



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

PDR
2/17/94

October 20, 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR: James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations

ATTN: James L. Blaha

FROM: John T. Larkins
Executive Director, ACNW

SUBJECT: 57TH ACNW MEETING FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

In order to improve the implementation and follow-up of ACNW recommendations, a summary of "Actions, Agreements, Assignments, and Requests" made during each ACNW meeting is sent to your office.

Attached is a summary of the "Actions, Agreements, Assignments, and Requests" made during the 57th ACNW meeting, September 29-30, 1993, that deal with requests made of the NRC staff or matters that are pertinent to NRC staff activities. No summary report was prepared for the 56th ACNW meeting on August 25-26, 1993.

John T. Larkins
Executive Director, ACNW

Attachment:
As stated

- cc: H. L. Thompson, EDO
- K. Schneider, OCM/IS
- S. M. Coplan, OCM/KR
- R. R. Boyle, OCM/FR
- H. K. Whitfield, OCM/GD
- S. J. Chilk, SECY
- E. L. Jordan, AEOD
- R. M. Bernero, NMSS
- T. E. Murley, NRR
- E. S. Beckjord, RES
- G. Sege, RES
- A. L. Eiss, NMSS
- H. Pastis, NRR
- D. M. Crutchfield, NRR
- R. H. Vollmer, OPP

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SUMMARY OF
ACTIONS, AGREEMENTS, ASSIGNMENTS, AND REQUESTS
57TH ACNW MEETING - SEPTEMBER 29-30, 1993

During its 57th meeting, September 29-30, 1993, held at 7920 Norfolk Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland, the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste discussed several matters as noted below.

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ISSUES CONSIDERED BY THE COMMITTEE

1. Discussion on the White Paper

The Committee continued its work on the preparation of a three part "White Paper" that addresses Committee protocols, major topical issues for ACNW review, and resource requirements.

The Committee discussions were focused on the major topical issues for ACNW review, particularly regulations and standards, facility evaluation, research and technical assistance programs, risk management, and program architecture. The goal will be to complete and formally submit the White Paper to Chairman Selin following completion of the 59th ACNW meeting, November 15-16, 1993.

As part of this process, the Committee agreed to reexamine the "memorandum of understanding" between the EDO and ACNW after the White Paper has been issued to ensure that the two documents are consistent.

2. Response to a Proposal from Dwight Shelor, DOE

In a letter to the ACNW Chairman, dated July 30, 1993, the Associate Director for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Program for Systems and Compliance suggested that the DOE and ACNW jointly plan a more systematic scheduling of interactions on key high-level radioactive waste (HLW) related topics. The specific proposal was that DOE provide summary briefings on key topics to the ACNW approximately 60 days after the DOE has briefed the NRC staff on the same issue.

During the review of a draft response, the Committee stated that DOE should not consider the ACNW to be a replacement for the NRC staff for coordination with NRC in the HLW area. However, the Committee reaffirmed that the ACNW is independent and -- if necessary to fulfill its charges from the Commission -- would directly arrange for information exchanges with the DOE. The Committee approved a response that reflected these thoughts and directed Dr. Larkins to transmit this response to DOE.

3. Future Committee Activities

- The Committee agreed to hold the 58th ACNW meeting at the Holiday Inn in Bethesda, Maryland, on October 27-28, 1993. The 59th ACNW meeting will be held at the Phillips Building in Bethesda, Maryland, on November 15-16, 1993. The 60th ACNW meeting will be held in Nevada, on December 15, 1993, along with a working Group meeting on Characterization of the Unsaturated Zone Flow and Transport Properties on December 14, 1993. A visit to the Yucca Mountain site is scheduled for December 16, 1993.
- The Working Group meetings on Low-Level Radioactive Waste Performance Assessment, previously scheduled for December 14, 1993, and on NRC Staff Capabilities in Performance Assessment and Computer Modeling of High-Level Waste Disposal Facilities, previously scheduled for December 17, 1993, were postponed into early 1994.
- The Committee agreed to participate on November 3, 1993, in a tutorial conducted by the NRC staff (NMSS and RES) to examine the methodologies involved in calculating a complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF).
- The Committee agreed to propose a postponement of its scheduled October meeting with the NRC Commissioners.
- The Committee agreed to formally review responses from the EDO to ACNW reports during each meeting (following the procedures that have been established by the ACRS for reconciling EDO responses).