

NOTATION VOTE

RESPONSE SHEET

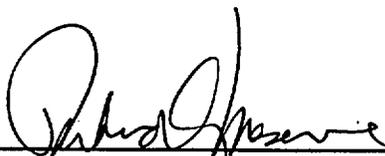
TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary
FROM: CHAIRMAN MESERVE
SUBJECT: SECY-99-168 - IMPROVING DECOMMISSIONING
REGULATIONS FOR NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

Approved In Part Disapproved In Part Abstain _____

Not Participating _____

COMMENTS:

See attached comments.



SIGNATURE

Nov. 22, 1999

DATE

Entered on "AS" Yes _____ No _____

CHAIRMAN RICHARD A. MESERVE'S COMMENTS ON SECY 99-168 – IMPROVING DECOMMISSIONING REGULATIONS FOR NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

I approve in part, and disapprove in part, the staff's proposal as discussed below:

1. I approve the plan for completion of the spent fuel risk assessment. Based upon the staff's presentation during the November 8, 1999 Commission meeting and staff comments in the development of the associated SRM, I understand that the staff intends to complete the draft report on this risk assessment and develop risk objectives for decommissioning by January 2000. The staff should submit the draft study and objectives to the Commission and to the public for comment at that time.

ACRS should review the draft study and risk objectives, as well as the public comments received, and provide their views to the staff and Commission. The staff should consider the views of the ACRS in the development of the final report, scheduled for release in April 2000.

2. I approve the development of a single, integrated, risk-informed decommissioning rule for emergency preparedness, insurance, safeguards, operator training and staffing, and backfit. The staff should take into account comments from our stakeholders during the November 8 meeting and ensure that all realistic scenarios for offsite consequences are appropriately considered during the rulemaking process. Additionally, the staff should ensure that the agency's regulatory activities in the area of safeguards and threat analysis are fully integrated and considered in the rulemaking plan and schedule.

3. I approve Option 2 of the decommissioning regulatory improvement initiative. However, I believe it is too early to select an alternative within Option 2. Upon completion of Phase 1, the staff should recommend a course of action to the Commission, considering stakeholder views.

4. The staff should proceed expeditiously with these activities, adhering closely to the proposed deadlines or, if possible, beating them. The staff should notify the Commission immediately of any unexpected obstacles.