



OFFICE OF THE
COMMISSIONER

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

February 15, 1983

SECRETARIAT RECORD COPY

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director for Operations
FROM: John Ahearne *J. Ahearne*
SUBJECT: ZIMMER INDEPENDENT MANAGEMENT REVIEW

As I had argued in several Commission meetings, the choice of an "independent" reviewer for Zimmer management, to meet the requirement of the Commission's November 12, 1982 order, was a decision for NRC line management. Had line management made that decision, I was prepared to support the decision, regardless of its outcome, as being consistent with your delegated authority.

However, your February 10 memo makes clear you believe the Commission should be involved in that decision. Therefore, the following are my positions with regard to the proposals made in your memo:

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the Dingell/Ottlinger letter;

- (2) to bring in a third party, also to be "independent"--I guess to be really independent--is senseless.

Therefore:

- (3) Bechtel should be either the reviewer or the project manager, not both.
(4) If Bechtel is to be the project manager, then either another group should be chosen to be the independent reviewer of management or you should propose to modify the primary order (an approach I would not agree with at this late date).

I reiterate--had line management decided to do what is proposed, I would not have objected. However, since the Commission was asked to endorse the proposal, the Commission has now become part of the line in this case.

cc: Chairman Palladino
Commissioner Gilinsky
Commissioner Roberts
Commissioner Asselstine
Secy ✓
OGC
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OCA

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