June 10, 2003

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

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

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING ON RESULTS OF AGENCY ACTION REVIEW MEETING, 9:30 A.M., THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2003, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the NRC staff and representatives of Entergy Operations, Inc. and Greenpeace on the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) and the results of the Agency Action Review Meeting.

The staff should inform the Commission of significant regional ROP inspection challenges, including sites where there are currently less than two fully qualified inspectors assigned.

The Commission supports flexibility in conducting effective ROP public meetings, including giving consideration to measures such as providing NRC personnel knowledgeable in areas of interest on the national level and allowing the resident inspectors to conduct ROP meetings held at the plant sites, as appropriate.

The staff should inform the Commission of the actions planned to respond to the issues raised by Mr. Riccio in his statement document dated May 15, 2003. The staff should follow the established process for evaluating stakeholder comments to evaluate the ROP changes suggested at the meeting, including increasing the threshold for a degraded cornerstone to three white performance indicators (PIs) or inspection findings.

    (EDO)   (SECY Suspense: 8/15/03)

In addition, the staff should review the action matrix thresholds to determine if changes are needed to ensure the action matrix categorization adequately reflects the safety significance of PIs and inspection findings. The staff should then provide a recommendation to the Commission in the calendar year 2003 ROP self-assessment report.

    (EDO)   (SECY Suspense: 3/31/04)

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