

Inside Susquehanna PPL

February 2008 News for neighbors of the PPL Susquehanna nuclear power plant



NRC to conduct phone survey

As part of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's effort to review and improve nuclear plant emergency response programs, it is conducting a nationwide telephone survey through February. The survey assesses public perception of nuclear plant emergency response activities and how they are publicized.

Survey phone calls are being made to randomly selected members of the public residing within the 10-mile emergency

planning zones around nuclear power plants nationwide.

"We are committed to maintaining an emergency response plan that meets the needs of area residents," said Britt McKinney, PPL's senior vice president and chief nuclear officer. "Once we receive the results of the NRC survey, we will evaluate any improvements we can make to the Susquehanna emergency plans in conjunction with local, state and federal emergency management agencies."

In Memory of Lou Ramos

Lou Ramos, PPL's community relations manager for the Susquehanna nuclear power plant since 2004, died Jan. 1 as the result of a car accident.

"Lou was an excellent colleague as well as a great friend," said Dan McCarthy, general manager-Corporate Communications. "He'll be greatly missed, both at PPL and particularly in the community around the Susquehanna plant, where he already had made a great many friends."

Ramos quickly took on a leadership role in local organizations. He was chairman of the Berwick Area Chamber of Commerce; a board member of the Columbia-Montour Council Boy Scouts of America, the South Valley Chamber of Commerce in Nanticoke and Maria Joseph Manor; and was active in fundraising for the Berwick Area United Way, the Columbia-Montour Council Boy Scouts of America, the Berwick Public Library and the Berwick Area YMCA.

A longtime advocate for education,

Ramos served on the National Assessment Governing Board, an independent, bipartisan group whose members include governors, state legislators, local and state school officials, educators, business representatives, and members of the general public.

A member of the Pennsylvania State Board of Education, Ramos also had been appointed to the U.S. Senate Republican Task Force on Hispanic Affairs. He is survived by his wife, Sharon; father, Gregorio of Freemansburg; son, Gregory of Allentown; daughter, Jennifer of Hellertown; and brother, Pete of Saucon Valley. Condolences can be sent to the family at 1410 Seventh St., Bethlehem, PA 18020.



Replacement of sirens progressing; testing planned

Work is under way to install new sirens to replace the emergency notification system.

"The siren system is an important resource for our communities, and we won't settle for anything less than sirens that work the first time, every time," said Britt McKinney, PPL's senior vice president and chief nuclear officer.

The new sirens are being mounted on the poles installed by the previous vendor. As each siren is installed, it will be tested. Area residents can expect to hear a steady sound for several seconds as each siren is tested.

Until the new system is fully operational, PPL will continue to maintain and test the old sirens, which still are working well.



New steam dryer arrives

If you happened to be driving on Route 11 through Berwick on Jan. 8, you might have seen a couple of very large tractor-trailers delivering a new steam dryer for the Susquehanna plant's Unit 1 reactor.

The steam dryers, which are located above the reactor, help to remove more than 99 percent of the moisture in the steam that turns the turbine to generate electricity. If not removed, the moisture would damage the turbine's blades.

The steam dryers on Units 1 and 2 at the plant are being replaced as part of the project to increase the amount of electricity that can be generated, said Neil Gannon, PPL's vice president-Nuclear Operations. The new dryers will better handle the additional steam produced when power levels are increased.

"We expect to increase power levels on Unit 1 after the



new dryer is installed and other modifications are made during this spring's refueling outage," Gannon said.

Replacement of Unit 2's steam dryer is scheduled for the 2009 outage.

Knowing what to do in an emergency



The blue pages of your local telephone book contain information that can help you stay calm and take the appropriate actions safely if an emergency occurs.

If you hear the emergency sirens, which can be used for all types of emergencies, tune in to your local radio or television station for more information. Taking the actions recommended on the broadcasts will help keep you and your family safe.

If you have any questions or would like additional copies of the emergency information available in the phone book, call toll-free 1-866-832-3312.



Luzerne County offers residents new emergency alert system

Early communication of timely, accurate information helps people when a natural disaster or other event occurs in a community. That's why Luzerne County has developed its Wireless Emergency Notification System.

By signing up for the free notification service, county residents can receive early notification of events such as tornadoes, floods or chemical spills. The notification system can give residents emergency messages via cell phones, computers and pagers.

To receive the alerts, go to Luzerne County's Web site at www.luzernecounty.org. Scroll through "major projects," on the right-hand side of the page, and click on "Sign up for Luzerne County WENS System."

The service is free. However, normal text message fees might apply depending on your cell phone service provider.

Japanese visitors tour Susquehanna to study community relations, emergency planning practices

Two Japanese organizations looking to the U.S. for examples of good communications practices were welcomed to the Susquehanna nuclear power plant in late November.

