



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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

RELEASED TO THE PDR

6-9-94

[Handwritten initials]

May 18, 1994

MEMORANDUM TO: James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations
FROM: *[Handwritten signature]* John C. Hoyle, Acting Secretary
SUBJECT: SECY-94-090 - INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF CONTINUING PROGRAM FOR REGULATORY IMPROVEMENT

The Commission (with all Commissioners agreeing) has approved the staff proposal for institutionalizing a continuing program for regulatory improvement and the staff plans for modifying § 2.802 of 10 CFR Part 2 as a supporting element of the continuing program.

The staff should make every effort to continue to pursue proactively the elimination of requirements which are marginal to safety in addition to responding to petitions for rulemaking and proposals for revisions to generic documents. The staff should continue to reassess existing regulatory requirements and practices, as resources permit, with the goal of improving their coherence from the standpoint of risk so that they are more rational and logical. Any such effort should include a review of the traditional bases for plant licensing and regulation, as noted by the ACRS in their letter to the Chairman dated March 15, 1994.

Since implementation of this regulatory improvement program will require that the staff be able to respond in timely manner to petitions submitted under the revised § 2.802, the staff should ensure that the appropriate levels of expertise in probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) are available for such response within the existing level of resources. The staff should describe what measures are being taken to provide adequate resources and expertise in the area of probabilistic risk assessment when providing the upcoming policy statement and implementation plan on the use of probabilistic risk assessment to the Commission. The staff should also describe what programs will receive reduced support in order to provide increased support to PRA.

(EDO)

(SECY Suspense: 8/12/94)

SECY NOTE: THIS SRM, SECY-94-090, AND THE VOTE SHEETS ALL COMMISSIONERS WILL BE MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE 10 WORKING DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THIS SRM.

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In addition to the use of public workshops for early interaction with industry and the public, the staff should plan on utilizing the various capabilities of the emerging information highway such as Internet, MOSAIC and REGNET.

In the course of developing new rules under this program, the staff's regulatory impact analyses should ensure that the full life cycle benefits and resource impacts on the staff (such as licensing, inspection, and enforcement resources, etc.) are addressed as well as those occurring to the licensee.

With respect to the proposed rule on fire protection, the Commission defers its decision until it decides upon the options presented in SECY-94-127.

cc: The Chairman
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Remick
Commissioner de Planque
OGC
OCA
OIG
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)