

IN RESPONSE, PLEASE
REFER TO: M040226B

March 12, 2004

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Annette L. Vietti-Cook, Secretary **/RA/**

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING ON STATUS OF DAVIS-BESSE LESSONS LEARNED TASK FORCE ISSUES, 1:30 P.M., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2004, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the NRC staff on the status of implementation of the Davis-Besse Lessons Learned Task Force Report recommendations. Commissioners recognized the progress that has been made, but expressed concern about the communications issues raised in the NRC Inspector General's memorandum to the Chairman, dated February 2, 2004. On February 10, 2004, the Chairman directed the staff to address these issues. The Commission anticipates receiving the response which is currently due on March 26, 2004.

The staff should develop ways to better communicate to stakeholders its approach to addressing the Task Force's recommendations, including reasons for delays, such as the need to establish the technical basis before rulemaking can proceed. Information on the NRC website should be presented in an integrated manner and made more accessible to the general public.

The staff should evaluate whether generic communications accomplish their intent to inform licensees and collect information on licensee actions in response to serious incidents, such as the one at Davis-Besse.

The staff should provide the Commission with appropriate background material to support the staff's presentation when preparing for all future Commission meetings.

The staff should continue to provide periodic status reports on the implementation of Task Force recommendations. The staff should keep the Commission fully informed about resource needs, changing priorities, and gauging the effectiveness of efforts to address the recommendations.

cc: Chairman Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
OGC
CFO
OCA
OIG
OPA
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
PDR