

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

December 31, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dade W. Moeller, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste

FROM: Samuel J. Chilk, Secretary

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - PERIODIC MEETING WITH
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE (ACNW),
8:30 A.M., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1990,
COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE
FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN To
PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission met with the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) to discuss nuclear waste related issues which included:

1. EPA's high-level waste standards;
2. the draft Waste Form Technical Position; and
3. a status report on several working groups:
 - a) C-14 transport;
 - b) human intrusion;
 - c) mixed waste; and
 - d) other potential working group topics.

Based on the colloquy at the Commission meeting, it is not clear that ACNW continues to support its Previous recommendation that 10 CFR Part 61 needs to be amended to incorporate a specified resistance of the the waste form to leaching. If the committee no longer endorses the recommendation to amend 10 CFR Part 61, it should so inform the Commission. If, on the other hand, the Committee continues to support its recommendation, it should provide the Commission with an analysis of why the requirements in 10 CFR Part 61 need to be modified to include constraints on waste form leachability given that (1) a disposal facility must be shown to meet the performance objectives in Subpart c of lo CFR Part 61 in order to be licensed by the NRC, and (2)

leachability criteria could be established, if needed, as license conditions based on the licensing review, including performance assessment, for that facility.

(ACNW) (SECY Suspense: 4/27/91)

631

The Chairman urged the ACNW to continue to work closely with the staff to ensure that ACNW views are fully considered in staff's resolution of complex technical issues associated with high-level and low-level radioactive waste management. The Chairman also encouraged the ACNW to coordinate workshops on priority technical issues with external agencies, such as the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, as appropriate, to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency-of the independent review process.

Commissioner Rogers noted that, while the commission looks forward to input from the ACNW on relevant issues, it would prefer receiving clearly developed information and positions rather than progress reports.

Commissioner Remick commended the ACNW for focusing its recent efforts on the technical issues related to the high-level waste repository and noted that he was particularly interested in the ACNW offering its expertise and advice on the earth science aspects of the repository and, although to a somewhat lesser extent, on low-level radioactive waste repository technical issues.

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