



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

July 31, 2017

SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM TO: E. Roy Hawkens
Chief Administrative Judge

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

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS – COMSECY-17-0019 – YUCCA
MOUNTAIN PROJECT ACTIVITIES

In carrying out its responsibilities under the court's decision in In re Aiken County, the Commission has authorized the use of previously appropriated Nuclear Waste Fund (NWF) monies for the following information-gathering activities as the next logical steps in the Yucca Mountain licensing process. The staff should conduct one Licensing Support Network Advisory Review Panel (LSNARP) virtual meeting to provide information to, and gather input from, LSNARP members and the public, regarding reconstitution of the Licensing Support Network (LSN) or a suitable replacement system. In preparation for this meeting, the staff should prepare and conduct training to better acquaint LSNARP members and other interested participants with the functionality and operations of the recently-completed LSN Library in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System. Additionally, the staff should perform a high-level survey of potential Nevada hearing venue sites and begin limited market research, including interactions with the General Services Administration concerning the possible procurement of Nevada hearing facility space. This evaluation should also include an evaluation of using "virtual courtroom" technology and existing facilities in Rockville, MD for any stage of the resumed proceeding. This information will allow the Commission to make efficient, informed decisions in support of executing any appropriated funds for the High-Level Waste Program for FY 2018.

The staff is directed to spend no more than \$110,000 on these activities and should report back to the Commission upon their completion.

As staff develops any further proposals for Commission consideration, it should retain focus on those activities needed to re-establish infrastructure to support the conduct of the proceeding.

With respect to the remaining NWF funds, while the Office of the Secretary, the Office of Administration, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, and the Office of the Chief Financial Officer should monitor closely the status of these resources, the NRC's Solicitor should also be included in this discussion as he would be best positioned to identify and predict resource expenditures resulting from Yucca Mountain-related federal court litigation.

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