



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 22, 2016

SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM TO: Victor M. McCree  
Executive Director for Operations

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

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS – SECY-15-0143 – PROJECT AIM  
AND CENTERS OF EXPERTISE

The Commission has approved staff's Recommendation 1 to pursue Centers of Expertise (COEs) in the areas of rulemaking, allegations, external hazards evaluations, and technical specifications. The Commission's approval is contingent upon completion of agency guidance on identifying, evaluating, and implementing COEs, as provided in Recommendation 2.

The staff should establish safeguards in the COE guidance to ensure transparency for those with pending matters before the agency and continued line management accountability for meeting agency performance metrics.

The staff should assess the impacts of the new COEs.

In agency guidance implementing COEs, consistent with prior Commission direction, the staff should continue to refine how it ensures that "stove-piping" is mitigated and organizational complexity and confusion is minimized.

The staff should assess successes and lessons learned from implementation of the approved COEs, and issue associated agency-wide communications within one year of their implementation.

cc: Chairman Burns  
Commissioner Svinicki  
Commissioner Ostendorff  
Commissioner Baran  
OGC  
CFO  
OCA  
OPA  
ODs, RAs, ACRS, ASLBP (via E-Mail)  
PDR