

April 11, 1991

IN RESPONSE, PLEASE
REFER TO: M910328

MEMORANDUM FOR: James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Samuel J. Chilk, Secretary /S/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - PERIODIC BRIEFING ON
DEFINITIONS OF RELEASES INTO CONTAINMENT AND
POLICY ON THE USE OF THE UPDATED TID-14844 BY
EXISTING PLANTS, 10:00 A.M., THURSDAY, MARCH
28, 1991, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE
WHITE FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN
TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the NRC staff on the status of staff efforts to update the source term (TID-14844) and decouple siting and design requirements related to the source term.

At the time the staff is ready to make recommendations to the Commission on the values of releases into containment to update TID-14844, the staff should also discuss the status of EPRI's comparable values. Specifically to be discussed are: (1) whether EPRI is proposing different values of release into containment for the various evolutionary designs, (2) what the underlying assumptions are, to the extent known, and how they differ from the staff's, (3) how the values compare to those being recommended by the staff, (4) an estimate of the impact of the differences, and (5) ACRS comments.

(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 10/30/91)

The staff should provide the Commission an estimate of when they will be in a position to have addressed the generic issues and have a basis which will allow licensees and applicants to use insights from that generic work in evaluations of changes to existing and future plants. The staff should also discuss the controls they will place on the use of such insights to assure evenhanded application.

(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 10/30/91)

The Commission requested that the staff continue to provide periodic briefings on the update of TID-14844, including the potential accident scenarios used as the technical basis for the update and the ACRS comments on the staff's recommendations. The next briefing should include focusing on the application of the

research results and the overall strategy for integrating the source term update into other related areas. The staff should remain aware of the implications that the source term update will have on other areas, such as the revision to 10 CFR Parts 50 and 100, the level of design detail, definition of a large release, and early site reviews. The staff should include in any future papers or briefings a discussion of the coordination that ensures consistency in incorporating this research into the regulatory program. Policy issues should be brought to the Commission as soon as the staff recommendation is available in order to provide policy decisions in a timely manner.

(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 10/30/91)

The Commission requested information on the cost of the research involved in the source term update.

(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 5/24/91)

cc: Chairman Carr
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Curtiss
Commissioner Remick
OGC
GPA
ACRS
PDR - Advance
DCS - P1-24