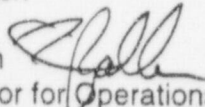




UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 9, 1998

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Jackson

FROM: L. Joseph Callan 
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: UPDATE TO STAFF RESPONSE TO TASKING MEMORANDUM
AND STAKEHOLDER CONCERNS

Attached for your information is the staff's first monthly update to the plan of short- and long-term actions to respond to selected issues raised during the July 30, 1998 hearing before the Senate Subcommittee on Clean Air and Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety and the July 17, 1998 Commission meeting with stakeholders.

The attached plan's organization continues to follow the outline of your testimony for the July Senate Oversight Subcommittee hearing with several notable exceptions. In response to the SRM associated with COMSECY 98-024, Response to Issues Raised within the Senate Authorization Context and July 17, 1998 Stakeholder Meeting, the staff has added two topic areas that address issues associated with uranium recovery facilities (topic area VII) and changes to the NRC hearing process (topic area VIII). The SRM also directed the staff to consider stricter application of the backfit rule. Specific Issue IV.K, Application of the Backfit Rule, has been added to address this issue. In addition, more detail has been provided on pending licensing actions for shutdown plants in topic area VI.D, Decommissioning Decisions.

Overall, the staff is successfully meeting the scheduled milestones. Several noteworthy accomplishments include: completion of the performance assessment workshop, issuance of improved standard Technical Specifications for McGuire and Catawba, and issuance of the final design approval for AP-600. Several topic area schedules have undergone considerable change, the most significant being that associated with proposed KI rulemaking. Explanations for the changes are provided in the associated remarks. Additions and changes to the original tasking memo response are marked in redline and strike out.

The plan will continue to be considered a living document which will be updated monthly. The next update will be provided to the Commission the first week of November 1998.

Attachment: As stated

cc: Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
OGC
CFO
CIO
SECY

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Enclosure 2

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