

April 13, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Meserve  
FROM: Commissioner Dicus  
SUBJECT: COMRAM-00-0001 - REQUEST FOR NAS STUDY OF NATIONAL POLICY ISSUES ON CONTROL OF SOLID MATERIALS

I agree with your proposal to request that the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Board on Energy and Environmental Systems conduct a study and provide recommendations on the possible alternatives for release of slightly contaminated solid materials. Because NRC past experience with some NAS reports has not been as good as they could have been, I would recommend that the NRC be very specific in its grant language, including specifics for deliverables and timelines for completion. This will enable the NAS Committee responsible for this effort to better focus on the complex issues associated with release of volumetrically contaminated solids materials.

The only item that I would add to this proposal is that the NAS should review the current international experience, recommendations and regulations to date, and include this international perspective in its summary as part of its overall findings and recommendations.

cc: Commissioner Diaz  
Commissioner Merrifield  
Commissioner McGaffigan  
EDO  
OGC  
OCFO  
SECY