

NRRPT® NEWS

National Registry of Radiation Protection Technologists

Summer 2011 Edition

Incorporated April 12, 1976

Chairman's Message

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Kelly Neal

I would like to start by thanking Bruce Power for becoming the NRRPT's first Platinum Sponsor. This is a new level of corporate sponsorship and we appreciate Bruce Power's support.

Our summer meeting this year was held in June in conjunction with the Health Physics Society's annual meeting in West Palm Beach, FL. We regretfully accepted Lindsay Nelsen's resignation from the Board of

Directors, although Lindsay will continue to support the Registry as a member of the Panel of Examiners. Terry LaFreniere was elected to complete the remainder of Lindsay's term on the Board. I would like to recognize Lindsay once again for his past and continuing support for the NRRPT.

In addition, Secretary-Treasurer Barry Kimray was selected as a Fellow Member of the NRRPT for his outstanding support. Congratulations, Barry!

We have taken the plunge by creating a Facebook page for the NRRPT. Special thanks go out to Panel member Danny McClung for taking the initiative on this effort. Please visit the page and provide feedback to us.

The next Board and Panel meetings will be held in conjunction with the Health Physics Society midyear topical meeting February 4-7, 2012 in Dallas, TX. Please try to visit us at the meeting if possible.

Sincerely,
Kelly Neal
NRRPT, Chairman of the Board

CONTACTS

Kelly Neal, Chairman of the Board
(509) 845-1358 (w)
kelly.neal@wch-rcc.com

DeeDee McNeill, Executive Secretary
(401) 637-4811 (w)
(401) 637-4822 (fax)
nrrpt@nrrpt.org

Dwaine Brown, Newsletter Editor
(936) 894-9678 (w)
(936) 894-2983 (fax)
dwaine@embarqmail.com

Fukushima

By SONGS Communications Department

The devastating earthquake and subsequent tsunami that crippled Japan's Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant in early March have understandably brought intense focus to the safety of nuclear power worldwide. In California, where earthquakes are not uncommon, both of the state's nuclear power plants sit on the coast: Diablo Canyon in Northern California and the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) in Southern California.

"The lessons from Fukushima are being studied carefully by our industry around the world because an accident anywhere is an accident everywhere," says SONGS Senior Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer Pete Dietrich. "Even though San Onofre continues to operate at high levels of safety and reliability, the events in Japan are a stark reminder that safety must be our top priority every hour of every day."

SONGS was featured heavily in the news for weeks following the Japanese disaster, as coverage included response actions taken by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO) and the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI).

"The news coverage, which included an NRC local public meeting on April 28, provided us with opportunities to explain design and geologic differences between SONGS and Fukushima Daiichi," says San Onofre Emergency Planning Manager Kelli Gallion.

In the 1970s, Southern California Edison (SCE), majority owner and operator of SONGS, used the best science available to determine the presence of faults within a 200-mile-radius of the plant. The data was then used to model possible seismic events and their impact on the plant site. As a result, SONGS Units 2 and 3 were designed in the 1980s to withstand the maximum credible earthquakes and tsunamis. The seismic analysis, updated in 1995 and again in 2009, reconfirmed the design bases of the plant. Four nearby major earthquakes from 1992 to 2010 – Big Bear, Landers, Northridge and Baja California – ranging in distance from 70 to 160 miles away, did not disrupt power production at SONGS.

In addition, the earthquake fault system that generated the devastating earthquake near Honshu, Japan, was caused by a thrust fault in a subduction zone wherein two plates of the earth's crust collide head-on, with one plate forced to buckle under the other. Tsunamis generated by subduction zone earthquakes are projected to be larger than those resulting from strike-slip faults, such as the Newport-Inglewood/Rose Canyon fault, closest to SONGS.

"Another major difference between SONGS and Fukushima Daiichi is design of containment structures and location of spent fuel pools and emergency diesel generators," adds Gallion.

