

February 9, 2005

ALL AGREEMENT STATES, MINNESOTA, PENNSYLVANIA

STAFF REQUIREMENTS MEMORANDUM (SRM) - SECY-04-0215 - FINAL REPORT ON RESULTS OF THE NATIONAL MATERIALS PROGRAM PILOT PROJECTS (STP-05-014)

This is to inform you of the availability of SECY-04-0215, dated November 13, 2004, *Final Report on Results of the National Materials Program (NMP) Pilot Projects* and associated SRM dated January 5, 2005. These two documents are available at the STP Web site under "National Materials Program," <http://www.hsrp.doe.gov/nrc/materials.htm> on the tool bar. Copies of the final pilot project reports are also available at this area of the STP Web site.

Through the January 5, 2005 SRM, the Commission approved the staff's (and OAS and CRCPD Chairs') recommendation that the NRC and Agreement States continue to operate the NMP under the Blended option. Therefore, we will continue to follow the Blended option to work cooperatively and collaboratively with the Agreement States (and OAS and CRCPD). This will include continued use of joint working groups established by NRC, OAS or CRCPD to address regulatory development needs in the materials program area.

The SRM also recognizes that the products produced by the pilot projects were not, to date, fully implemented or tested. Thus, it directs the staff to evaluate the effectiveness of implementation of the products produced under the pilot projects and to make appropriate changes or adjustments to the products when necessary. The SRM directs that such implementation activities be completed before consideration of any new pilot activities. In response, we plan to initiate discussion with OAS and CRCPD Board leadership to identify activities which should be considered to evaluate implementation of the existing products that were produced by the pilot projects. This should include evaluation and consideration of recommendations contained in the pilot project working groups reports.

The SRM reflects that the Commission only approved Option 1 presented in the SECY paper. Therefore, at this time, we do not plan to initiate any action on the other two options.

The SRM also indicates that, the Commission is to be kept informed of the status of the implementation activities, particularly before initiating any new pilot projects. In addition, the staff is to inform the Commission if staff resource expenditures for collaboratively addressing material issues with States are expected to increase the overall resources needed to maintain the NMP.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact me or the individual named below.

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