Department of Health and Human Services
Maine People Living Safe, Healthy and Productive Lives
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June 30, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Michael Thibodeau, President of the Senate, and Representative Mark Eves, Speaker of the House

FROM: Mary C. Mayhew, Commissioner
Department of Health and Human Services

SUBJECT: State Nuclear Safety Inspector's April 2016 Monthly Report to the Legislature on the Interim Spent Fuel Storage Facility in Wiscasset, Maine

Legislation enacted in the spring of 2008 requires the State Nuclear Safety Inspector to provide monthly reports to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and Maine Yankee. The report focuses on activities at the site and includes highlights of the national debate on storing and disposing the used nuclear fuel. For your convenience highlights of local and national events are captured in the executive summary to the report.

The enclosed report provides the information required under Title 22 of the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated §666, as enacted under Public Law, Chapter 539, in the second regular session of the 123rd Legislature.

Should you have questions about its content, please feel free to contact Mr. Patrick J. Dostie, State Nuclear Safety Inspector, at 287-6721.

MCM/klv

Enclosure

cc: Mark Lombard, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Monica Ford, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region I
J Stanley Brown, Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation Manager, Maine Yankee
David Sorenson, Senior Health Policy Advisor
Kenneth Albert, Director, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
Paul Mercer, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection
Timothy Schneider, Maine Public Advocate
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Nancy Beardsley, Director, Division of Environmental Health
Jay Hyland, PE, Manager, Radiation Control Program

State Nuclear Safety Inspector Office
Maine CDC – DHHS

April 2016 Monthly Report to the Legislature

Executive Summary

The report covers activities at the Maine Yankee Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) facility, including the State's ongoing environmental radiation surveillance and provides updates on the national effort to license and construct a consolidated interim storage facility and/or a permanent geologic repository for the disposal of spent nuclear fuel. Maine's goal is to move the ISFSI waste stored at Maine Yankee to one of these facilities. The report's highlights assist readers to focus on the significant activities that took place both locally and nationally during the month.

Local

- The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) sent two regional inspectors to perform an on-site inspection of Maine Yankee's storage facility in Wiscasset. One inspector reviewed Maine Yankee's safety programs while the other focused on their physical security program. Both inspectors remarked at the exit briefing that they found no issues, deficiencies or violations during their inspection.
- Maine Yankee notified the Department of Environmental Protection that it had two excavation activities in 2015. In both instances samples were taken and analyzed. No evidence of any chemical contamination was found in the soils.
- The Wiscasset newspaper noted the federal government's latest efforts to hold a series of public meetings to get input from local, state and tribal stakeholders on developing a national consent-based siting approach for host communities wishing to site a spent nuclear fuel storage or disposal facility. The Department of Energy (DOE) invited Wiscasset officials to attend the meeting that will be held in Boston on the evening of June 2.
- Maine Yankee submitted to the NRC an exemption request from their current cask Technical Specifications which would force them in a very unlikely event to remove all the fuel assemblies from a cask within 30 days. Since Maine Yankee was decommissioned in 2005, it currently has no means to safely remove the spent fuel, transfer it and place it into a safe condition. Consequently, Maine Yankee was requesting the NRC to allow them to return to their original cask loading specifications that would prevent such a situation.

National:

- The Federal Claims Court ruled in favor of three nuclear utilities' lawsuit against the federal government for its failure to take title and possession of their spent nuclear fuel and Greater Than Class C wastes. The Court awarded Connecticut Yankee $32.6 million, Maine Yankee $24.6 million, and Yankee Atomic in Massachusetts $19.6 million.
- Waste Control Specialists (WCS), with the support of partners AREVA and NAC International, submitted to the NRC a license application to construct and operate a Consolidated Interim Storage Facility for spent nuclear fuel by 2021 in Andrews County in west Texas. AREVA and NAC represent 62% of the existing dry storage systems used in the United States and 78% of the spent nuclear fuel at shutdown and decommissioned sites, including Maine Yankee's.
- Holtec International submitted a letter of intent to the NRC that they will submit a license application by November 30 on opening a $5 billion Consolidated Interim Storage Facility in Lea County, New Mexico that will have an expected lifespan of 100 years.

Introduction

As part of the Department of Health and Human Services' long standing oversight of Maine Yankee's nuclear activities under Title 22, Maine Revised Statutes (MRS) §666 (2), legislation was enacted in the second regular session of the 123rd and signed by Governor John Baldacci requiring that the State Nuclear Safety Inspector prepare a monthly report on the oversight activities performed at the ISFSI facility located in Wiscasset, Maine.

