May 28, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO: L. Joseph Callan
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: John C. Hoyle, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - SECY-97-083 - CLASSIFICATION OF HANFORD LOW-ACTIVITY TANK WASTE FRACTION AS INCIDENTAL

The Commission has approved the proposed letter to DOE with the changes indicated in the attachment. The letter emphasizes that the preliminary findings are contingent on proper characterization of the waste and that a re-evaluation by NRC of compliance with the waste criteria is needed if different radionuclides are discovered in the tank waste or if the radionuclide inventory is found to be higher than current estimates.

The NRC has the regulations, regulatory guides, technical positions, and qualified staff for conducting a licensing review of the type of facility being proposed by DOE for the disposal of incidental waste at Hanford. The External Regulatory Task Force should consider the Hanford incidental waste disposal facility as a candidate for external regulation by NRC.
(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 6/30/97)

The final determination of the subject wastes can be classified a technical matter. Absent any unforeseen policy issues, the staff should inform the Commission of its final determination.

Attachment:
As stated

SECY NOTE: THIS SRM, SECY-97-083, AND THE COMMISSION VOTING RECORD CONTAINING THE VOTE SHEETS OF ALL COMMISSIONERS WILL BE MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE 5 WORKING DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THIS SRM.

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

Mr. Jackson Kinzer, Assistant Manager
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dear Mr. Kinzerd

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J. Kinzer ddd

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J. Kinzer ddd

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J. Kinzer ddd

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