

December 19, 2003

MEMORANDUM TO: Glenn M. Tracy, Director
Division of Nuclear Security
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

FROM: Robert C. Pierson, Director
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety **/RA/**
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: APPRECIATION FOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MICHAEL C. LAYTON

In a Staff Requirements Memorandum dated November 19, 2003, the Commission approved the staff's recommendations presented in SECY-03-0186 concerning the deferral of active regulation of ground water protection at *in situ* leach (ISL) uranium extraction facilities. The staff recommended that the Agency defer to the States of Nebraska and Wyoming (the two states where there are active ISL operations) the regulation of groundwater protection at ISL sites. In his vote sheet, Commissioner Merrifield stated that "this was an area that was ripe for elimination of dual regulation."

Mr. Layton had the lead for developing this Commission paper prior to his reassignment to your Division. He developed the underlying strategy, and he assisted my staff after his reassignment with final development and concurrence. We commend Mr. Layton for his significant contribution to this initiative.

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