

MR. BEVILL: (a) With respect to last year's appropriations language that called for an external review of the cost-effectiveness of proposed new programs, how has the NRC responded? (b) Has the NRC sought the perspective of other government agencies or industry organizations in conducting this review? (c) if not, why not?

CHAIRMAN SELIN:

- (a) Because the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) planned an extensive, long-term audit effort to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of NRC's inspection and research programs, the Chairman believed it was appropriate for the OIG to perform the requested Congressional review. On November 19, 1991, the Commission requested that the OIG's initial audit work focus on evaluating increases in the NRC's research and inspection programs. He also requested that the OIG brief the Commission following completion of their field work and issue a report to the Commission by May 1992.
- (b) In order to obtain the perspectives of other Government agencies and the industry on key issues facing the NRC, the OIG hosted an executive planning conference in August 1991. Participants included Congressional staff, the General Accounting Office, the Department of Energy, the Nuclear Management and Resources Council, and the Edison Electric Institute. This input was used in developing the OIG's 1992 Annual Audit Plan, which targeted NRC's research and inspection programs as high priority audit areas. As the OIG's work unfolds, it will continue to obtain input from other government and industry sources.

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BEVILL PDR