Electric utilities in Japan are focusing on improving communications with the public after recent events have caused public concern, the latest being a major earthquake that affected a nuclear power plant in Kashiwazaki. In that case, the plant's operating units shut down as designed and no one was seriously injured, but the public was unduly frightened.

"PPL really does a fantastic job of integrating the Susquehanna nuclear plant with the community and the environment and orchestrating community outreach, so we chose Susquehanna as one of two plants for the Japanese to benchmark," said Ann Bisconti, president of Bisconti Research Inc. who coordinated the two-day visit

by representatives from the Institute of Nuclear Safety System Inc. and IEA of Japan Co.

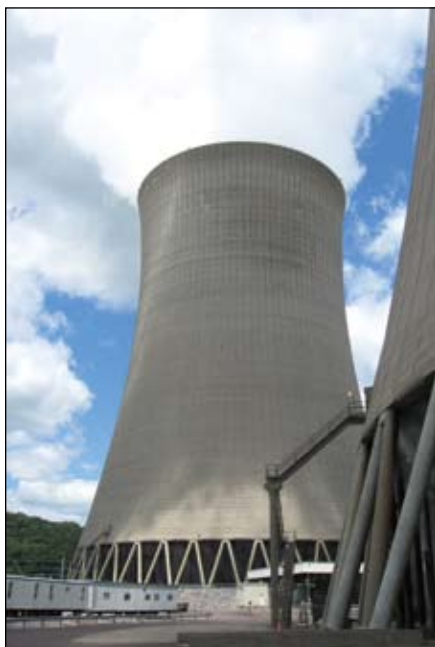
Bisconti and JoAnn Sperber, the Nuclear Energy Institute's director of member communications, brought Shin-



Ichi Oiso and Mitsuyuki Kurata to the plant to explore ways Japanese nuclear plants can improve communications outreach.

The visitors were especially interested in the plant advisory group, the Susquehanna Citizens Committee. Two members of the committee, Jim Meighan and George Remensnyder, met with them and answered dozens of the visitors' questions about the committee and PPL's relationships with the communities in the plant's 10-mile emergency planning zone.

In addition, the visitors met with Diane Coffin, supervisor of Nuclear Emergency Planning, who explained her group's work with local, state and federal emergency management personnel.



PPL to seek license for possible new nuclear unit

PPL announced in mid-December that it will seek Nuclear Regulatory Commission approval of a combined license to construct and operate a new generating unit adjacent to the Susquehanna nuclear plant.

"While we have not made a final decision to move forward with construction, we plan to file a license application by the end of 2008," said Bryce Shriver, who is heading a team at PPL to develop a nuclear strategy for the company.

The company has contracted with an affiliate of UniStar Nuclear Energy, a joint venture of Constellation Energy and EDF, to prepare the application, which will be based on AREVA's U.S. Evolutionary Power Reactor design.

"As we've said previously, PPL would not undertake nuclear construction alone," Shriver said. "Because of market, construction and regulatory uncertainties, and the multi-billion-dollar cost of a new nuclear power plant, we will not build a nuclear power plant alone."

PPL selected UniStar and the U.S. Evolutionary Power Reactor design because the design is based on long-proven pressurized water reactor technology, and it includes robust safety systems.



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Susquehanna Riverlands

Environmental Preserve

American Indian Artifact Exhibit
9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23
Presented by Pennsylvania Indian
Artifact Collectors Association

Pennsylvania Indian Artifact Collectors Association members will display their collections of tools, weapons and trade items at the Susquehanna Energy Information Center and discuss the history and original use of the pieces.

Winter Botany
1:30-3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 24
Presented by Dr. Jim Montgomery
This program will begin at the
Susquehanna Energy Information Center

and then move outdoors to cover many of the strategies that plants use to survive the lean times and how animals use plants to do the same.

Meet the Neighbors: A Visual Guide to the Solar System

10:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 1
Presented by Clem McIntyre

From the earliest attempts to understand our place in the universe to the most up-to-date information from the latest space missions, this program at the Susquehanna Energy Information Center will take you planet by planet across our home turf and still have you back in time for lunch.

Pennsylvania Basic Boating Class
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 8
Presented by Pennsylvania Fish &
Boat Commission

The Pennsylvania Fish & Boat

Commission will once again be offering a one-day boating safety course at the Susquehanna Riverlands. For ages 12 and over. Preregistration is required. Call toll-free 1-866-832-3312.

Home Energy Saving Hints

10:30 a.m. to noon Saturday,
March 15

Presented by Clem McIntyre

Join naturalist Clem McIntyre at the Susquehanna Energy Information Center as he shares simple, common-sense tips to lowering your energy usage and maybe your energy bill to boot.



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