

October 27, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary */RA/*

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - SECY-00-0162 - ADDRESSING PRA
QUALITY IN RISK-INFORMED ACTIVITIES

This is to advise you that the Commission has not objected to continuation of the current process for ensuring that safety decisions using PRA information are adequate for the intended purpose. The staff should proceed with its review of the NEI peer review process and industry PRA standards in a thorough and timely manner, for potential endorsement, as appropriate. The Commission has not objected to the proposed update of Regulatory Guide 1.174 and Standard Review Plan Chapter 19.

The Commission encouraged the staff to continue to work with ASME and other stakeholders to resolve differences in the development of a consensus standard for PRA quality. The timely resolution of PRA quality requirements is necessary to support existing and developing risk-informed regulation.

The staff should expand Attachment 2 to SECY-00-0162 to include further examples and discussion of how PRA quality influences risk-informed decision-making.

In order to increase public confidence in the soundness of licensee choices and regulatory decisions that are based on risk insights, the staff should maximize the information available to the public on PRAs and the decision tools themselves. Getting the PRAs themselves more into the public domain may be necessary to address public concerns on quality and consistency.

cc: Chairman Meserve
Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
OGC
CIO
CFO
OCA
OIG
OPA
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
PDR