

February 26, 2013

MEMORANDUM TO: Brian J. McDermott, Director
Division of Materials Safety and State Agreements
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

FROM: Michael R. Johnson **/RA/**
Deputy Executive Director for Reactor
and Preparedness Programs
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: WORKING GROUP TO CONDUCT AN INDEPENDENT REVIEW
OF THE REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS

On October 22, 2012, the Commission directed the staff to perform an independent review of the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) in the Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) for SECY-12-0081, "Risk-Informed Regulatory Framework for New Reactors." The SRM states that "The Commission would benefit from a fresh review of the practices and approaches the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has developed for the Reactor Oversight Program over the course of years. The staff should pursue an independent review of the program's objectives and implementation, including the relative roles of headquarters and regional staff, our interactions with industry over performance indicator assessments, and the effectiveness of NRC's assessment of substantive cross-cutting issues. Such an assessment would provide a reinforced foundation upon which the agency can plan for the operational review of new nuclear power plants based on Generation III+ reactor technology."

The purpose of this memorandum is to task you to convene a working group to conduct the independent review in accordance with the direction provided in the SRM. To support the independent nature of this review, the working group should be comprised of individuals that were not significantly involved in the ROP development and have not recently been involved in ROP implementation.

Attached is a charter for the working group. The charter defines the objective, scope, coordination and communication, expected products, schedule, and staffing.

Enclosure: As stated

CONTACT: Daniel Merzke, OEDO
301-415-8744

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