



OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

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

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IN RESPONSE, PLEASE
REFER TO: M890801

August 18, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR: James M. Taylor
Acting Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Samuel J. Chilk, Secretary

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING ON STATUS OF
EPRI DESIGN REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENT FOR
ADVANCED LIGHT WATER REACTORS, 10:00 A.M.,
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1989, COMMISSIONERS'
CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH,
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC
ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the staff on the review status of the Electric Power Research Institute's (EPRI) design requirements document for advanced light water reactors.

Chairman Carr requested the staff to keep the Commission actively involved in developing policy issues on the licensing review of evolutionary, passive and advanced reactor designs. He requested the staff to be liberal in bringing such policy issues before the Commission.

Chairman Carr also requested the staff and his fellow Commissioners to consider how priorities should be assigned to review plant certification submittals when the workload becomes overburdening. Should the NRC review evolutionary plants for which there is no expressed intent by any American company to purchase the plant; or should the limited resources be focused only on passive plant designs (which industry appears to be telling the Commission is the only nuclear power plant it intends to consider for future purchase)? Is additional policy guidance needed on the prioritization of reviews of U.S. and foreign design submittals? Chairman Carr stated that he will pose similar questions to EPRI when it briefs the Commission on the status of its design requirements document and will consider inviting NUMARC to the same meeting to get the potential "buyer's" point of view.

(Subsequent to the meeting, the Commission tentatively scheduled to meet with EPRI and NUMARC on September 20, 1989.)

Commissioner Rogers requested the staff to review its past experience in integrating the Commission's policies on evolutionary and advanced reactors, and inform the Commission of any difficulties encountered in reaching timely regulatory decisions. The ongoing integration efforts should be monitored and periodically assessed and potential problems should be reported to the Commission to facilitate timely resolution of issues.

(EDO)

(SECY Suspense: 12/29/89)

cc: Chairman Carr
Commissioner Roberts
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Curtiss
OGC
GPA
PDR - Advance
DCS - P1-24