

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 01/24/08

EDO CONTROL: G20080030
DOC DT: 01/07/08
FINAL REPLY:

Farzad Rahnema, Nuclear Engineering
Department Heads Organization (NEDHO)

TO:

Chairman Klein

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

** PRI **

CRC NO: 08-0018

Chairman Klein

DESC:

ROUTING:

Recommendation for Distribution of Funds
Provided to NRC for University Programs
(EDATS: SECY-2008-0030)

Reyes
Virgilio
Mallett
Ash
Ordaz
Cyr/Burns
Landau, OEDO
Whited, OEDO
Solander, OEDO

DATE: 01/14/08

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

HR

McDermott

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Immediate release of incoming to public processed
in ADAMS per SECY thru EDO/DPC.

Template: SECY-017

E-RIDS: SECY-01

EDATS

Electronic Document and Action Tracking System

EDATS Number: SECY-2008-0030

Source: SECY

General Information

Assigned To: HR **OEDO Due Date:** 1/24/2008 5:00 PM
Other Assignees: **SECY Due Date:** 1/28/2008 5:00 PM
Subject: Recommendation for Distribution of Funds Provided to NRC for University Programs
Description:
CC Routing: NONE
ADAMS Accession Numbers - Incoming: NONE **Response/Package:** NONE

Other Information

Cross Reference Number: G20080030, LTR-08-0018 **Staff Initiated:** NO
Related Task: **Recurring Item:** NO
File Routing: EDATS **Agency Lesson Learned:** NO
Roadmap Item: NO

Process Information

Action Type: Letter **Priority:** Medium
Signature Level: Chairman Klein **Sensitivity:** None
OEDO Concurrence: YES **Urgency:** NO
OCM Concurrence: NO
OCA Concurrence: NO
Special Instructions: Immediate release of incoming to public processed in ADAMS per SECY thru EDO/DPC.

Document Information

Originator Name: Farzad Rahnema **Date of Incoming:** 1/7/2008
Originating Organization: Nuclear Engineering Department Heads Organization,(NEDHO) **Document Received by SECY Date:** 1/11/2008
Addressee: Chairman Klein **Date Response Requested by Originator:** NONE
Incoming Task Received: Letter

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: Jan 11, 2008 13:07

PAPER NUMBER: LTR-08-0018 **LOGGING DATE:** 01/11/2008
ACTION OFFICE: EDO

AUTHOR: Farzad Rahnema, GA Institute of Technology
AFFILIATION: GA
ADDRESSEE: CHRM Dale Klein
SUBJECT: Concerns the distribution of funds for university programs

ACTION: Signature of Chairman
DISTRIBUTION: RF, SECY to Ack

LETTER DATE: 01/07/2008
ACKNOWLEDGED No
SPECIAL HANDLING: Immediate release to the public via SECY/EDO/DPC
NOTES:
FILE LOCATION: ADAMS
DATE DUE: 01/28/2008 **DATE SIGNED:**

EDO --G20080030



Nuclear Engineering Department Heads Organization

The George W. Woodruff School
Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA 30332-0405
(404) 894-3718, farzad@gatech.edu

January 7, 2008

Honorable Chairman Dale E. Klein
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop 0-16G4
Washington, DC 20555-0001

The members of the Nuclear Engineering Department Heads Organization (NEDHO) and the National Association of Test, Research and Training Reactors (TRTR) greatly appreciate the willingness of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to provide stewardship for university programs in nuclear science and engineering. We view this development as an opportunity for the continuation and enhancement of programs that contribute to strong and effective programs at universities throughout the nation.

As you are aware many members of the NEDHO have been involved in providing information to our respective Congressional delegations regarding the importance nuclear engineering has in the advancement of our regional and national energy, security and medical programs. We have recommended the continuation of various programs which have been critical to our success in student recruitment, retention, and graduation; hiring new faculty members; developing new courses; improving existing courses; advancing the state of the art research in nuclear engineering; providing new research facilities, including instrumentation and controls; and in the maintenance of university-based research reactors.

Now that funding has been provided to the NRC for the university programs, we would like to provide you with a recommended distribution of these funds to support the ongoing programs that are crucial to our community. The following is a list of programs along with our recommended (consensus among NEDHO and TRTR members) funding levels for each. This distribution of the university program budget will help meet the current and anticipated national needs for nuclear science and engineering (NSE) graduates (BS, MS, and PhD) over the next decade. A brief justification for each of the line items is also included below.

1. General Support and Infrastructure – This is to expand and retain a healthy, diverse pool of talented students and young faculty in nuclear science and engineering.
 - a. Nuclear Engineering and Health Physics Fellowship Program (\$1.9M) – This is to attract and retain talented students at all levels in NSE.
 - b. Young Nuclear Engineering Faculty Career Awards (\$0.7M) – This is to recognize and support young and talented faculty.
 - c. NRC-Industry Matching Grant Program (\$1M) – This is to encourage industry investments in the infrastructure in NSE departments.

08 JAN 10 PM 12: 24

CHAIRMAN REC'D

- d. Partnerships between Minority Serving Institutions and Nuclear Engineering Programs/Department (\$1.1M) – This is to engage minority serving institutions in NSE.
 - e. Radiochemistry Education Award Program (\$0.3M) – This is to support radiochemistry education, which is critical to the success of any nuclear fuel cycle program, particularly the reprocessing of the used nuclear fuel and waste remediation.
2. Facilities and Related Research – To build and maintain the education and research facilities in NSE.
- a. Research and Test Reactors (Instrumentation & Reactor Sharing) (\$2M) – This is essential to the continued productive and safe operation of the university reactors.
 - b. Major Research Equipment (NE Programs/Departments and Research Reactors Only) (\$1M) – This is to build and/or expand research and educational laboratories including university reactors.
3. Research – To support innovative basic research in NSE to meet national needs including nuclear energy, homeland security and medical applications.
- a. Innovative Basic Research (NE Programs/Departments Only) (\$7M)

On request, NEDHO can provide the Commission with a complete description of each program, including annual reports and program evaluations.

A critical component to the success and overall effectiveness of these programs has been the establishment of a “University Programs” office within the Department of Energy Office of Nuclear Energy. This office which is directed by Mr. John Gutteridge, has had an interactive and, as such, a productive relationship with the academic community. We would like to recommend that Mr. Gutteridge and his staff be detailed to the NRC so that there will be a continuation of this effort.

We would be happy to meet with you to discuss any questions you may have at your convenience. We are looking forward to our relationship in working with the NRC in the advancement of nuclear-related university programs in the United States.

Sincerely yours,



Farzad Rahnema, NEDHO Chair 2007-08
Professor and Chair, Nuclear & Radiological Engineering and Medical Physics
Georgia Institute of Technology

cc: Honorable Commissioners Gregory B. Jaczko and Peter B. Lyons
NEDHO members