

IN RESPONSE, PLEASE
REFER TO: M090417

May 1, 2009

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

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

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS MEMORANDUM - BRIEFING ON
LOW-LEVEL WASTE (LLW) PROGRAM, 9:30 A.M. AND 1:30
P.M., FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2009, COMMISSIONERS'
CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH,
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

In the morning session, the Commission was briefed by the NRC staff and a member of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards on the status of low-level waste (LLW) activities, including the plan forward for safe storage and disposal of LLW. The Commission was also briefed by representatives from the Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management and National Nuclear Security Administration.

In the afternoon session, the Commission was briefed by a panel of State regulators made up of representatives of the Organization of Agreement States (OAS), the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD), the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and the Low Level Waste Forum. The Commission was also briefed by a panel of external stakeholders, which included representatives of the Nuclear Energy Institute, the Campus Radiation Safety Officers (CRSO), the Council on Radionuclides and Radiopharmaceuticals (CORAR), and the Nuclear Information and Resource Service (NIRS).

The staff should look for ways to more effectively communicate risk-informed concepts related to LLW in order to better educate the public. The staff should work with the OAS and the CRCPD to issue an information notice to remind licensees of their regulatory responsibilities regarding disposal of sources. The staff should work with CRSO, CORAR, and other stakeholders to develop a list or catalog of important research that has been impacted and/or stopped because of lack of disposal options for sources.

cc: Chairman Klein
Commissioner Jaczko
Commissioner Lyons
Commissioner Svinicki
OGC
CFO

OCA
OIG
OPA
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
PDR