

March 8, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR: Anthony S. Hsia, PCC Coordinator
Division of Systems Safety and Analysis
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Regulation

FROM: John H. Austin, Chief (original signed by)
Performance Assessment and High-Level
Waste Integration Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT BRANCH TECHNICAL POSITION ON THE USE OF
EXPERT ELICITATION IN THE HIGH-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

On February 28, 1996, the availability of draft guidance, entitled "Branch Technical Position on the Use of Expert Elicitation in the High-Level Waste Program," was noticed in the Federal Register for public comment. This Branch Technical Position (BTP) was developed only for application to the High-Level Waste program, as part of the staff's ongoing Iterative Performance Assessment efforts.

In developing this draft guidance, it should be noted that the Division of Waste Management staff has drawn from the previous staff experience of other NRC program offices, in the use of expert elicitation. For example, the staff solicited and considered comments and recommendations from the following NRC Program Offices: Nuclear Regulatory Regulation, Nuclear Regulatory Research, and Analysis and Evaluation for Operational Data. This effort was also coordinated with the Office of the General Counsel and the staff has received their "no legal objection."

Development of this BTP is currently being tracked by the Commission. Because of the interest in this topic, the staff thought the Probabilistic Risk Assessment Coordinating Committee might wish to have a copy of the draft BTP for its information.

Attachment:
Draft BTP

CONTACT: Norman A. Eisenberg, NMSS/DWM
415-7285

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