

November 20, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR: James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Samuel J. Chilk, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: SECY-92-354 - PROCESS FOR OBTAINING
EXCEPTIONS TO THE N+1 POLICY

The Commission (with the Chairman and Commissioners Rogers, Curtiss and de Planque agreeing) has approved the staff proposal for granting exceptions to the N+1 policy. The EDO should review carefully the bases offered for granting exceptions to ensure that reasonably consistent bases are used by all regions. Since the staff's proposal includes consideration of factors in addition to those of the SALP screening criteria, it provides an appropriate buffer between the SALP process and the NRC resident inspector staffing decisions to reduce the likelihood that SALP deliberations might be unduly influenced by future staffing considerations.

Although Commissioner Remick agrees that exceptions to the N+1 policy are acceptable, he does not believe that Commission approval of the selection process or criteria is necessary or desirable. Commissioner Remick believes that the decision should simply be left to the discretion of the NRR Office Director and the Regional Administrator.

cc: The Chairman
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Curtiss
Commissioner Remick
Commissioner de Planque
OGC
OIG
Office Directors, Regions (via E-Mail)
OP, SDBU/CR, ASLBP (via FAX)

SECY NOTE: THIS SRM, SECY-92-354, AND THE VOTE SHEETS OF ALL COMMISSIONERS WILL BE MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE 10 WORKING DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THIS SRM