

October 7, 1999

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Annette L. Vietti-Cook, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - SECY-99-219 - PROPOSED
REVISION OF THE ENFORCEMENT POLICY TO ADDRESS
THE PROCESS FOR ASSESSING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF
VIOLATIONS

The Commission has approved publication of the revised Enforcement Policy in the Federal Register, as described in SECY-99-219, subject to the following comments and attached revisions.

The staff should review the discussion related to announcing public meetings contained in the FRN. While this information is currently accurate, some ongoing initiatives may soon cause this information to be outdated (e.g., electronic bulletin board may be eliminated). The staff should consider this in the FRN and provide the public with guidance (e.g., webpage) for where additional information on revisions to the process for noticing public meetings, if approved, could be found.

As the staff continues its ongoing efforts to improve the reactor oversight process, the staff should seek internal and external stakeholder insights regarding how to further improve the NRC Enforcement Policy including consideration of those process improvements that facilitate Regional implementation of the policy. The staff should ensure that the next revision to the enforcement policy is fully integrated with the revised reactor oversight process and completed on a schedule that supports implementation of the revised oversight process at all operating reactors.

Forward the press release via the normal review process prior to issuance.

Attachment: As stated

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

FRN Revisions

Revise the FRN as follows:

Note: Pages in the FRN were not numbered in SECY-99-219. Page number references have been added to ensure accuracy of the revisions.

- a. Page 4, 2nd and 6th lines: hyphenate “performance-based”
- b. Page 6, first full paragraph, 3rd line: change “should” to “will”
- c. Page 7, 2nd line: change “should” to “will”
- d. Page 9, 1st full sentence: add “either” after “not meant to eliminate” and change “nor” to “or”
- e. Page 18, Section III, “Responsibilities,” first paragraph, 3rd line: delete “Regulatory Effectiveness”
- f. Page 26, Section VI, “Enforcement Actions,” second paragraph: delete the sentence that states “For the vast majority of violations, a Notice of Violation or a Notice of Nonconformance is the normal action.”