

MEMORANDUM FOR: Martin J. Steindler, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste

November 18, 1994

FROM: James M. Taylor, Executive Director for Operations

Original signed by
James M. Taylor

SUBJECT: GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE IMPACT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY'S PROPOSED PROGRAM APPROACH ON THE NRC'S HIGH-
LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE LICENSING ACTIVITIES

Thank you for your letter providing the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste's (ACNW's) general comments on the impact of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Proposed Program Approach (PPA) on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's high-level radioactive waste licensing activities. Staff who attended the ACNW meetings on the PPA found that the ACNW members' questions to DOE were particularly useful in illuminating areas where DOE needs to provide further information and rationale about the PPA.

In your letter, you make two sets of comments. First, you comment on the information provided by DOE on the PPA. The staff generally agrees with your characterization of the PPA, based on the information available to date. Your second set of comments consists of five recommendations for the staff's consideration as it continues its review of the PPA. The staff generally agrees with these recommendations and will consider when, and how extensively, to implement them as it continues its review of the PPA. Specific responses to your comments are included in the attachment to this memorandum.

The staff will continue to review and comment on DOE's PPA, as additional information becomes available. Of course, the Division of Waste Management will continue to work closely with ACNW in the course of this activity.

Attachment: As stated

cc: The Chairman
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner de Planque
OGC
SECY
OCA
OPA

Contact: Mark Delligatti, NMSS
415-6620

TICKET:0010507

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