The State Inspector's individual activities for the past month are highlighted under certain broad categories, as illustrated below. Since some activities are periodic and ongoing, there may be some months when very little will be reported under that category. It is recommended for reviewers to examine previous reports to ensure connectivity with the information presented as it would be cumbersome to continuously repeat prior information in every report. Past reports are available from the Radiation Control Program's web site at the following link: www.maineradiationcontrol.org and by clicking on the nuclear safety link in the left hand margin.

Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI)

During April, the general status of the ISFSI was normal, with no instances of spurious alarms due to environmental conditions.

There were no fire- or security-related impairments for the month. However, there were seven security incident reports logged for the month. Three of the seven incidents involved the testing of the security detection system. Another two had to do with the alarm system. One was for a maintenance activity on the Security and Operations Building. The last one involved a set of security keys that were inadvertently taken home. All seven incidents required compensatory measures.

There were twenty condition reports[1] (CR) for the month and they are described below.

1st CR: Documented that a steel bar was found protruding from the ground near the construction pad. The area was marked off.

2nd CR: Documented that a radio unit in the conference room was not charged up. The cord had become loose where it plugged into the converter. The cord was reattached and the radio charged up properly.

3rd CR: Documented that a video monitor momentarily lost power and repowered itself. The monitor has operated properly since.

4th CR: Documented several issues with outgoing correspondence. A technical review was not signed off, and in several cases an outgoing letter number was assigned without a procedure review form being used.

5th CR: Documented that a firearm experienced a mechanical malfunction during range training. The firearm was taken out of service and disassembled. The cause was dirt and debris in the mechanism. The unit was cleaned and returned to service.

6th CR: Documented that the gatehouse gate was opening on its own. The cause was found to be a faulty limit switch. The limit switch was replaced.

7th CR: Documented that during a rainstorm, standing water was found in the Maintenance Building.

8th CR: Documented that exposed nails were found in the Maintenance Building between the studs, revealing a potential safety hazard. The areas were marked and plywood was being installed to cover the hazard.

9th CR: Documented that one of the parking lot lights was not working. The ballast was replaced.

10th CR: Documented that an exterior power outlet at the Maintenance Building was not a ground fault protected (GFCI) outlet. Upon further investigation the outlet was found to be GFCI protected

[1] A condition report is a report that promptly alerts management to potential conditions that may be adverse to quality or safety. For more information, refer to the glossary on the Radiation Control Program's website.

by another outlet in the same circuit.

11th CR: Documented that the alarm vendor called and indicated that a restore signal was present on the Maine Yankee's alarm system. The vendor noted that work at their end was impacting the system. Compensatory measures were put into place until the system was tested and verified to be working.

12th CR: Documented that the Gatehouse Gate was observed to be open for no reason. Replacing the limit switch cleared the issue.

13th CR: Documented that various outlet vent Resistance Temperature Device ID tags were wedged into the frame of their outlet screens. The tags are relatively small and do not impact the operability of the vertical concrete casks. A plan was being developed to correct the issue during the summer cask inspections.

14th CR: Documented a similar issue as in CR number 11 above. The system was again tested and found to be operating correctly.

15th CR: Documented that a transposition error was noted in the Greater Than Class C waste decay calculation. The calculation was corrected and reissued.

16th CR: Documented that License Basis Document Change Request review sheets were incorrectly filed with the Emergency Plan. The review sheets were refiled with the appropriate package.

17th CR: Documented that the Camera and Detector Map was not properly updated for various changes.

18th CR: Documented that a set of keys were home. The discrepancy was found by the next shift. The security officer was called and immediately brought the keys back to the site. Compensatory measures were put into place until the keys were returned.

19th CR: Documented a potential procedural issue during range qualification. The course of fire was modified without explicit direction in the procedure. The personnel involved will re-perform the procedure. The procedure was being evaluated for possible enhancements.

20th CR: Documented that the administrative limit of one blocked intake vent was reached during a snowstorm. The cask Technical Specification limits of two blocked intake vents per cask were not challenged. The vents were cleared of snow.

Other ISFSI Related Activities

1. On April 4, Maine Yankee submitted to NRC its biennial report on any changes, tests, or experiments to safety-related structures, systems, or components as described in its Defueled Safety Analysis Report. Maine Yankee informed the NRC that from April 1, 2014, through March 31, 2016, "no changes were made to the facility or the spent fuel storage cask design or procedures, and no tests or experiments were conducted that required the performance of a safety evaluation."

