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June 23, 1995

MEMORANDUM TO: James M. Taylor, Executive Director for Operations

FROM: David L. Morrison, Director Original signed by Morris (acting)
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: INITIATION OF A RULEMAKING PLAN ON NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
SECURITY REQUIREMENTS, 10 CFR PART 73 (WITS 910185)

In accordance with the rulemaking procedures specified in Management Directive 6.3, RES intends to develop a rulemaking plan to change 10 CFR Part 73. This was included in your May 10, 1995, memorandum to the Commission listing rulemaking activities as Item C3HP-02, a high priority rule being planned. The intent of this change is to eliminate unnecessary security requirements in Section 73.55. The proposed changes are listed in the Attachment.

In March 1994, NRR requested that RES initiate two rulemakings to amend 10 CFR Part 73 to implement Commission directives contained in a SRM dated February 18, 1994 (SECY 93-326 and SECY 92-272). The first rulemaking, eliminating unnecessary requirements on access control to reactor containments, was signed by you in April 1995 and published in May for public comment (60 FR 24803). The subject plan relates to the second rulemaking.

We will submit the rulemaking plan for your approval when it is developed.

Attachment:
Proposed changes to § 73.55

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DATE:	05/24/95*	05/25/95*	05/23/95	05/27/95	

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ATTACHMENT

PROPOSED CHANGES TO SECTION 73.55

Section 73.55, "Requirements for Physical Protection of Licensed Activities in Nuclear Power Reactors Against Radiological Sabotage."

This section would be revised as follows:

1. Paragraph (d)(1) -- to allow armed security officers who have exited the protected area on official business to re-enter the area without search for firearms.
2. Paragraph (d)(4) -- to allow licensee-owned vehicles driven by licensee employees with unescorted access into the protected area without vehicle escort.
3. Paragraph (d)(5) -- to eliminate the requirement that the picture badges must be returned to the guard upon exit from the protected area, and would allow licensees to use new technologies as alternatives to the picture badge identification system.
4. Paragraph (d)(7)(i)(A) -- to eliminate the requirement that licensees update at least monthly the list containing persons allowed access to individual vital areas, and instead requires that licensees to maintain list(s), which is kept current, and update it as needed.
5. Paragraph (d)(7)(i)(D) -- to eliminate the requirement that doors to all unoccupied vital areas be locked, and instead require that vital area doors be alarmed and can be locked remotely. Regulations should continue to require locking devices, access control systems and alarms for all vital area doors.
6. Paragraph (d)(9) -- to eliminate the requirement that licensees change or rotate annually keys, locks, combinations, or related access control devices, but retain the requirement that licensees change or rotate them whenever there is evidence or suspicion that they have been compromised.