SONGS reactor cores are housed in four- to eight-foot-thick reinforced concrete and steel-lined containment structures. Similarly the spent fuel storage pools are housed in seismically designed concrete structures. The station's four emergency diesel generators (two per unit), as well as some diesel fuel, are kept in concrete bunkers above sea level. In contrast, backup diesel fuel to power Fukushima's cooling pumps was stored in commercial-grade tanks by the sea, where they were washed away by the tsunami.

"When we fully understand the facts surrounding the event in Japan, we will use those insights to make nuclear energy even safer," adds Dietrich. "Planning for the unthinkable makes our industry stronger and safer. We're taking every step to ensure no lessons from this horrible experience are missed."

NOTE: In early April, SONGS received a call from INPO, asking for a donation of portable, long-range radiation detectors that could be used for recovery efforts at Fukushima Daiichi. Within days, six teletectors were on their way to Japan. The never-used instruments had been earmarked for donation to the University of California at Irvine Physics Program. When the call from INPO came in, the donation was redirected to Fukushima-Daiichi.

Marketing Committee Report

By Rick Rasmussen

The Marketing Committee met June 26, 2011 with the following members attending: Rick Rasmussen (Chairman), Kelli Gallion, Terry LaFreniere, DeeDee McNeill DeGrowth, Kelly Neal, Dave Tucker, and Dwaine Brown. The committee members were also joined by Danny McClung, John Olsen, Bob Wills who were visiting as guests. Danny McClung joined the Marketing Committee. Keep reading to see the special project he's planned for the NRRPT and its members.

The NRRPT Executive Secretary has an assorted selection of NRRPT logo apparel for sale. The inventory is listed below and broken out by the old logo (US only) and new logo (US and Canada). Please contact DeeDee at nrrpt@nrrpt.org if you are interested in purchasing any of the items. Go to 35th Anniversary Shirt to see a picture of the 35th anniversary shirt and the new NRRPT logo.

Item (Old Logo)	Size	Quantity	Cost
Long sleeve t-shirt (white w/blue logo)	XL	1	\$13.00
Short sleeve t-shirt (blue w/white logo)	Lg	2	\$9.00
Short sleeve t-shirt (blue w/white logo)	2XL	2	\$9.00
Short sleeve t-shirt (blue w/white logo)	3XL	2	\$9.00
OuterBanks Polo (white w/blue logo)	Lg	1	\$17.00
OuterBanks Polo (blue w/white logo)	Lg	1	\$17.00
Long sleeve denim w/blue logo	Lg	2	\$15.00
Long sleeve denim w/blue logo	XL	1	\$15.00
Short sleeve denim w/white logo	Lg	3	\$14.00
Short sleeve denim w/white logo	XL	2	\$14.00
Long sleeve white denim w/blue logo	2XLT	1	\$15.00
Devon & Jones Pima Polo (tan w/blue logo)	Lg	1	\$22.00
Devon & Jones Pima Polo (tan w/tan logo)	XL	1	\$22.00
Devon & Jones Pima Polo (green w/white logo)	XL	1	\$22.00
Devon & Jones Pima Polo (brown w/brown logo)	Lg	1	\$22.00
Devon & Jones Pima Polo (brown w/brown logo)	XL	1	\$22.00
Sweatshirt (navy w/white logo)	Med	5	\$13.00
Sweatshirt (navy w/white logo)	Lg	8	\$13.00
Sweatshirt (navy w/white logo)	XL	4	\$13.00
Sweatshirt (navy w/white logo)	2XL	1	\$13.00
Sweatshirt (navy w/white logo)	3XL	1	\$13.00
Item (New Logo)	Size	Quantity	Cost
35th Anniversary Polo (heather grey w/black log)	Sm	2	\$30.00
35th Anniversary Polo (heather grey w/black log)	Med	4	\$30.00
35th Anniversary Polo (heather grey w/black log)	Lg	10	\$30.00
35th Anniversary Polo (heather grey w/black log)	XL	7	\$30.00
35th Anniversary Polo (heather grey w/black log)	2XL	4	\$30.00
35th Anniversary Polo (heather grey w/black log)	3XL	5	\$30.00

During the Annual Health Physics Society meeting held June 26th – 30th, 2011 there were hand sanitizers and bottle koozies, both with the new NRRPT log, available as handouts at the NRRPT booth. Show up at the next meeting (Dallas, Texas February 5 – 8, 2012) to get yours. While visiting the booth make sure you say hello and introduce yourself. We would love to meet you.

