

IN RESPONSE, PLEASE
REFER TO: M981130

December 29, 1998

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: John C. Hoyle, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - MEETING ON DC COOK, 2:00 P.M.,
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1998, COMMISSIONERS'
CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH,
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by representatives of American Electric Power and the NRC staff. The Commission encouraged the staff and the licensee to learn from the experience at DC Cook, focusing on what could have been done to identify the problems sooner. The Commission also encouraged the staff to continue to closely monitor the licensee's recovery efforts in accordance with NRC Manual Chapter 0350. Finally, the Commission requested that the staff continue its efforts in determining how design basis issues will be considered in the revised inspection and assessment processes.

The Commission cautioned the staff to provide balance in its oversight of operations, and design basis and configuration control. The Commission also cautioned against too much reliance on performance indicators alone in plant performance assessment, and emphasized the need for inspection focused in certain areas. The challenges to the staff are determining where design basis issues fit into a risk-informed baseline inspection program and the efficacy of licensees' corrective action programs.

cc: Chairman Jackson
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
EDO
OGC
CFO
CIO
OCA
OIG
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
PDR - Advance
DCS - P1-17