

June 27, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

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

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - SECY-00-0077 - MODIFICATIONS
TO THE REACTOR SAFETY GOAL POLICY STATEMENT

The Commission has approved the staff's recommendations to modify the reactor safety goal policy statement (RSGPS), as described in SECY-00-0077, except for the following items. The Commission disapproved the proposed change to elevate the qualitative statement of prevention of severe core damage accidents to a qualitative safety goal (Option 1 of issue 2). The Commission also disapproved the staff's recommendation to include the statement "there be no adverse impact on the environment" in this policy statement (issue 8). The Commission supports a qualitative statement expressing the Commission's intent to protect the environment. The statement should indicate that the NRC will consider the need to minimize adverse environmental impacts in its regulatory decision-making.

The staff should incorporate in the RSGPS the Commission policy that safety goals are "goals" and not limits.

(EDO)

(SECY Suspense:

12/27/00)

cc: Chairman Meserve
Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
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