



13 July 17, 2003
*Cyr/gray/Burns / Chandler / Jiles
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MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield

FROM: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE WITHHOLDING FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF
SENSITIVE, UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION RELATED TO
POWER REACTORS

Following the events of September 11, 2001, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and other government agencies reviewed and revised policies related to the routine release of information to the public. The guidance developed by the NRC staff is described in COMSECY-02-0015, "Withholding Sensitive Homeland Security Information from the Public," dated April 4, 2002. The Commission approved the guidance and provided additional instructions to the staff in its staff requirements memorandum (SRM) dated May 28, 2002.

Selected staff in the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) and other offices have used the guidance in COMSECY-02-0015, and the processes put in place to implement the guidance have generally worked well. Since issuance of the SRM, the staff involved with reviewing information and developing guidance have gained experience and refined review practices. The staff from different program offices have met routinely, before and after issuance of COMSECY-02-0015, to share experiences and discuss issues associated with the control of information. The staff has also discussed the control of information with representatives from other agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and followed activities related to the Critical Infrastructure Information Act of 2002 to determine if requirements or guidance issued by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) would require changes to the NRC processes.

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