

December 9, 1998

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: John C. Hoyle, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - SECY-98-194 - UPGRADING THE
NRC OPERATIONS CENTER EMERGENCY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

The Commission has approved the staff's recommendations for near-term Option 1 and mid-term Option 2.

For mid-term option (2), the staff should include in the Fiscal Year 2001 Planning Cycle an evaluation or estimate of the anticipated NRC expenses and resources required to verify that the licensees have provided emergency communications which are consistent with reliability and diversity requirements recommended in that option. If this evaluation concludes that the expense is excessive, other options should be evaluated.

The staff should integrate the transition to different telecommunication methods with the efforts to identify Y2K vulnerabilities, as well as integrate the system transitions with the NRC contingency plans for Y2K.

cc: Chairman Jackson
Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
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CFO
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