2. On April 5, Maine Yankee submitted their annual Individual Monitoring Form 5 Report electronically to the NRC. There were no individuals in 2015 who received a radiation dose greater than or equal 100 mrem[2]. Consequently, no reports had to be sent to individuals in accordance with NRC regulations.

3. On April 12, the legislatively mandated group, representing the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the State Police, the Public Advocate, the Department of Health and Human Services' Radiation Control Program and Maine Yankee, met for its quarterly meeting to discuss the State's and Maine Yankee's activities pertinent to the oversight of the ISFSI. The Radiation Protection Manager distributed the Oversight Group's 2015 Annual Report to the Legislature. The report was a compilation of each state agency's oversight role and activities for the past year and Maine Yankee's overview of its litigation efforts against the federal government and national nuclear waste issues. The report also listed the Oversight Fund's estimated expenditures and budgeted transfers for the 2016 calendar year. The

[2] A mrem or millirem is a conventional unit that is based on how much of the radiation energy is absorbed by the human body multiplied by a quality factor that is a measure of its relative hazard. For a further explanation, refer to the glossary on the Radiation Program's website.

State Inspector's report highlighted the submission of his annual and monthly reports to the Legislature and noted that there were no outstanding reports due. The Inspector informed the Group of his ongoing participation in a national interregional team that is developing recommendations from states to DOE on funding emergency preparedness for local communities on spent fuel shipments traversing their jurisdictions, his preparations for determining the radiation dose from the State's storage facility, his participation in two national Ad Hoc Working Groups on communications and rail/routing of spent fuel shipments. Maine Yankee informed the Group of its upcoming NRC inspection next week, its cask relicensing efforts this summer that would include removing a cask lid and inspecting for possible chloride deposits, its biennial audit of its programs at the end of this month, an explanation of their anticipated exemption request next week to the NRC from one of their Technical Specification requirements, and its fall full scale emergency plan exercise. Maine Yankee also apprised the Group of their ongoing lawsuit against the federal government and the recent Federal Claims Court ruling awarding Maine Yankee $24.6 million in damages. In addition, Maine Yankee reported on the status of some congressional initiatives both in the House and Senate. However, Congress was still at an impasse as the House continued favoring the resumption of the licensing of the Yucca Mountain repository in Nevada whereas the Senate preferred the construction of a pilot interim storage facility for spent nuclear fuel. The Public Advocate's representative related his preparations for the receipt of the federal funds that were awarded to Maine Yankee and would report next time how those funds would be distributed to the ratepayers. The State Police stated that there were no intelligence issues to report that would impact Maine Yankee and that they were looking forward to Maine Yankee's emergency plan exercise this fall to train some of the State Police's tactical team members.

4. On April 14, Maine Yankee submitted to the NRC an exemption request from their cask Technical Specifications. The request was on a very specific exemption from a one-time requirement on measuring the concrete cask average surface radiation dose rate when the casks were first loaded onto the concrete pads in the ISFSI. Maine Yankee performed the requirement under Amendment Number 2 of the NRC's Certificate of Compliance (CoC) for the casks, which required the surface radiation measurements to be performed during loading operations but prior to commencing storage operations. In 2011, in order to maintain current with the cask manufacturer's requirements, Maine Yankee adopted Amendment Number 5 to the NRC's CoC. Unbeknownst to Maine Yankee one of the specific Tech Spec changes now required that the radiation surface measurements be performed during storage operations. Since Maine Yankee was now in storage operations, the NRC recently queried Maine Yankee on how it would meet this radiation requirement. With the casks in storage for over ten years with declining surface radiation dose rates and spent fuel heat loads, there were no credible events that could trigger the Tech Spec requirement, unless there was a beyond design basis accident. In such a very unlikely event where the concrete cask was compromised so that surface dose rates exceeded the Tech Spec requirement, Maine Yankee would be required by their Tech Spec to remove all the fuel assemblies from the cask within 30 days. Since Maine Yankee was decommissioned in 2005, it currently has no means to safely remove the spent fuel, transfer it and place it into a safe condition. Consequently, Maine Yankee was requesting the NRC to allow them to return to their original Tech Spec Amendment Number 2 to conform to their original loading specifications.

