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

August 21, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR: James M. Taylor
Acting Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Samuel J. Chilk, Secretary

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING ON THE
THERMAL-HYDRAULIC RESEARCH PROGRAM, 2:30
P.M., THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 1989, COMMIS-
SIONERS" CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT
NORTH, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC
ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the staff on the status of the thermal- hydraulic research program (as documented in Commission paper SECY-89-219 and released at time of the meeting).

Chairman Carr cautioned the staff to ensure that clear-cut objectives which are of benefit to the NRC regulatory program are laid out and followed through on any cooperative effort.

Commissioner Rogers requested the staff to examine the Commissions' research activities in modeling interactions between plant systems, including those between thermal-hydraulic subsystems and other subsystems (for example, the primary nuclear steam supply system and balance of plant equipment). Based on this examination, the staff should review and report to the Commission its proposed future research agenda which considers the further inclusion of computer modeling projects of particular relevance to contemporary U.S. nuclear power plants.

(EDO)

(SECY Suspense: 12/15/89)

Commissioner Rogers also requested the staff to report to the Commission on its consideration of the following topics:

1. How the skills and creative thinking behind the major test facilities now being considered for shut-down and

dismantlement can be captured and preserved for future use if needed.

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2. How research can be encourage more active interaction by the Thermal-Hydraulic Research Center (Idaho National Engineering Laboratory) with Universities?
3. How the NRC, through its future RES projects, can encourage and sustain the nation's academic nuclear engineering programs and encourage top quality faculty and students to participate in those programs. For example: the criteria for evaluating proposals for additional experimental test-loop facilities include the beneficial effects on the proposing institution's students and faculty
(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 10/31/89)

The staff stated that it will submit to the Commission a copy of Idaho National Engineering Laboratory's letter and other background information which discusses a recent trade press article on NRC system analysis codes.
(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 10/31/89)

cc: Chairman Carr
Commissioner Roberts
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Curtis
OGC
GPA
PDR - Advance
DCS - P1-24