



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

January 9, 1990

001.4 (43) JRC

OFFICE OF THE
COMMISSIONER

MEMORANDUM FOR: Samuel J. Chilk
Secretary

FROM: James R. Curtiss *Jim R. Curtiss*

SUBJECT: SECY-89-319 -- "IMPLEMENTATION OF THE U.S.
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S HIGH-LEVEL
WASTE DISPOSAL STANDARDS"

In view of the recent letter from the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) on the subject SECY paper,¹ as well as the recent testimony of the Department of Energy (DOE) before the Commission on, inter alia, the Commission's regulatory framework for a nuclear waste repository,² I would request that action on the subject SECY paper be delayed until -- (1) the Commission has had an opportunity to discuss with the ACNW at our upcoming February meeting the concerns that the ACNW raised in its recent letter; and (2) the staff submits to the Commission an analysis of the recommendations that DOE has made with regard to the regulatory framework for the repository, including an assessment of the impact of these recommendations on the course of action that the staff has recommended in SECY-89-319.

In addition, I have a number of questions about the course of action that the staff has proposed in the subject SECY paper that I will be transmitting shortly under separate cover and that I would like to have addressed prior to voting on this initiative.

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

¹ See letter from Dade M. Moeller, Chairman, Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste, to the Commission, December 21, 1989.

² See Statement of Leo P. Duffy, Director of the Office of Environmental Restoration and Waste Management, December 20, 1989.