



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

January 22, 1992

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MEMORANDUM FOR: The Chairman
FROM: William C. Parler, General Counsel
James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations
SUBJECT: REVIEW OF PROCEDURES TO ASSURE OPENNESS IN HLW ACTIVITIES

We wish to advise you of the actions we have initiated in response to your directions to us after your return last week from your trip to Yucca Mountain. I am closely examining procedures in place to assure that regulatory decisions regarding the licensing of the repository for disposal of high level radioactive waste are made publicly with notice and input from all interested parties and with public documentation of all such decisions. We are examining the adequacy of the procedures and the consistency of the practices within them.

Specifically, in coordination with the Executive Director for Operations and responsible staff we are looking at the following areas:

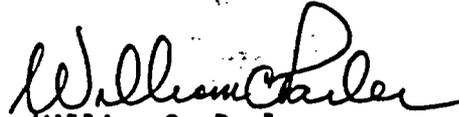
1. Statutory and regulatory requirements governing NRC - DOE interactions (e.g., Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982, as amended, 10 C.F.R. Part 60);
2. Memoranda of Understanding or procedural agreements between the NRC and DOE;
3. Published pertinent NMSS policy and procedures directives;
4. Periodic reports prepared by NMSS documenting interactions between NRC and DOE staff;
5. NRC outreach activities (e.g., recorded telephone announcements of upcoming meetings with DOE, Public Document Room);
6. Policies of the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses regarding interactions with DOE and others; and.
7. Policies of the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste regarding interactions with DOE and others.

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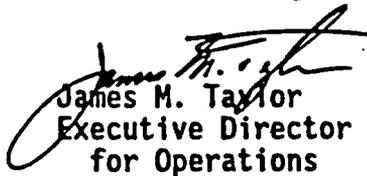
The Chairman

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At this time, our preliminary review indicates that procedures are in place and are being implemented. However, we shall continue to look into these areas and will report to you in a timely manner.



William C. Parler
General Counsel



James M. Taylor
Executive Director
for Operations

cc: Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Curtiss
Commissioner Remick
Commissioner de Planque
SECY