

IN RESPONSE, PLEASE
REFER TO: M121023B

November 19, 2012

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

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

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS – STRATEGIC PROGRAMMATIC
OVERVIEW OF THE SPENT FUEL STORAGE AND
TRANSPORTATION, AND THE FUEL FACILITIES BUSINESS
LINES, 9:30 A.M., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2012,
COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT
NORTH, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC
ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the NRC staff on the near-term priorities and challenges, longer-term projections, trends and challenges, and emerging focus areas of the two business lines: Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation, and the Fuel Facilities.

The Commission supports the staff's efforts to identify potential improvements to the efficiency and effectiveness of the NRC's spent fuel storage and transportation regulatory framework and to address any issues with storing spent fuel during near-term renewal periods for ISFSI licenses and cask certifications. However, consistent with the existing framework, any efforts to identify potential improvements should be limited to considering issues associated with storage of spent fuel within a 120 year timeframe. Periods beyond this timeframe should continue to be addressed as part of the staff's implementation of the regulatory program review to support extended storage and transportation of spent nuclear fuel.

The Commission supports the staff's agency-wide efforts to identify staff-initiated or Commission directed activities that may no longer be of value (e.g., reporting) and request permission from the Commission, as appropriate, to discontinue those activities that the staff assesses to be of insufficient value.

The staff should continue to work with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) before deciding on significant policy issues and identify areas in which it would benefit from future ACRS technical input.

cc: Chairman Macfarlane
Commissioner Svinicki
Commissioner Apostolakis
Commissioner Magwood
Commissioner Ostendorff
OGC
CFO
OCA
OIG
OPA
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
PDR