

May 4, 2009

MEMORANDUM TO: R. W. Borchardt  
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Annette L. Vietti-Cook, Secretary */RA/*

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS – SECY-09-0006 – CRITICAL  
RESEARCH FACILITIES FOR SEVERE ACCIDENT RESEARCH  
AT LIGHT WATER AND ADVANCED REACTORS

The Commission has approved the staff's recommendation to continue to negotiate bilateral and multilateral agreements for light-water reactor and high-temperature gas reactor experimental programs to meet the needs of the agency.

The staff should propose actions to provide a more stable long-term funding environment for sustained long-term regulatory research and sustained access to research facilities. Specifically, the staff should submit a paper that addresses funding options, which extend beyond facility-based resources, such as considering this research as one of several activities that do not provide a direct benefit to current licensing in the off-fee-base categories. The paper should include perspectives on the question from the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research and other program offices such as the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, as well as the Offices of the Chief Financial Officer and the General Counsel.

cc: Chairman Klein  
Commissioner Jaczko  
Commissioner Lyons  
Commissioner Svinicki  
OGC  
CFO  
OCA  
OPA  
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ASLBP (via E-Mail)  
PDR