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December 9, 2003 (4:10PM)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY RULEMAKINGS AND ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

DRAFT POLICY STATEMENT

68FR62642

Mark Wieder 2140 Shattuck Avenue #2420 Berkeley, CA 94704

Dear Mr. Wieder:

I am responding to your request for additional time to respond to the November 5, 2003, Federal Register Notice (68 FR 62642) that provided a 60-day period to comment on the Commission's draft Policy Statement on the Treatment of Environmental Justice Matters in NRC Regulatory and Licensing Actions. You requested an extension of time for approximately 180 days to July 4, 2004 and at least 10 public meetings.

A 60-day comment period provided in the November notice is twice the 30-day time period that is required by the Administrative Procedure Act for a formal rulemaking. The Commission is satisfied that the 60-day period is appropriate to air the issues associated with this policy statement. However, the Commission has no objection to an extension of time for an additional 30 days. A Federal Register notice will be issued to announce the extension.

We look forward to your comments.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Annette L. Vietti-Cook

December 2003

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Sincerely,

Annette L. Vietti-Cook Secretary

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