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MEMORANDUM FOR: James G. Partlow, Director, Division of Inspection

Programs, IE

FROM:

Jack A. Hind, Director, Division of Radiation Safety

and Safeguards, Region III

SUBJECT:

MC&A INSPECTION FOR COMBUSTION ENGINEERING -

HEMATITE PLANT (DOCKET NO. 70-36)

Our present Region III Operating Plan and IE Manual Chapters require us to conduct a Material Control and Accountability inspection at the Combustion Engineering - Hematite facility. Past inspection efforts for this facility over the last 2 years included a regional based security inspector, Mr. D. Huff from your staff, and contractor support from Battelle Pacific Northwest Laboratories. However, due to current budgetary constraints, we understand that contract support will be greatly reduced or totally eliminated for this type of inspection effort. We suggest, if support is eliminated, that consideration be given to requesting appropriate inspection expertise from other regions or Headquarters personnel to assist our inspection activities. Region III security personnel lack the required expertise to adequately inspect the licensee's measurement system, statistics control program, and internal control system. If granted, this inspection expertise will greatly aid our inspection activities and will provide an added level of assurance that the licensee is properly implementing their program.

We feel that these inspections are necessary to assure that the licensee is adequately implementing their program. Past inspection results have shown that this licensee's MC&A program is adequate, but that fundamental problems existed in the licensee's implementation of the MC&A program. Comprehensive inspection efforts over the last 2 years have aided us in the identification and subsequent corrective action of problems.

We request you consider our request for supplemental inspection assistance. The inspection is currently scheduled in the July to September time frame.

If you have any questions concerning our request, please contact J. R. Creed (FTS 388-5643) of my staff.

Mack A. Hind, Director

Division of Radiation Safety

and Safeguards

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