5. On April 19, the NRC performed an on-site inspection of Maine Yankee's storage facility with two regional inspectors. One inspector reviewed the following programs - Radiation Protection, Emergency Plan, Fire Protection, Surveillances, Environmental Monitoring, and Quality Assurance. The other inspector focused solely on Maine Yankee's security procedures, physical barriers and detection system, compensatory measures, security training, and Maine Yankee's response to the NRC's Part 37 regulations to physically protect highly radioactive sources from theft or diversion. Both inspectors informed Maine Yankee at the exit briefing that they would receive two reports and related that they found no issues, deficiencies or violations during their inspection. The State Inspector observed and participated in some of the inspection.

6. On April 20, Maine Yankee submitted to the DEP its annual site inspection summary. The report indicated that Maine Yankee had two excavation activities in 2015. The first was on the southeast side of the Operations Building to apply foundation sealer to the foundation wall. The second was on the southwest corner of the Yard Area to replace a microwave foundation. In both instances samples were taken during the excavations and each time no evidence was found of any chemical contamination in the soils.

7. On April 20, Maine Yankee submitted their annual reports for radioactive effluent releases and radiological environmental monitoring. There were no planned or unplanned gaseous or liquid releases from the storage casks. Consequently, no assessment of the radiation dose was required to the most likely exposed person. Since there were no effluent releases from the casks, Maine Yankee was only required to monitor the direct radiation exposure from the facility, which it does with passive devices, called thermoluminescent dosimeters (TLDs)[3]. The environmental monitoring report explained that Maine Yankee has nine TLD stations in the vicinity of the ISFSI and one control station at the Wiscasset Fire Station. All nine stations were comparable to or in some cases slightly higher than the control station. However, there was one station that was noticeably higher than the other eight ISFSI stations. This location has been consistently high since March, 2005. Due to its distance from the bermed area, the higher values were assumed to be due to its line of sight and proximity to the ISFSI. Maine Yankee calculated an annual dose of 1.30 mrem at its highest TLD location, which was much lower than the Environmental Protection Agency's annual public limit of 25 mrem.

Environmental:

The environmental radiation badges were returned later than usual. Therefore, the results will be available in May's monthly report.

Other Newsworthy Items:

1. On April 1, the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) published a "Post Irradiation Examination Plan for High Burnup Demonstration Project Sister Rods." The Plan described DOE's experimental work to characterize the high burnup spent nuclear fuel for storage and future transport. Twenty-five spent fuel rods underwent non-destructive and destructive examinations at ORNL. The detailed examinations will fill in most of the spent fuel data gaps in understanding high burnup fuel irradiation effects from pressurized water reactors. The sister rods have similar design and operating characteristics of high burnup spent fuel currently in dry storage. Some of the rods actually come from spent fuel assemblies that were placed in dry storage. The Demonstration Project was expected to take ten to twelve years. The web link for the Plan can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

2. On April 4, the Wiscasset newspaper wrote an article on the federal government's latest efforts to hold a series of public meetings to get input from local, state and tribal stakeholders on developing a national consent-based siting approach for host communities wishing to site a spent nuclear fuel storage or disposal facility. DOE has invited Wiscasset officials to attend the meeting that will be held in Boston on the evening of June 2. The article can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the following link: http://www.wiscassetnewspaper.com/article/meeting-address-storage-spent-nuclear-waste/68151.

3. On April 5, California Representative Issa sent a letter to Energy Secretary Moniz requesting that the Secretary add another public meeting in Southern California to DOE's initial schedule of a series of eight consent-based siting meetings. The request was made in light of Southern California Edison's announcement to decommission their three reactors at the San Onofre site and subsequent storage of

[3] Thermoluminescent Dosimeters (TLD) are very small, passive radiation monitors requiring laboratory analysis. For a further explanation, refer to the glossary on the Radiation Program's website.

their spent nuclear fuel on the coast of California. His plea was based on the reactors location near an active fault line, Interstate-5 Freeway, and the eight million residents in Orange and San Diego Counties. Although the residents can submit their comments, the California Representative believed that a public forum would facilitate greater participation and discussion with the local residents. The web link for the letter can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

4. On April 7, the Federal Claims Judge issued his long awaited decision on the three Yankees' (Connecticut Yankee, Maine Yankee, and Yankee Atomic in Massachusetts) Phase III litigation against the federal government for its failure to take title and possession of the three sites spent nuclear fuel and Greater Than Class C wastes. The Judge awarded about $76.8 million with Connecticut Yankee receiving $32.6 million, Maine Yankee receiving about $24.6 million, and the remaining $19.6 million for Yankee Atomic. Since a previous Federal Appeals Court ruled that utility companies cannot receive damage awards until the costs have been incurred, the three companies will be filing lawsuits against the federal government every several years to recoup their expenses until such time the federal government fulfills their obligations. The web links for the press release and the Judge's ruling can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined texts and following the directions.

