

June 27, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
Commissioner Jaczko
Commissioner Lyons

FROM: Luis A. Reyes */RA/*
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR COMPLETION OF RULEMAKING
FOR NEW GENERAL LICENSE FOR DRINKING WATER
TREATMENT FACILITIES CONCENTRATING URANIUM

In the Staff Requirements Memorandum, dated April 28, 2006, in response to SECY-06-0049, "Actions Related to Regulation of Maximum Contamination Levels for Uranium in Drinking Water," the Commission directed the staff to initiate rulemaking to develop a new general license specific to drinking water treatment facilities. The Commission directed the staff to complete this action within 20 months. In addition, the Commission directed the staff to issue a generic communication discussing NRC's expectations while the staff prepares the final rule.

As directed by the Commission, the staff has developed a detailed schedule (Enclosure) which includes schedules for both the rulemaking effort and issuance of the generic communication. Additionally, the Enclosure includes the schedule for the staff to provide the Commission with a status report on the R.M.D. Operations LLC license application and indicates when the staff will identify and provide, to the Commission, an analysis and recommendations on policy and legal matters related to that license application.

During the preparation of the rule, staff plans to hold periodic meetings with cognizant staff from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff, along with representatives of EPA and the States, participated in a discussion of EPA's drinking water rule and NRC's rulemaking at the annual meeting of the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors in May of this year. Plans also include presentations at the meeting

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of the National Mining Association meeting in late June, and at the annual conference of the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators in October 2006. Staff will also will seek other opportunities for outreach with stakeholders while the proposed rule is out for comment.

Enclosure: Schedules

cc: SECY
OGC
OCA
OPA
CFO

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SECY-please track.

Enclosure: Schedules

cc: SECY
 OGC
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