David Waite and James Mayberry donated the publication rights to the Registry for a book called “Problem Solving in Preparation for the NRRPT Exam” in June of 2002. It is an excellent book that may be used in preparation to sit for the NRRPT Exam, as a continuing education tool or as a great reference for the office. The book costs \$27.00 including shipping and you can order it by sending an email to nrrpt@nrrpt.org or get the book order form by going to the NRRPT website and click on “Forms”.

As mentioned above, Danny McClung joined the Marketing Committee and his first official duty was to get the NRRPT into the era of social media by setting up and moderating a Facebook account. So, hop online and check it out and while online don't forget to check out the NRRPT website at <http://www.nrrpt.org>.

A Letter From Our Editor

Between droughts, floods, forest fires, and our Executive Secretary's wedding (not sure if this fits in with droughts, floods, and forest fires, have to ask the groom), this has been an eventful summer season. In spite of all of these events we have been able to get the summer issue of the Newsletter out.

One thing that is a common issue with all of the Registrants is registration maintenance, this is an issue that most, if not all, of us put off until the absolute last minute and then scramble to collect training course, questions submitted to the exam panel, professional memberships, HPS, ANS, etc., to document those points necessary to maintain our registration.

That being said, an easy way to document participation is to submit articles for publication in the Newsletter. Many are intimidated by the very thought of submitting anything for publication thinking that it must be a highly technical document with exotic formulae, calculations, tables, and graphics. Not so!

More valuable to the registrants of the NRRPT than some exotic treatise is as simple as the presentation of something that you, your organization, or your company has done that just makes good sense and makes the job of an RRPT easier and maintains radiation exposure ALARA. This information is most commonly called

“Lessons Learned” and most routine radiological activities come up with several good lessons learned every week; and this is especially true during maintenance and refueling outages.

I regularly receive e-mails and telephone calls asking, “Have you ever done anything like this?” Which, if you call enough of your contacts, you will most likely find that someone has done it and learned something that will make it easier for you and rarely costs money, only attention to detail.

So, to support your colleagues and this Newsletter as well as gain points toward registration maintenance, please submit your lessons learned for publication. The submittal can be any length and if you feel so motivated, include calculations, tables, graphs, or pictures. As far as length, the submittal may be a paragraph that clearly states the lesson learned or a multi-page dissertation. It's your call.

Your submittal may be submitted to DeeDee by e-mail at nrrpt@nrrpt.org for consideration.

NRRPT News Editor,
Dwayne Brown
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SIGNIFICANT ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Courtesy of an NRC Publication

The NRC issued significant enforcement actions for failure to comply with regulations.

Carro & Carro Enterprises, Inc. (EA-10-272)

On February 11, 2011, the NRC issued a Notice of Violation to Carro & Carro Enterprises, Inc. (CCE) for a Severity Level III violation involving CCE's failure to obtain a specific NRC license to own and possess a portable moisture density gauge, which contained byproduct material. Specifically, from November 30, 2008, through June 28, 2009, CCE owned and/or possessed byproduct material, a discrete radium-226 source contained in a portable moisture density gauge, without a specific license issued in accordance with NRC regulations.

