



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

June 27, 1995

IN RESPONSE, PLEASE  
REFER TO: M950621B

OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM TO: James M. Taylor  
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: *John C. Hoyle*  
John C. Hoyle, Secretary

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING ON NRC USE OF  
EXPERT ELICITATION IN HLW PERFORMANCE  
ASSESSMENTS, 10:30 A.M., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21,  
1995, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE  
WHITE FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN  
TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the NRC staff on the plans to develop guidance on the use of expert elicitation. As the guidance is developed further, the Commission would be interested in how the determination of an expert is made and by whom. An important criterion for determining participation as an expert is the willingness of experts to be identified publicly with their judgments. In addition, declarations of conflicts of interest and biases should be made in the beginning of the process. Also, the terms "reasonable assurance" and "reasonably obtainable" must be used carefully and consistently, and the context in which they are used must be described. The Commission also suggested that the staff consider broader applications where expert elicitation might be useful. The Commission continues to be interested in this process, and would like to review the Staff Technical Position during the public comment period and before the staff issues the position in final form.

(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 9/29/95)

Prior to publishing a final Staff Technical Position, the staff should provide the Commission a copy along with a complete review and analysis of public comments received on the draft.

(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 3/29/96)

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cc: The Chairman  
Commissioner Rogers  
Commissioner de Planque  
Commissioner Jackson  
OGC  
OCA  
OIG  
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)  
PDR - Advance  
DCS - P1-24