

IN RESPONSE, PLEASE
REFER TO: M910821B

September 19, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR: Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Governmental and Public Affairs

James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations

William C. Parler
General Counsel

FROM: Samuel J. Chilk, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING BY NRC STAFF ON
INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS, 2:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 21, 1991, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE
ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE,
MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the NRC staff on new directions in NRC's international activities.

The Commission requested the staff to prepare a policy paper recommending an updated set of priorities for NRC in the international area, and including views on how to meet these priorities (1) if the needed resources could be made available, and (2) within existing resource constraints, assuming no shift of resources from collaborative international research. The paper should address the need to assign high priority to reactor safety program assistance to developing countries. Specifically, the staff should consider the need for assigning high priority for safety assistance to countries using USSR-designed reactors (e.g., Bulgaria, Cuba, the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Hungary and the USSR) and to countries interested in safely applying U.S. reactor technology (such as Korea, Taiwan, Mexico, and Indonesia). The paper should include contributions the NRC can make to enhancing nuclear safety in countries such as Indonesia which are in the early stages of establishing a nuclear power program and accompanying regulatory capability. The paper should also discuss how the staff might, to the extent possible, expand bilateral meetings to include other countries, as appropriate, to make more efficient use of limited resources.

(GPA/EDO) (SECY Suspense: 11/8/91)

In connection with its discussions of contributions NRC can make to enhancing nuclear safety in countries which are in the early

stages of establishing a nuclear power program, and using Indonesia as an example, the staff should propose an action plan which addresses specific ways the NRC could legally and technically assist such countries, assuming adequate resources, in: (1) establishing a regulatory infrastructure; (2) developing construction inspection programs and training personnel to conduct construction inspections; and (3) developing the appropriate inspection procedures for monitoring plant operations. These examples should be provided separately from the paper requested above in order to facilitate a prompt response needed to support anticipated foreign exchanges of the Commission.

(GPA/OGC/EDO) (SECY Suspense: 10/11/91)

The staff should prepare a matrix identifying countries with specific nuclear safety expertise and/or technology of interest to the NRC.

(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 11/8/91)

The staff should provide the Commission with the current status of the U.S. program for Reduced Enrichment in Research and Test Reactors (RERTR) both internationally and domestically.

(GPA/EDO) (SECY Suspense: 11/22/91)

The staff should provide further information on the planned fuel cycle in Korea using the CANDU reactors, as requested by Commissioner Rogers.

(GPA) (SECY Suspense: 11/22/91)

The staff should provide the Commission with the current status of the international Large-Scale Reprocessing Project (LASCAR), as requested by Commissioner Curtiss.

(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 10/25/91)

The Commission expressed strong support for establishing an NRC position at the U.S. Mission to UN Organizations in Vienna, Austria to represent more effectively the NRC's interests with regard to the International Atomic Energy Agency. The staff should prepare a Commission paper identifying options for the establishment of such a position, the pros and cons of that position being classified in the SES, who that individual would report to (e.g., the Commission, EDO, GPA), the responsibilities for that position, and the financial support to encourage highly qualified technical individuals to seek such a position.

(GPA) (SECY Suspense: 12/6/91)

cc: The Chairman
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Curtiss
Commissioner Remick
OGC
OIG
ACRS

PDR - Advance
DCS - P1-24