UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

July 30, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR: Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Governmental and Public Affairs

FROM: Samuel J. Chilk, Secretary

SUBJECT: SECY-90-229 - NRC REVIEW OF "NORDIC" CONSULTATIVE REPORT ON HIGH LEVEL WASTE DISPOSAL

This is to advise you that the Commission has no objections to transmitting the staff's comments on the "Nordic" Consultative Report on High Level Waste Disposal to Mr. Jan Olof Snihs at the National Institute of Radiation Protection in Stockholm, Sweden.

Commissioner Remick is concerned that the U.S. is at some risk of winding up in the minority as other countries adopt HLW disposal criteria, such as long-term individual dose limits, despite the difficulties of implementing these criteria in a licensing or similar regulatory proceeding. The possible adoption of such criteria by other countries makes it important that differences in the U.S. approach be technically well-supported and reflect an informed understanding of other nations' regulatory concerns. Thus, Commissioner Remick requests that staff follow developments related to this report very closely due to the potential to influence the revision of EPA standards. The staff should also consider, in future comments on EPA standards, the extent to which EPA has addressed the implications of developments in international standard-setting for HLW disposal.

cc: Chairman Carr
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Curtiss
Commissioner Remick
OGC
EDO

SECY NOTE: THIS SRM AND SECY-90-229 WILL BE MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE WHEN THE FINAL SRM IS AVAILABLE.

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