5. On April 11, DOE held its second consent-based siting meeting to gain public feedback on its development of a national consent-based siting process for potential host communities that wish to store or dispose of spent nuclear fuel and high-level waste. The meeting followed the same format as the first meeting in Chicago last month with a speakers' panel, a question and answer period between the public and the panel members followed by small group discussions and a summary of the highlights from the small group discussions. The web link for the agenda can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

6. On April 12, the National Transportation Stakeholders Forum's Rail/Routing Working Group presented a third webinar in a series of four webinars on rail transportation safety. The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) presentation was on hazardous material transportation security. The FRA informed how carriers choose the safest and most secure routes by analyzing the previous year's 27 risk factors to designate primary and alternate routes for certain high hazard materials such as spent nuclear fuel. The FRA noted that the high hazard materials' shipments were usually classified as containing security sensitive information and therefore restricted from public disclosure. The presentation also discussed carrier consultations with state, local and tribal officials and which rail carriers were typically inspected by FRA Inspectors. The web link for the slides can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

7. On April 12, Senator Heller from Nevada sent a letter to the Chair and Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Energy, Water, and Related Agencies urging them to eliminate the funding in the proposed appropriations bill for the Yucca Mountain project. The Subcommittee had proposed $150 million for DOE and $20 million for NRC to continue the licensing process. The Senator advocated instead that the funds be assigned to DOE to support their consent-based siting approach currently underway. The web link for the letter can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

8. On April 13, Senator Heller sent a similar letter to Chair and Ranking Member of the Senate Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development urging them to honor the State of Nevada's wishes and reject any funding proposal for the Yucca Mountain Project and instead fund DOE's consent-based initiative and efforts to develop long-term storage options for spent nuclear fuel. The web link for the letter can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.

9. On April 13, both the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Energy and Water development held hearings to discuss the markups of their respective appropriations legislation for Fiscal Year 2017. The House version totaled $37.4 billion while the Senate's version amounted to $37.5 billion. Both bills addressed nuclear security, Army Corps of Engineers, environmental clean-up, energy programs, Bureau of Reclamation to protect water resources, science research, and nuclear waste. The apportionment of funds for nuclear waste continued the ongoing impasse between the House and the Senate. The House favored the law of the land, the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, which designated Yucca Mountain in Nevada as the disposal site for spent nuclear fuel and high-level waste. Consequently, they provided $150 million for DOE's Nuclear Waste Disposal Program and $20 million for the NRC to continue the Yucca Mountain licensing process. In their version the Senate provided $61 million for a pilot program for consolidating nuclear waste storage for shutdown reactor sites, for the development of a transportation system for the spent fuel, and allowed DOE to store nuclear waste at privately owned facilities that are licensed by the NRC.

10. On April 14, Nuclear Engineering International reported that Russia's National Operator for Radioactive Waste Management was granted on April 6 a permit to construct an underground research laboratory for placing radioactive waste in the Yenissei Section of the Nizhnekansky Rock Mass near Kansk, Siberia, and north of Mongolia. The license was limited to the construction of the deep geologic laboratory to test the disposal technology including all handling operations under actual conditions with dummy packages.

