

June 8, 2007

MEMORANDUM TO: Luis A. Reyes
Executive Director for Operations

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

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - COMSECY-07-0015 - PATH
FORWARD FOR RULEMAKING ON GROUNDWATER
PROTECTION AT IN SITU LEACH URANIUM EXTRACTION
FACILITIES

The Commission has approved resumption of the rulemaking process for groundwater protection at in situ leach uranium extraction facilities to conform to 40 CFR Part 192. The staff should actively engage interested stakeholders through public workshops and work closely and cooperatively with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The staff should remain diligent in working with EPA and appropriate States to establish appropriate standards to protect public health and safety and the environment and at the same time reduce, and preferably eliminate, dual regulation.

The costs of this rulemaking should continue to be covered through the surcharge, which is assessed to all NRC licensees paying Part 171 fees.

cc: Chairman Klein
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
Commissioner Jaczko
Commissioner Lyons
OGC
CFO
OCA
OPA

TO BE MADE PUBLIC 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THIS MEMORANDUM TO
ALLOW TIME FOR STAFF TO INFORM EPA AND NMA OF THE COMMISSION DECISION