August 9, 1999

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers

Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING ON PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT PROGRESS IN LLW.

HLW, AND SDMP, 9:30 A.M., FRIDAY, JULY 30, 1999, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE

ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC

ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the NRC staff on the progress being made in performance assessment in the areas of low-level waste, high-level waste, and the Site Decommissioning Management Plan.

The staff should continue to work with the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency to address differences in dose modeling methodologies and keep the Commission informed of its progress. The staff should continue its efforts to eliminate unnecessary conservatism in the DandD dose model developed to support the license termination rule and, more generally, avoid using worst-case values for parameters that may contribute to unnecessary conservatism in a performance assessment.

The staff should continue to share the knowledge gained in performance assessment methodologies with stakeholders, the NRC's Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste, and the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses.

cc: Chairman Dicus

Commissioner Diaz

Commissioner McGaffigan

Commissioner Merrifield

OGC

CFO

CIO

OCA

OIG

OPA

Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)

PDR - Advance

DCS - P1-17