11. On April 20, the quarterly brief of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Rate Case Settlement took place. The three Yankee Companies held their quarterly conference call to brief interested stakeholders from the states of Maine, Massachusetts, and Connecticut on the status of FERC's rate case settlement on spent nuclear fuel storage issues. A spokesperson for the General Counsel informed the attendees that the three Yankee Companies' had won the Phase III litigation damage claims for the period 2009 through 2012 and were awarded $76 million by the Federal Claims Court Judge with Maine Yankee receiving $24.6 million. However, General Counsel noted that the federal government has 60 days in which to appeal the Judge's decision. An update was provided on the recent DOE initiative on Consent-Based Siting Process. Two meetings have been held with six more planned. The remaining six meetings will be held in the evenings as opposed to the previous two afternoons. In addition, it was related that DOE was working on the design, construction, and testing of a rail car that will meet the new American Association of Railroad standard for transporting spent fuel. It was noted that in the appropriation process the Senate continued to ignore the Yucca Mountain issue and instead concentrated their efforts to create a pilot storage program with priority given to shutdown reactor sites. The House, however, was still strongly supportive of Yucca Mountain and completing the licensing process as noted by their appropriations of $150 million to DOE and $20 million to NRC to continue the process. The House also made two requests, one to the Government Accountability Office and the other to DOE, for their assessments on what it would take to complete the Yucca Mountain licensing process. On the national scene it was reported that the Texas Waste Control Specialist Corporation was expected to submit to the NRC their application for the construction of a consolidated interim storage facility by the end of April. The New Mexico Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance, which was initially expected to submit their consolidated storage license application to NRC by June 2016, will now submit theirs in November. The Director of the Northeast High-Level Radioactive Waste Transportation Task Force reported that DOE would be visiting the Vermont Yankee site on June 10 as part of their on-going transportation infrastructure evaluations of permanently shut down reactor sites. Representatives from the states of Vermont, Massachusetts and New Hampshire were expected to observe DOE's evaluation. It was reported that the owners of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station in Plymouth, Massachusetts recently announced that they would be closing the plant in May of 2019. It was also reported that the states of Connecticut, Vermont and New York had filed their oral arguments with the U.S. Court of Appeals in February challenging the NRC's adoption of its Continued Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel Rule. The states asserted that the Rule violated the National Environmental Policy

Act and the NRC's Environmental Impact Statement process and were awaiting the Court of Appeals' decision.

12. On April 21, the NRC Chairman forwarded to the House Chair of the Energy and Commerce Committee his monthly status report of the agency's activities and use of carryover funds on the Yucca Mountain Project. The report summarized what has been accomplished to-date and noted the staff's efforts to develop responses to public comments on the final Environmental Impact Assessment (EIS) supplement on groundwater impacts from disposal of spent nuclear fuel at Yucca Mountain. The report also revealed the loading of 3.692 million documents into the NRC's public library system, ADAMS, and the initiation of the indexing to allow searches of the Yucca Mountain documents in ADAMS. Of the $164,761 expended in March, loading the documents in ADAMS cost $61,258, while $102,808 was spent working on the responses to public comments on the NRC's EIS groundwater supplement. The web links for the cover letter and report can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined texts and following the directions.

13. On April 26, Holtec International marked the 30 year anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster by providing to the Ukraine President a tour of the company's and the world's largest Interim Spent Fuel Storage Facility. The Facility will house all of the spent nuclear fuel from the three of the four shutdown reactors at the Chernobyl site. The Facility will have enough concrete silos to store more than 42,000 fuel assemblies, the equivalent of 1,750 casks or 30 Maine Yankee storage sites. The web link for the news article can be found at the following link: http://www.holtecinternational.com/2016/05/holtecs-chernobyl-interim-spent-nuclear-fuel-storage-facility-welcomes-worlds-dignitaries-assembled-to-mark-the-30th-anniversary-of-the-epochal-disaster/.

14. On April 28, Waste Control Specialists (WCS), with the support of partners AREVA and NAC International, issued a news release that they had submitted to the NRC a license application to construct and operate a Consolidated Interim Storage Facility for spent nuclear fuel in Andrews County in west Texas. The WCS application proposed an initial 40 year storage license for 40,000 metric tons of heavy metal to be built in eight phases with each phase containing 5,000 metric tons. The license submittal placed WCS on track to complete the Storage Facility by 2021. Between AREVA and NAC, they represent 62% of the existing dry storage systems employed in the United States and 78% of the spent nuclear fuel at shutdown and decommissioned sites. The web links for the news release, the phase layout, the view of deployed systems for phase 1, and the proposed location can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined texts and following the directions.

Newsworthy Items Not Previously Reported

15. On March 29, Holtec International submitted a letter of intent to the NRC on opening a $5 billion Consolidated Interim Storage Facility in Lea County, New Mexico. Holtec stated that their underground HI-STORM UMAX will be the only canister storage system used at the storage facility. The proposal was for a long term facility with an expected lifespan of 100 years. Holtec had initially projected it would submit a site-specific license application in June 2016. However, Holtec's formal notice to the NRC indicated that they will submit a license application by November 30. The web link for the letter can be accessed by positioning the cursor over the underlined text and following the directions.