



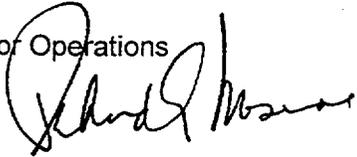
UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 30, 2000

CHAIRMAN

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Richard A. Meserve 

SUBJECT: STAFF REVIEW OF OIG REPORT ON THE NRC'S
RESPONSE TO THE STEAM GENERATOR TUBE
FAILURE AT INDIAN POINT 2 AND RELATED ISSUES

The Commission recently received a report from the Office of the Inspector General concerning the NRC's handling of issues associated with the February 15, 2000 steam generator tube failure at Indian Point 2. Although the event did not result in a threat to public health and safety, the Inspector General's findings raise several issues concerning NRC actions that require consideration by the Commission. The findings raise questions regarding the soundness of our processes and the adequacy of our technical reviews related to the oversight of PWR steam generator tube integrity in general and at Indian Point 2 in particular. In addition, the findings indicate that there were longstanding emergency preparedness issues at the Indian Point 2 facility that contributed to poor emergency-response performance during the February 15, 2000 event.

I am directing that you conduct a review and analysis of the issues raised in the Inspector General's report. This review should include consideration of issues raised in the independent technical review of the NRR safety evaluation report prepared by the Office of Research.

As a part of your review, please provide recommendations for improving NRC processes as may be warranted and propose a schedule for implementing them. The results of your review should be forwarded to the Commission by November 1, 2000.

cc: Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
OIG
OPA
OCA
OGC
ACRS
OCAA
SECY

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