



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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

RELEASED TO THE PDR 2/11/91 [initials]

REVISED

January 25, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR: James M. Taylor Executive Director for Operations FROM: Samuel J. Chilk, Secretary SUBJECT: SECY-90-341 - STAFF STUDY ON SOURCE TERM UPDATE AND DECOUPLING SITING FPOM DESIGN

The Commission (with all Commissioners agreeing) has approved the staff's recommendation (option 2) contained in the memorandum to the Commission dated December 13, 1990. The staff should proceed with a single revision to 10 CFR Part 100 which includes an interim revision to 10 CFR Part 50 to retain a reference to an in-containment radioactive material release in the regulations. References to dose calculations in the interim revision to part 50 should maintain the status quo for existing plants until the staff can complete its revision to TID-14844. In making updated source term insights available for voluntary use by existing licensees, the staff should review any requests for changes to assure that these insights are applied in an evenhanded manner, that is, "unfavorable" as well as "favorable" insights are given equal consideration. Because the technology upon which TID-14844 is based is known to be outdated, the interim revision to Part 50 should be seen as only maintaining the current licensing basis regarding the in-containment release magnitudes until the completion of research necessary to update the regulation. The staff should further ensure that the revisions to Appendix A of Part 100 are available to support the time schedule shown in the paper for option 2, and are technically supportable with the information that will be available at the time the draft comes forward for Commission action. The staff should ensure that uncertainties are fully accounted for, without anticipation of what further research might show in the future. The staff should keep ACRS informed of these initiatives.

(EDO)

(SECY Suspense: 11/30/91)

SECY NOTE: THIS SRM, SECY-90-341, AND THE VOTE SHEETS OF COMMISSIONERS ROGERS AND CURTISS WILL BE MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE 10 WORKING DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THIS SRM

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cc: Chairman Carr
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Curtiss
Commissioner Remick
OGC
GPA