



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

November 27, 1979

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM FOR: Lee V. Gossick, Executive Director
for Operations

FROM: Samuel J. Chilk, Secretary

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - AFFIRMATION SESSION
79-39, 4:05 P.M., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1979,
COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, D.C. OFFICE
(OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

I. SECY-79-580 - Proposed New 10 CFR Part 60, "Disposal of
High-Level Radioactive Wastes in Geologic Repositories -
Procedural Aspects"

The Commission, by a vote of 4-0*, approved SECY-79-580, including the recommendation to publish for comment a rule that (1) allows DOE to characterize sites by techniques which may include exploration and in situ testing at depth, subject to the review and comment of the Director, NMSS, with opportunity for public comment, but without a licensing decision, and (2) avoids premature commitment to a particular site and medium by providing for site characterization at a number of sites at different locations and in different geologic media, as set forth in Enclosure A to SECY-79-580.

(SD) (SECY Suspense: November 29, 1979)

The Commission requested that:

1. the Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment and the Subcommittee on Nuclear Regulation be informed of this action; (SD/OCA) (SECY Suspense: Nov. 29, 1979)
2. a press release be issued upon filing of the notice of the proposed rulemaking with the Office of the Federal Register. (SD/OPA) (SECY Suspense: Nov. 29, 1979)

* Chairman Hendrie was not present but had indicated his prior approval of the proposed rule and had requested that sentence 2 in the first full paragraph on page 2 of Enclosure A be deleted. Commissioner Kennedy, although approving the rule, voted to delete the sentence as well.

cc:
Chairman Hendrie
Commissioner Gilinsky
Commissioner Kennedy
Commissioner Bradford
Commissioner Ahearne
Commission Staff Offices

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