



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 12, 2003

REQUEST REPLY BY

3/26

COMSECY-03-0015

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Meserve

FROM: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

Approved.


Richard A. Meserve 3/19/03

SUBJECT: JANUARY 2003 UPDATE OF THE STAFF'S RESPONSE TO THE
CHAIRMAN'S TASKING MEMORANDUM

The purpose of this memorandum is to recommend that the Chairman's Tasking Memorandum (CTM) be discontinued. The CTM provides an update of the staff's planned actions to address the issues raised during the July 30, 1998, hearing before the Senate Subcommittee on Clean Air and Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety, and the July 17, 1998, Commission meeting with stakeholders. However, since that time the staff has made substantive changes in its management of many of the activities of interest at that time. The staff has developed plans for implementing some of these activities (e.g., the Risk-Informed Regulation Implementation Plan) and developed new plans for major new initiatives (e.g., Future Licensing and Inspection Readiness Assessment) where appropriate. The staff has also substantively furthered its implementation of the Planning, Budgeting, and Performance Management process, ensuring that the agency shifts resources to higher priority work as needs dictate. In addition, there are other tracking systems (e.g., the Office of the Executive Director for Operations' Work Item Tracking System (WITS), and the Office of the Secretary's Commission Tracking System (CTS)) that track items of interest to the Commission and other work. By discontinuing the CTM, the staff will eliminate a redundant tracking system that requires a non-trivial amount of resources to maintain.

The staff will continue to prepare the "Monthly Status Report on the Licensing Activities and Regulatory Duties of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission," ("Monthly Congressional Report") as directed by the Fiscal Year 2003 Consolidated Budget Act, Senate Report 107-220. The CTM, however, would no longer be included as an enclosure to the Monthly Congressional Report, effective with the January 2003 report (provided to the Commission concurrent with this memorandum).

Furthermore, by discontinuing the CTM, the staff expects the timeliness of the Monthly Congressional Report to improve since preparation of the associated CTM has typically delayed preparation of the Monthly Congressional Report. In the event the NRC receives feedback from Congress that the CTM is a necessary element of the Monthly Congressional Report, the staff could promptly provide the attached January 2003 CTM, and reinstate development of the February 2003 CTM.

In the event the Commission directs the staff to continue to maintain the CTM, a copy of the January 2003 update of the CTM is attached for information. Please note that topic areas: VII.C, Part 41 Rulemaking: Domestic Licensing of Uranium and Thorium Recovery Activities and Uranium Recovery Concerns - and Related Guidance; and VII.M.2, Part 74 Rulemaking: Material Control and Accounting, have been deleted since all associated milestones have been



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William D. Travers
Nils J. Diaz

Nils J. Diaz 03/19 /03

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URGENT REPLY BY 3/26

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MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Meserve

FROM: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

Handwritten signature of William D. Travers in black ink.

Approved
E. M. Goffey Jr.
3/13/03

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