

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 25, 1999

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Jackson

Commissioner Dicus Commissioner Diaz

Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield

FROM:

Janice Dunn Lee, Director

Office of International Programs

SUBJECT:

SUSPENSIONS AT THE LAGUNA VERDE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

With reference to Commissioner Diaz' recent note on the same subject, OIP discussed the situation with the Mexican regulatory authority, the Comisión Nacional de Seguridad Nuclear (CNSNS). We were informed that the General Manager and several other senior managers at the Laguna Verde Nuclear Power Plant were suspended from their positions for 60 days for failing to comply with government regulations requiring a 20-day waiting period before signing contracts with suppliers.

Ministry of Energy officials named a new General Manager for Laguna Verde, not wishing to leave the top position vacant for the 60-day period. The new General Manager, Ing. Miguel Medina Vaillard, is well known to the NRC, having served for the last several years as the Director General of the CNSNS. Ing. Jose Luis Delgado, Director of the Nuclear Safety Division of CNSNS, has been named Acting Director General of CNSNS.

General Manager Medina plans to reinstate subordinate Laguna Verde officials after their 60-day suspensions.

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