

April 2, 2003

ALL AGREEMENT STATES, MINNESOTA, PENNSYLVANIA, WISCONSIN

**RULEMAKING PROCESS IMPROVEMENT, TASK FORCE FINAL REPORT (STP-03- 027)**

The NRC Rulemaking Process Improvement Task Force has issued a final report on its assessment and review of the current rulemaking process. Overall, the Task Force found that NRC's rulemaking process is stable and functions reasonably well. The final report made a number of recommendations for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the rulemaking process. Other recommendations are secondary to the process but could improve rulemaking management, budgeting, tracking, and performance monitoring.

The Task Force solicited Agreement State comment through a May 2002 questionnaire, a June 2002 teleconference, and a briefing on the progress of the Task Force at the Organization of Agreement States (OAS) annual meeting in October 2002. The Agreement State responses to the questionnaire are summarized on pp. 55-64. Comments and recommendations pertaining to Agreement States are found on pp. x, xi, 87 and 89.

The final report of the NRC Rulemaking Process Improvement Task Force has been uploaded to the NRC's Technical Conference Forum (TCF) in the limited access area for Agreement States. Agreement States can access the task force report at: <http://techconf.inl.gov/States/index.html> using the appropriate user name and password, which was last updated via All Agreement States Letter SP-99-027.

Please note that this is pre-decisional information. Due to its pre-decisional nature, this document is exempt from public disclosure under NRC rules. We request that you limit distribution to your staff and not release the document publicly. If the document is released, please inform me or the Point of Contact below within 24 hours.

If you have any questions on this correspondence, please contact me or the individual named below.

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