

September 10, 2008

MEMORANDUM TO: R. W. Borchardt
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Annette L. Vietti-Cook, Secretary **/RA/**

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS – COMPBL-08-0002/COMGBJ-08-0003
– ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCE MODEL

The staff should complete the SOARCA project based on the Commission's prior direction to assess the offsite health consequences of probable severe reactor accidents and should not delay the SOARCA project in order to include an assessment of economic consequences at this phase of the project.

The NRC's ongoing interaction with its Federal partners recently resulted in the publication of the Department of Homeland Security's planning guidance (73 FR 45029, August 1, 2008) that will be incorporated without change into the revision of EPA's Manual of Protective Actions Guides and Protective Actions for Nuclear Incidents (the PAG Manual). The staff should utilize these efforts to produce a policy paper for a Commission decision discussing how guidance from the PAG Manual could be incorporated into an improved economic consequence model.

The MACCS2 code shall be updated with an improved economic consequence model that is based on the Commission decision resulting from this policy paper. The resulting economic consequence model may be applied to the SOARCA results if so directed by the Commission.

The staff should consider other computer codes, such as ERAD, to determine if there is a better code to employ to assess the radiological consequences of an RDD or if MACCS2 should be modified to address these consequences. The staff should inform these efforts with insights that could be gained from the ongoing work of organizations such as the multi-agency Radiation Source Protection and Security Task Force.

If a code other than MACCS2 is found to better assess consequences of an RDD, the same economic consequence model based on the Commission decision from the policy paper shall be made to work with that code as well.

cc: Chairman Klein
Commissioner Jaczko
Commissioner Lyons
Commissioner Svinicki
OGC
CFO
OCA
OPA
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
PDR