OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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

IN RESPONSE, PLEASE REFER TO: M900220

March 29, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR: James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations

William C. Parler, General Counsel

FROM: Samuel J. Chilk, Secretary

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - ANNUAL MEETING ON MEDICAL USE OF BYPRODUCT MATERIAL, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1990, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission* was briefed by the staff on current issues associated with medical use of byproduct material. Chairman Carr commended staff for their efforts over the last year to improve NRC's regulation of such uses to ensure adequate protection of the public from unnecessary radiation exposure.

The Commission agreed that the staff should proceed with implementation of the visiting fellows program and inform the Commission when the action has been taken.
(EDO) (SECY Suspense: ASAP)

With regard to the pending petition for rulemaking from the American College of Nuclear Physicians and the Society of Nuclear Medicine about the practice of medicine and pharmacy, the Commission requested early resolution on whether a generic exemption or an interim rule is the most appropriate action to be taken.
(EDO/OGC) (SECY Suspense: 5/1/90)

The Commission also requested early recommendations on whether the membership of the Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes (ACMUI) needs to be expanded as previously requested in the SRM dated 10/5/89 (SECY-89-263).

(Subsequently the staff submitted their recommendations in SECY-90-117.)

* Commissioner Remick was not present.

The Commission urged the staff:

1. to seek opportunities to conduct extended facility visits to develop first-hand understanding of the safety needs and implementation difficulties associated with medical uses of byproduct material;

2. to solicit constructive comments from licensees, States, professional organizations, and other federal agencies on NRC's regulatory program in the medical use area;

3. to continue conducting workshops to inform licensees of NRC activities, sensitize licensees to NRC's concerns, and provide opportunity for feedback in the medical use area; and

4. to request sufficient resources in the next Five Year Plan to ensure adequate regulatory oversight of the medical uses of byproduct material in light of projected trends in the work force, health care reimbursement, and emerging technologies.

Chairman Carr requested that the distribution list for the NMSS newsletter include the members of the ACMUI and leaders of appropriate professional organizations.

Commissioner Curtiss suggested that charts used to indicate the number of medical misadministrations should have an added column which lists the number of medical events which are included in NRC's abnormal occurrence reports as a measure of the number of "significant" misadministrations.

cc: Chairman Carr
Commissioner Roberts
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Curtiss
Commissioner Remick
GPA
ACRS
PDR - Advance
DCS - P1-24