

NOTATION VOTE

RESPONSE SHEET

TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary

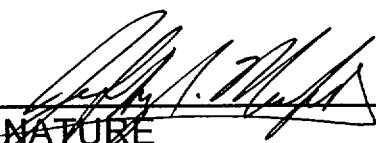
FROM: COMMISSIONER MERRIFIELD

SUBJECT: **SECY-99-250 - NATIONAL MATERIALS PROGRAM:
REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE FORMATION OF A
WORKING GROUP ON THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF
AGREEMENT STATES AND IMPACT ON NRC'S
MATERIALS PROGRAM**

Approved Disapproved Abstain

Not Participating

COMMENTS: *see attached comments.*



SIGNATURE

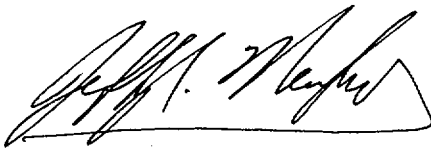
10/28/99

DATE

Entered on "AS" Yes No

Comments by Commissioner Merrifield on SECY-99-250:

I want to compliment the staff for raising this issue because I, as well of the other members of the Commission, believe it is an important issue to address, particularly in light of future budget decisions. I approve the staff's plan to form a working group consisting of the staff, Agreement States, and CRCPD to address the impacts of the increased number of Agreement States and to provide recommendations to the Commission concerning the future of the national materials program. However, the paper does not provide a schedule for providing an appropriate paper with staff recommendations. Unless the staff can provide justification for a different schedule, I request the results be provided to the Commission within 18 months of the date of the SRM. Although I consider these deliberations important, I am also concerned that the staff maintain a fairly firm control of the FTE expended to prepare the final product for Commission deliberation.



10/28/99