



August 4, 1989

POLICY ISSUE
(Information)

SECY-89-238

For: The Commissioners

From: James M. Taylor
Acting Executive Director
for Operations

Subject: NRC SENIOR MANAGEMENT SURVEY OF THE IMPACT OF NRC
ACTIVITIES ON THE SAFE OPERATION OF NUCLEAR POWER
PLANTS

Purpose: To inform the Commission of a proposed NRC Senior
Management Survey of the impact of NRC activities on
the safe operation of nuclear power plants.

Background: There has been some feedback from industry that NRC
generic and site specific activities may be tending in a
direction such that the desired safety effects may not be
realized. This is especially true in light of additional
oversight activities by other organizations such as INPO,
Insurance Inspectors, States, etc.

Planned Survey:

A team of approximately five senior NRC managers from the
regions and NRR, led by A. Bert Davis, Regional
Administrator, Region-III will conduct the survey. The
survey will include 15 utilities from 5 regions.
Two to three representative utilities from each region
will be selected for the survey. The survey is tentatively
scheduled to start in September 1989 and expected to be
completed in November 1989.

The overall approach of this survey is to hold discussions
with representatives of several utilities to obtain

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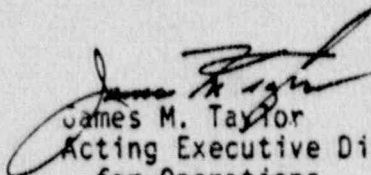
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information on the impact of NRC activities. Discussion will be held on an individual utility basis and include senior and middle level corporate management, site management and site operators and supervisors. Typical topics of discussion are as follows:

- ° Increase in requirements from HQ
- ° Increased team inspection and impact on plant staff
- ° Perception that NRC and INPO are competing to be tough
- ° Inconsistency between HQ and Regions on definition of requirements
- ° Inspectors increasing standards for acceptability
- ° Total regulatory/oversight impact on utility performance
- ° Conflicting requirements between oversight/regulatory organization

A composite report will be issued without attribution to any specific utility or individual. The report will contain findings from the survey and will be from the team leader (A. Davis) to the Director, NRR (T. Murley). The Commission will be provided with a copy of the report.


James M. Taylor
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