



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555 August 14, 1998

RELEASED TO THE PDR 9/10/98 [initials] date initials

MEMORANDUM TO: L. Joseph Callan Executive Director for Operations FROM: John C. Hoyle, Secretary SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - COMSECY-98-020 - NRC ISSUES WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S DRAFT YUCCA MOUNTAIN STANDARD (40 CFR PART 197)

The Commission has approved the proposed list to be provided to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy with the following changes.

- 1. Items 1 and 2 should be reversed in order. The opening of new item 1 should be revised to read: "The U.S. EPA's groundwater protection requirement uses an approach making compliance" The opening of new item 2 should be revised to read: "Furthermore, EPA's groundwater protection requirement will not improve public health and safety" 2. New item 1, second bullet -- The following sentence should be added to the end of the paragraph. "Therefore, demonstration of compliance may require a degree of assurance beyond what science can provide and result in a protracted licensing hearing process with no commensurate benefit to public health and safety." 3. New item 2, third bullet -- The following sentence should be added to the end of the paragraph. "If background radiation dose levels at the point of compliance are found to be at or above the 4 mrem/yr limit then, in essence, the limit would be a 'zero-release' limit." 4. Item 3, first bullet, line 1 -- Replace 'a limit of 25' with 'an all-pathways dose standard in the range of 25 to 30.'

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

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