

April 23, 1999

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers  
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING ON STATUS OF EXTERNAL REGULATION OF DOE FACILITIES, 9:00 A.M., FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 1999, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the NRC staff on the status of external regulation of DOE facilities. The Commission requested that the staff develop an independent report to Congress on the results of the pilot program for the NRC to regulate some DOE facilities. In developing the report, the staff should expand on the information presented in SECY-99-076 (Transmittal of Draft Report of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Task Force on Oversight of the U.S. Department of Energy, in Response to COMSECY-96-053) including a comparison of the unresolved issues involved in external regulation addressed in DOE's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory Pilot Report with the resolution of issues from the experience gained in Three Mile Island Unit 2 and Ft. St. Vrain independent spent fuel installation facility licensing. In addition, the report should highlight how the NRC can provide a common sense oversight of DOE facilities and add value from a public health and safety standpoint, without imposing unnecessary burden and costs.

(EDO)

(SECY Suspend: 4/29/99)

The Commission would support a site wide pilot such as Oak Ridge National Laboratory (other than defense facilities) as a next step in consideration of external regulation of DOE facilities

cc: Chairman Jackson  
Commissioner Dicus  
Commissioner Diaz  
Commissioner McGaffigan  
Commissioner Merrifield  
OGC  
CFO  
CIO  
OCA  
OIG  
OPA  
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)  
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