April 20, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO: Luis A. Reyes
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Kenneth R. Hart, Acting Secretary **/RA/**

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - SECY-06-0053 - PACKAGE PERFORMANCE STUDY STATUS REPORT

The Commission has approved the staff recommendations under Option 1 in the subject paper, in which the milestones for the package performance study (PPS) are tied to the date that the Department of Energy (DOE) places an order to procure the transportation casks to support proposed Yucca Mountain repository operations or the date that NRC issues a certificate of compliance for the transportation cask design, whichever is later.

In order to alleviate some of the resource impacts of the study, the Commission encourages the staff to engage with higher level management in DOE to request funding to support this demonstration test.

The staff should continue its preparatory work and keep the Commission apprised of its progress in this regard.

cc: Chairman Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
Commissioner Jaczko
Commissioner Lyons
OGC
CFO
DOC
OCA
OIG
OPA
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
PDR