

September 8, 2005

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Diaz

FROM: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary **/RA/**

SUBJECT: COMNJD-05-0006 - MULTINATIONAL DESIGN APPROVAL PROGRAM (MDAP), STAGE 1

This memorandum is to inform you that all Commissioners have concurred in your proposal to move forward with a Multinational Design Approval Process, Stage 1, to further enhance international cooperation in reviewing new power reactor designs. The attached SRM provides staff direction on this issue.

This completes action on COMNJD-05-0006.

Attachment:
As stated

cc: Commissioner Merrifield
Commissioner Jaczko
Commissioner Lyons
EDO
OGC

September 8, 2005

MEMORANDUM TO: Luis A. Reyes
Executive Director for Operations

Janice Dunn Lee, Director
Office of International Programs

FROM: Annette L. Vietti-Cook, Secretary **/RA/**

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - COMNJD-05-0006 - MULTINATIONAL
DESIGN APPROVAL PROGRAM (MDAP), STAGE 1

The Commission has approved moving forward with Stage 1 of the Multinational Design Approval Program to further enhance international cooperation in reviewing new power reactor designs, and the allocation of 2 FTE in FY 2006 to implement this activity. The detailed working arrangements should be formalized with regulators interested in participating in this program by developing administrative letters or other similar correspondence, as appropriate, under existing bilateral agreements. The NRC Design Certification process will remain the regulatory framework for these efforts, with participating regulatory authorities acting as expert consultants. The NRC staff will remain responsible for regulatory decisions and recommendations concerning reactor design certifications, incorporating technical input from their foreign counterparts, as appropriate. A detailed evaluation of the input provided by the foreign regulators should be performed prior to the staff using the information in its design review.

(OIP/EDO)

(SECY Suspense:

TBD)

The staff should develop a plan to facilitate communications with external stakeholders, including the public, the industry, reactor vendors, and regulatory authorities in other countries. The staff should also seek comments from the Department of State and the Department of Energy, as appropriate. The staff should inform the Commission of the results of these activities.

(OIP/EDO)

(SECY Suspense:

TBD)

The staff should provide the Commission with a detailed scope and schedule for implementing Stage 1, once the staff has formalized the detailed working arrangements with the vendors and foreign regulators that have expressed an interest in the program.

(EDO)

(SECY Suspense:

TBD)

The staff should use the insights gained from implementing Stage 1 to aid in the development of the necessary processes, tools, and terms for Stage 2 of the Multinational Design Approval Program before presenting the Stage 2 proposal to the Commission.

cc: Chairman Diaz

Commissioner Merrifield

Commissioner Jaczko

Commissioner Lyons

DOC

OGC

CFO

OCA

OPA

Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)

PDR