

May 29, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers  
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Annette L. Vietti-Cook, Secretary **/RA by J. Samuel Walker  
Acting For/**

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - SECY-01-0026 - ALTERNATIVES  
FOR RULEMAKING: DOMESTIC LICENSING OF URANIUM  
AND THORIUM RECOVERY FACILITIES

The Commission has approved Alternative 3 of SECY-01-0026; discontinue the current 10 CFR Part 41 rulemaking efforts, and focus staff resources on updating guidance documents to implement Commission direction set forth in the SRMs for SECYs 99-012, 99-013, and 99-277. In developing the guidance, the staff should work closely with the industry, States, Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy to find efficient and effective means to reduce any unnecessary regulatory burden to licensees. In working with stakeholders, the staff should take advantage of meetings held by others (e.g., the June 2001 NMA workshop) and NRC's website to disseminate information, solicit input and provide feedback on guidance development issues to help ensure that resource expenditures are kept to a minimum. The staff should keep the Commission periodically informed of the status of these efforts, including the public comments on the proposed regulatory guidance. The proposed final guidance should be submitted to the Commission for approval. The Commission will seriously consider all comments received, particularly in the area of unintended consequences, in its vote on the final guidance.

(EDO)

(SECY Suspense:

4/30/02)

The Commission recognizes the severe economic conditions affecting members of the uranium recovery industry and would support their legislative request for relief from NRC fees for some duration.

cc: Chairman Meserve  
Commissioner Dicus  
Commissioner Diaz  
Commissioner McGaffigan  
Commissioner Merrifield  
OGC  
CFO  
OCA  
OIG  
OPA  
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)

PDR