

July 11, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO: L. Joseph Callan  
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: John C. Hoyle, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - SECY 97-110 - STATUS  
REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF DAM SAFETY  
PROGRAM

The Commission, recognizing its statutory obligation to implement the requirements of the National Dam Safety Program Act, has approved the staff's plans to continue implementing NRC's current dam safety program. Nevertheless, the Commission believes that the staff should apply resources judiciously to the program, apply the minimum resources necessary to comply with NRC's responsibilities, and explore mechanisms to reduce resource commitments, if possible.

Specifically, the staff should reconsider whether devoting one full FTE to the program in FY 1997 and FY 1998 is necessary to complete the most significant commitments made in the dam safety program. In addition, the staff should reevaluate whether our current approach is the most effective and efficient for accomplishing the goals and objectives of the dam safety program or whether there are more cost effective alternative approaches, such as the transfer of oversight responsibility for the 19 dams under NRC jurisdiction to an agency that has a larger, well-established dam safety program.

(EDO)

(SECY Suspense: 8/11/97)

---

SECY NOTE: THIS SRM, SECY-97-110, 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 Dicus  
Commissioner Diaz  
Commissioner McGaffigan  
OGC  
CIO  
CFO  
OCA  
OIG  
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)  
PDR  
DCS