September 2, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR: L. Joseph Callan

Executive Director for Operations

FROM: John C. Hoyle, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - AFFIRMATION SESSION, 11:30

A.M., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1998, COMMISSIONERS'

CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH,

ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

I. SECY-98-164 - Final Rule on Financial Assurance Requirements for Decommissioning Nuclear Power Reactors

The Commission approved a final rule amending 10 CFR Part 50 relating to financial assurance requirements for decommissioning of nuclear power plants. The rule is responsive to the anticipated rate deregulation of the power generating industry.

Following incorporation of the attached changes, the <u>Federal Register</u> notice should be reviewed by the Rules Review and Directives Branch in the Office of Administration and forwarded to the Office of the Secretary for signature and publication.

(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 9/11/98)

The staff should use the intervening period of time between the publication date of the rule and the effective date to determine whether licensees who are known to be lacking decommissioning funding assurance, under the new regulatory criteria, can demonstrate an equivalent level of financial qualifications through other mechanisms. Further, the staff should apprise itself of what actions such licensees intend either to take to bring themselves into compliance or to obtain relief through established regulatory processes by the effective date of the rule.

Attachment: As stated

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Changes to the <u>Federal Register</u> Notice in SECY-98-164