

March 19, 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR: James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Samuel J. Chilk, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: **SECY-92-413 - INCIDENT INVESTIGATION OPTIONS
REPORTING TO THE COMMISSION**

The Commission (with all Commissioners agreeing) has approved the development of a proposed framework for establishing Incident Investigation Groups (IIG), reporting to and supervised by the Commission, to be activated by the Commission at its discretion, for events which pose a significant hazard to the public health and safety, to property, or to the environment, and/or that involve high public, media, or Congressional interest. The Commission generally agrees with the investigation process and framework for the IIG, as described in SECY-92-413, with the following modifications:

1. The Chairperson of an IIG should be selected by the Commission and not normally be a member of the NRC.
2. The makeup of an IIG will be determined on a case by case basis but should consist of a larger proportion of non-NRC representation than is normally the case on an IIT, and representatives of the licensee or selected industry representatives from the NSSS vendor, architect-engineer, or engineer-contractor organizations should not be precluded provided they have the express written agreement of their respective organizations, and as professional technical individuals, possess unique knowledge and experience of certain structures, systems, and components which are thought to be involved in the incident and/or offsite consequences.

SECY NOTE: THIS SRM, SECY-92-413, AND THE VOTE SHEETS OF ALL COMMISSIONERS WILL BE MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE 10 WORKING DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THIS SRM

3. Since the Office of Inspector General (OIG) has the function of independently auditing NRC activities, possibly including the composition, investigation, and funding of the IIG, the OIG should not participate as an IIG member.
4. An IIG report, in addition to containing the factual information collected, an analysis of the facts, and findings, conclusions, and probable cause(s), may also contain separate recommendations by individual members.

The Commission (with all Commissioners agreeing) has disapproved development of the further option of establishing independent Incident Investigation Boards (IIB).

The staff should proceed to develop, for Commission review, the IIG framework as an added element of the current incident investigation process. The process of developing the framework should include specifically addressing the threshold for activation, how such a group would be formed and how members would be selected, and how the group would function.

(EDO)

(SECY SUSPENSE: 6/15/93)

cc: The Chairman
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Curtiss
Commissioner Remick
Commissioner de Planque
EDO
OGC
OIG