

May 4, 2009

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

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

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS – SECY-09-0006 – CRITICAL
RESEARCH FACILITIES FOR SEVERE ACCIDENT RESEARCH
AT LIGHT WATER AND ADVANCED REACTORS

The Commission has approved the staff's recommendation to continue to negotiate bilateral and multilateral agreements for light-water reactor and high-temperature gas reactor experimental programs to meet the needs of the agency.

The staff should propose actions to provide a more stable long-term funding environment for sustained long-term regulatory research and sustained access to research facilities. Specifically, the staff should submit a paper that addresses funding options, which extend beyond facility-based resources, such as considering this research as one of several activities that do not provide a direct benefit to current licensing in the off-fee-base categories. The paper should include perspectives on the question from the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research and other program offices such as the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, as well as the Offices of the Chief Financial Officer and the General Counsel.

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