Superior Well Services, Ltd. (EA-10-077)

On February 8, 2011, the NRC issued an Immediately Effective Confirmatory Order to Superior Well Services, Ltd. (SWS) to confirm commitments made as a result of an Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) mediation session held on January 4, 2011. After receiving the NRC's Notice of Violation and proposed civil penalty of \$34,000 dated October 21, 2010, SWS requested an ADR to discuss the five violations that were categorized into two Severity Level (SL) III violations. The first SL III violation involved three violations related to the temporary loss of two radioactive well logging sources. The second SL III violation involved two violations related to the deliberate failure to conduct radiological surveys and the creation of inaccurate survey records. Prior to the ADR mediation session, SWS took a number of actions on their own to address the violations. These actions were intended to ensure that the corrective actions were effective and the lessons learned from these events were extended to the well logging industry. In recognition of these actions taken by SWS, as well as the corrective actions already taken, the NRC agreed to reduce the civil penalty originally proposed to \$17,000.

McConnell Dowell (American Samoa), Ltd. (EA-10-174)

On October 6, 2010, the NRC issued a Notice of Violation to McConnell Dowell (American Samoa), Ltd., for a Severity Level III violation involving the receipt, possession, and use of byproduct material without a specific or general license as required by 10 CFR 30.3(a). Specifically, from 2008 to July 25, 2010, the licensee received, possessed and used two portable nuclear gauges in American Samoa, an area of exclusive Federal jurisdiction, without a specific license issued by the NRC.

Chicago Testing Laboratory, Inc. (EA-10-113)

On August 24, 2010, the NRC issued a Notice of Violation to Chicago Testing Laboratory (CTL), Inc., for a Severity Level III violation involving the possession and use of byproduct material without a specific or general NRC license prior to conducting licensed activities in a non-Agreement State where the NRC maintains jurisdiction. Specifically, on multiple occasions between July 6, 2006, and August 30, 2009, CTL, an Agreement State licensee, possessed and used devices containing sealed sources in a non-Agreement State without a specific license.

A New Committee of the NRRPT

Regulations & Standards Bob Wills – Committee Chairman

So you ask, "why a Regulations and Standards Committee?" Well it all started early last year when one of our members gave the board some training on how the process works for new NRC rule making. Mr. Ed Lohr, a member of our panel of examiners, gave the board a very interesting overview of how regulatory changes come about at the NRC.

After Ed gave us a one hour power point overview it was clear the NRRPT had skin in the game. Our membership is affected by the changes and we have the expertise to provide technical feedback to the regulatory body on how changes will affect our membership.

Ed pointed out that very few comments come in from folks working in the field with hands on experience. Ed also feels that the NRRPT is a respected organization at the NRC and we are missing an opportunity to help law makers "do it right."

With over 5000 members we have a depth and cross discipline registry that not only can give good comments to the NRC, it most likely will be very well received and help our regulators in rule making.

So what is the process? Well we are working on a charter over the next 4 to 5 months and will be looking for approval by the board at our winter meeting. The focus will be to review all new regulations that are associated with radiation protection, radioactive waste, transportation of radioactive materials or waste, radiological controls in the hospital environment, radiological environmental requirements. We will focus on the NRC, DOE, DOD, and EPA for any and all regulatory changes.

The process will start with a review of the rule change by members of the committee, a write up by the committee chairman and submission to the chairman for approval. Upon approval our reply will be sent to the agency that is posting a rule change. It sound easy but most likely will take the best part of 60 days to complete each regulatory modification.

Types of regulatory changes being considered now:

1. NRC is looking at a 2 REM yearly exposure limit. How this affects contractor nuclear workers is of concern to the NRRPT board.
2. NRC is looking at a modification of the work hour rules which may affect outage personnel.

Well, that is an overview. If you have any interest in helping us review and comment, please drop me an email at robert.wills@gel.com

Errata

The table on page 6 of the Spring issue under the table titled, "Radioactive Material (Redacted Table" third column should have as the header, 'Activity Limit for and Exempt Consignment Bq". My apologies if this error caused you any difficulties. Many thanks to Steve Franklin at Duke Energy for catching this error. Dwaine Brown

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Media Contact
Shannan Ryll, Marketing Director
Cabrera Services, Inc.
860.569.0095
sryll@cabreraservices.com
www.cabreraservices.com

