swetha | REACTOR ENGINEER/RESIDENT INSPECTOR | R-III |
| Thadani, Ashok | CONSULTANT | NRO |
| Retirements | | |
| None | | |
| Departures | | |
| Feliu, Luis | MECHANICAL ENGINEER | NRR |
| Hannum, Karyn | SENIOR PROGRAM ANALYST | NRR |

March 11, 2011

ENCLOSURE J

Office of the Secretary (SECY)
 Items of Interest
 Week Ending March 11, 2011

| Document Released to Public | Date | Subject |
|--|----------|--|
| Decision Documents | | |
| 1. SRM-SECY-11-0005 | 03/07/11 | Proposed Final Safety Culture Policy Statement |
| Commission Voting Record on SECY-11-0005 | 03/07/11 | (same) |
| 2. Commissioner Svinicki's vote and comments on SECY-11-0028 | 03/04/11 | Options for Implementing an Alternative Interim Regulatory Approach to the Minimum Days off Provisions of 10 CFR Part 26, Subpart I, "Managing Fatigue" |
| 3. Commissioner Svinicki's vote and comments on SECY-11-0003 | 03/04/11 | Status of Enforcement Discretion Request and Rulemaking Activities Related to 10 CFR Part 26, Subpart I, "Managing Fatigue" |
| 4. SRM-SECY-11-0006 | 03/08/11 | Proposed Rule – Economic Simplified Boiling-Water Reactor Design Certification |
| Commission Voting Record on SECY-11-0006 | 03/08/11 | (same) |
| Chairman Jaczko's vote and comments on SECY-11-0028 | 03/04/11 | Options for Implementing an Alternative Interim Regulatory Approach to the Minimum Days Off Provisions of 10 CFR Part 26, Subpart I, "Managing Fatigue" |
| Information Papers | | |
| 1. SECY-11-0030 | 03/07/11 | Weekly Information Report – Week Ending February 25, 2011 |
| Memoranda | | |
| 1. M110310 | 03/10/11 | Staff Requirements - Affirmation Session: I. SECY-11-0021 - Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, L.L.C. and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station) Petition for Review of LBP-10-19 (October 28, 2010), Docket No. 50-271-LR |

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ENCLOSURE O

Commission Correspondence

1. Letter to Danielle Brain, Project on Government Oversight, dated March 4, 2011, responds to letter regarding a report by NRC/Office of the Inspector General entitled, "Alleged Conflict of Interest by Former NRC Commissioner."
2. Letter to Arne Duncan, Secretary of Education, dated March 4, 2011, provides the Designation of Agency Representative for the NRC.
3. Letter to Senators James Inhofe and David Vitter, dated March 4, 2011, responds to letter addressing concerns about the nuclear power reactor license renewal process.
4. Letter to Rep. Ralph Hall, dated March 4, 2011, responds to letter regarding the Yucca Mountain license application.
5. Letter to Senator Barbara Boxer, dated March 2, 2011, provides the NRC's Annual Report of the Administration of the Government in the Sunshine Act for CY 2010.

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ENCLOSURE O