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FROM: Janice Dunn Lee *Janice Lee*
 Office of International Programs

DATE: 3/8/02

SUBJECT:
 IAEA MEETING ON CONFIDENTIALITY ISSUES RELATED TO ACTIVITIES ON THE SECURITY OF RADIATION SOURCES AND NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS

COMMENT:
 On February 11-15, the IAEA Department of Nuclear Safety convened a Consultants Meeting to discuss and draft recommendations on confidentiality issues related to nuclear and radiation safety. A Lynn Silvious (ADM/DFS/INFOSEC) and Martha Williams (NMSS/FCSS/FLIB) attended and were the sole U.S. participants. The meeting was scheduled in response to Member State concerns that the IAEA lacked an appropriate mechanism to protect information to be made available in some of its proposed activities related to protection against terrorism.

The objectives of the meeting were to (a) obtain feedback on general and specific concerns expressed by the consultants' governments on confidentiality issues as they relate to nuclear and radiation safety; (b) identify the types of information which need classification and their classification level; (c) discuss the use of existing and proposed confidentiality practices for protecting such sensitive safety information; and (d) discuss the type of material the Agency should not provide on its websites. The last issue involved information that could be used to aid terrorist activities versus due regard for the need for transparency on nuclear matters.

Discussion topics included (a) elements of a confidentiality regime for sensitive nuclear safety information, (b) principles for classification of nuclear safety information, (c) criteria for dissemination of such information, and (d) a proposed Agency-wide confidentiality regime. The report of this meeting (attached) may be provided as background and information to participants in the March Board of Governors meeting.

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