

Revised Fuel Cycle Oversight Program
Region II and NMSS/FCSS/SPTSD

NRC Region II and the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards have initiated a project to revise the fuel cycle oversight program (RFCOP) with the objective of developing an oversight process with an improved degree of transparency, predictability, objectivity and consistency, using risk-informed and performance based tools. The staff submitted a Notation Vote Paper (SECY-10-0031), dated March 19, 2010, for the Commission's consideration and approval of the plan to revise the Fuel Cycle Oversight Process. The Commission was briefed on the Notation Vote Paper on April 29, 2010. Following the April 29 briefing, the staff received the staff requirements memorandum (SRM) M100429, dated May 12, 2010 and SRM-SECY-10-0031, dated August 4, 2010. In response to these memoranda, the staff developed and discussed with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), a paper comparing integrated safety analyses (ISAs) for fuel cycle facilities and probabilistic risk assessments (PRAs) for reactors. The ACRS provided a letter to the Commission with comments on this paper and recommendations regarding the fuel cycle oversight program. SRM-SECY-10-0031 also tasked the staff to work on specific elements of the oversight program. The staff submitted SECY-11-0140, "Enhancements to the Fuel Cycle Oversight Process," dated October 7, 2011, to the Commission to provide the Commission with recommendations for next steps to enhance the fuel cycle oversight process.

In SRM-SECY-11-0140, dated January 5, 2012, the Commission approved the staff's recommendation to enhance the fuel cycle oversight process with additional direction. The Commission directed the staff to develop a publicly available resource loaded project plan and three Notation Vote Papers, and provide annual progress updates. On July 17, 2012, the staff provided the Commission with the first annual progress update and published the project plan (ML12167A166). The staff is implementing the project plan.