

April 7, 1995

MEMORANDUM TO: James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: John C. Hoyle, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING BY NATIONAL
ACADEMY OF SCIENCES ON STATUS OF INDEPENDENT
REVIEW OF MEDICAL USE PROGRAM, 10:00 A.M.,
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1995, COMMISSIONERS'
CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH,
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC
ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the Committee Chairman and the Study Director for the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) review of the NRC medical use program. The Commission suggested that the report would be particularly helpful if it addresses questions such as the following:

- o Are there serious problems in the medical uses of radiation and radioactive materials that warrant continuation of the current level of regulation?
- o What would happen if NRC regulations were eased?
- o What would happen if NRC regulations were eliminated in favor of state regulations?
- o Is there a public health and safety reason for federal regulation of radioactive byproduct material and not machine produced sources of radiation?
- o Based on the answers to the above questions, what forms of regulation are working and what is not working?
- o Is there a role for the regulator in the educational aspects of using radioactive materials in the medical field?
- o How does the risk and benefit of the use of radioactive material and radiation compare to other medical practices such as chemotherapy?

The staff should work with the NAS Committee to ensure the NRC receives the Committee's report as early as possible and, in particular, without a four to eight week delay solely for the purposes of printing the report.

(EDO)

(SECY Suspense: 10/27/95)

cc: The Chairman
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner de Planque
OGC
OCA
OIG
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
PDR - Advance
DCS - P1-24