

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

3/21

February 7, 1984

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

COMTR-85-3

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman Palladino Commissioner Asslestine Commissioner Bernthal Commissioner Zech FROM: Thomas M. Roberts

SUBJECT:

FUNDING OF NRC'S HIGH LEVEL WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM COSTS UNDER THE NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT OF 1982- USE OF NUCLEAR WASTE FUND (SECY-84-456)

After reviewing the January 28, 1985 reply to my memorandum of December 20, 1984, and since OMB has restored our funds for the nuclear waste program, I would like the Commission to hold in abeyance issuing the proposed amendment to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (SECY-84-456) until we can more fully explore this and other alternatives.

It is my understanding that the Director of NMSS and his staff have recently met with DOE and that they may be other alternatives that insure NRC's independence while recovering full costs for legitimate activities connected with the licensing of the high level nuclear waste repository. I would like to be briefed on these alternatives, their "pros and cons," and the results of the staff's meeting with DOE. I would also like to know of any alternative for obtaining funds from other sources.

SECY, please track.

cc: SECY OPE OGC EDO