



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

OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY

November 30, 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR: Arnold E. Levin  
Licensing Support System Administrator

FROM: John C. Hoyle, Chairman  
LSSAPP

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF OCTOBER 5-6, 1993, LSS ADVISORY  
REVIEW PANEL

The Licensing Support System Advisory Review Panel held a two day meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada, on October 5-6, 1993. All participating organizations serving on the Panel were represented except the Securities and Exchange Commission. The agenda for the meeting and list of attendees are attached.

Highlights of the meeting are summarized below.

1. Discussion of the LSS Rule (10 CFR Part 2, Subpart J) - Historical Perspective  
Mr. Cameron, Office of the General Counsel, presented a brief refresher on the LSS rule to provide the members, some of whom were new to the Panel, a summary of the major features of the rule.

Commitments: None.

2. Briefing on NRC's Alternative Approach to Development and Operation of the LSS as Part of InfoSTREAMS

Mr. Cranford, Acting LSS Administrator, provided a briefing on NRC's efforts to achieve a viable LSS system at a significant cost reduction by combining LSS development and operation with DOE's document management system known as InfoSTREAMS (Alternative 3 of SECY 93-107). During the discussion after Mr. Cranford's briefing, several members strongly expressed the view that the Panel should have been utilized earlier in the process of deciding whether the LSS design should be reexamined, and in participating on the NRC/DOE Technical Working Group. Those members strongly urged that the Panel be fully used in the future.

(See continuation of discussion of Alternative 3 in item 9. below.)

**Commitments:** The Acting LSSA agreed to determine whether the technical Working Group's draft report of February 1992 could be released to the Panel. Members will be provided a copy when it becomes available.

3. DOE Briefing on InfoSTREAMS as the LSS Foundation

Mr. Graser, Acting Director of OCRWM's Information Management Division, DOE, assisted by Janice Tauser of TRW, briefed the Panel on a number of issues raised in the course of studying technology in the InfoSTREAMS environment and applying lessons learned to the possible utilization of InfoSTREAMS technology for the LSS. They cited a number of passages in the existing LSS rule in which modifications should be considered to avoid words or phrases that in the future may be roadblocks to utilization of desirable technology developments. They also discussed possible impacts on LSS header fields and on the manner in which copyright material might be handled in the LSS.

**Commitments:** The Header Working Group was reestablished to consider a proposal by DOE to add several new fields to the LSS header record. The Group is composed of representatives of the State of Nevada (Chair), Clark County, DOE and NRC.

4. DOE Briefing on InfoSTREAMS as the LSS Vehicle

Mr. Graser, assisted by George Hallnor of TRW, gave the Panel a presentation on the current state of InfoSTREAMS preliminary design and development.

**Commitments:** Panel members requested additional cost data for InfoSTREAMS. NRC will provide the cost information provided by DOE during preparation of SECY 93-107. After a final determination has been made on whether InfoSTREAMS is to be used as the LSS vehicle, more definitive cost and scheduling data will be developed by DOE and provided to the Panel.

5. LSS Compliance Assessment and Audit Program

Mr. Cranford, Acting LSS Administrator, presented a briefing on the draft LSS Compliance Program designed by the LSSA office to assess all participants' compliance with their obligations to the LSS program.

**Commitments:** Panel members were asked to review and provide comments on the LSSA draft within the next few weeks. The Panel elected to defer comments until after resolution of the

Alternative 3 issue. The handling of protected material is to be scheduled as a future agenda topic in connection with possible Part 2 rule changes.

6. Optical Character Recognition (OCR) and Full Text Retrieval

The Panel was provided a briefing on progress being made on OCR technology research being conducted by the Information Science Research Institute (ISRI) at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Professor Nartker, Director of ISRI, reviewed the test results obtained by the Institute during the past year utilizing optical character recognition devices available from the industry.

Commitments: None.

7. Text Information Management

Mr. Hallnor, TRW, provided information on efforts by TRW to assess the ability of current and developing technologies in the text information management field to meet InfoSTREAMS and LSS functional needs. Panel members urged DOE to broaden the assessment to find other client server systems for large applications.

Commitments: DOE is to review the text information management systems study for possible release of excerpts to the Panel.

8. LSS Topical Guidelines

At the request of Nye County's representative, the Panel briefly discussed Draft Regulatory Guide DG-3009, Topical Guidelines for the Licensing Support System. NRC staff is seeking public comment on the Draft Guide by October 29, 1993. Panel members noted the revisions which had been made in the draft Guidelines at the Panel's earlier request concerning the topics of environmental information and transportation information. They suggested that additional language appeared necessary for clarification, particularly with respect to the inclusion of socioeconomic information into the LSS.

Commitments: Those portions of the meeting transcript containing the Topical Guidelines discussion will be provided to the appropriate NRC staff.

Panel members should submit comments for their individual organizations directly to the NRC staff as soon as practical.

9. Open Discussion of Approaches to Operation of LSS As Part of InfoSTREAMS

Representatives of the State of Nevada, Nye County, and Clark County expressed the view that Alternative 3 of SECY 93-107 did not appear to be acceptable to their constituent organizations primarily because the capture function and direct control of the LSS would reside with the Department of Energy, rather than NRC or some other independent element. This view was discussed at length. On the issue of document capture, a solution was suggested whereby non-DOE parties would rely on the LSS Administrator for inputting their documents.

On the operational control issue, a variety of additional suggestions were offered which would have the effect of allowing DOE to design, develop, install and test the LSS within InfoSTREAMS, but would place NRC in virtual control of the actual LSS operation. Examples included:

- establish NRC control through a vigorous compliance and audit program;
- transfer DOE's LSS contractor oversight responsibility to the NRC when operation begins;
- use a separate contractor reporting to NRC as a follow-on contractor to DOE's LSS contractor;
- transfer management oversight of DOE employees to the LSS Administrator;
- provide additional control through expansion of the authority and responsibility of the pre-application Licensing Board;
- place control of funding for the LSS portion of InfoSTREAMS with NRC through interagency agreement.

**Commitments:** The Nye County representative will draft for circulation to the other Panel members a proposed letter to the Commission expressing the concerns of Panel members with respect to Alternative 3.

**10. Future Plans**

Panel members tentatively agreed that a follow-on meeting should be held in the mid-January timeframe following review of the additional information to be circulated after this meeting.

**Enclosures:**

Agenda  
List of Attendees

**cc:** The Chairman  
Commissioner Rogers  
Commissioner Remick  
Commissioner de Planque  
OGC  
EDO  
SECY  
LSS Internal Steering Committee  
LSS Advisory Review Panel Members