**CABRERA ANNOUNCES TRANSITION IN LEADERSHIP –
KIM A NELSON, PG, NAMED PRESIDENT AND COO**

East Hartford, CT – August 23, 2011 – Radiological engineering and remediation firm, Cabrera Services, Inc., (CABRERA) announces a major transition in its leadership with the appointment of Kim Nelson, PG, as President and Chief Operating Officer. In her new role, Ms. Nelson will have the primary responsibility for implementing CABRERA'S corporate mission through overall leadership of management and the company. For the past 9 years, Ms. Nelson has provided integral experience and leadership throughout the various disciplines of CABRERA. According to the company's CEO and Chairman of the Board, Lorenzo Cabrera, "Kim has done a tremendous job firming up our corporate infrastructure and I look forward to utilizing her management skills to continue our growth pattern and oversee the company's day to day operations. Her deep roots within the company, experience with a variety of clientele, and long history in the industry, will provide the company with the expertise needed to thrive in a competitive, ever-changing market." Mr. Lorenzo Cabrera, who has served as CABRERA'S CEO, President, and Chairman of the Board, will remain active as Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board.

Ms. Nelson said of her new role, "I am honored by the confidence Mr. Cabrera has shown in me and am excited about the opportunity to lead our team of exceptional professionals as we continue to focus on quality client service, technical excellence, financial results, and our commitment to our people. Together with the CEO and our senior management team I will work to promote our core strengths, maintain a culture that supports our people to realize their full potential, evaluate new opportunities that are vital to the company's continued growth and long-term interests. I am mindful of and thankful for the solid foundation and successful history the company has enjoyed under the leadership of our founders, and I look forward to building on our legacy of steady growth and solid technical performance, while contributing to our clients' success."

Ms. Nelson has more than 25 years of broad-based experience in the environmental engineering industry, serving most recently as Vice President of Operations for CABRERA. She has been involved at the project, program, and executive levels for both Investigative and Remedial Action contracts involving chemical and radiological contaminated sites for a variety of commercial and DoD, DOE, and other Government clients. Ms. Nelson brings a combination of solid technical experience and strong strategic planning and management skills to bear in meeting our clients' challenges. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Geology and English from Augustana College, with graduate studies in Geology from Indiana University. She is a licensed Geologist and is an active member and participant in the Society of American Military Engineers and the American Nuclear Society.

CABRERA is a full-service engineering consulting firm that provides solutions in the areas of Engineering, Characterization, and Profiling; Remediation, D&D, and Decommissioning; Non-Destructive Assay; Radioactive and Mixed Waste Disposition; On-site Measurement and Analysis; as well as Regulatory Strategies and Support. Founded in 1994, CABRERA now has over 150 employees in offices across the United States and maintains an SBA Small Business classification. With tens of millions of dollars in contract backlog and considerably more in recently awarded contract capacity, CABRERA is positioned to continue its solid and managed growth as a top-tier company, embracing safety through science to meet a wide range of environmental and homeland defense needs.

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P.O. Box 128, D1N
San Clemente, CA 92672
(949) 368-1140
mark.lewis@sce.com

San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station is proud to have over 30 registered NRRPT members in our Health Physics, Training, Chemistry, Engineering, Operations, Oversight, and Maintenance organizations. We are especially proud that Kelli Gallion, our Emergency Planning Supervisor, was a member of the Panel of Examiners, Board of Directors, elected Chairman of the Board, and served as the Executive Committee Chairman. Kelli was (again) elected to the Board of Directors and will begin her term January 1, 2012.

San Onofre is a three unit site with two operating 1170 MWe Combustion Engineering reactors and one early Westinghouse unit in decommissioning. The station is located in Southern California on the Pacific Ocean and midway between San Diego and Los Angeles.

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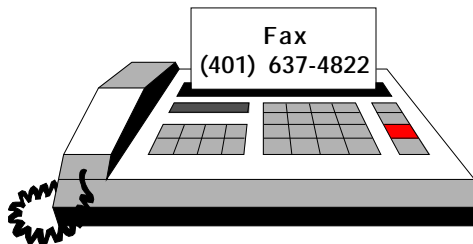
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