

June 5, 2002

COMMISSION VOTING RECORD

DECISION ITEM: SECY-02-0088

TITLE: TURKEY POINT NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 3 AND
 4, RENEWAL OF FULL-POWER OPERATING
 LICENSES

The Commission (with all Commissioners agreeing) approved the subject paper as recorded in the Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) of June 5, 2002.

This Record contains a summary of voting on this matter together with the individual vote sheets, views and comments of the Commission.

Annette L. Vietti-Cook
Secretary of the Commission

Attachments:

1. Voting Summary
2. Commissioner Vote Sheets

cc: Chairman Meserve
 Commissioner Dicus
 Commissioner Diaz
 Commissioner McGaffigan
 Commissioner Merrifield
 OGC
 EDO
 PDR

VOTING SUMMARY - SECY-02-0088

RECORDED VOTES

	APRVD	DISAPRVD	ABSTAIN	PARTICIP	NOT COMMENTS	DATE
CHRM. MESERVE	X				X	5/30/02
COMR. DICUS	X				X	5/30/02
COMR. DIAZ	X				X	5/21/02
COMR. McGAFFIGAN	X				X	5/24/02
COMR. MERRIFIELD	X				X	5/28/02

COMMENT RESOLUTION

In their vote sheets, all Commissioners approved the staff's recommendation and provided some additional comments. Subsequently, the comments of the Commission were incorporated into the guidance to staff as reflected in the SRM issued on June 5, 2002.

Commissioner Comments on SECY-02-0088

Chairman Meserve

I commend the staff for once again conducting a thorough, comprehensive license renewal review well within the target schedule for its completion.

Commissioner Dicus

I approve staff's recommendation to authorize the Director of NRR to make the appropriate findings and renew the operating licenses of Turkey Point Units 3 and 4 for an additional 20 years.

I commend the staff on performing a comprehensive review of the licensee's license renewal application. The staff has been diligent in conducting the license renewal reviews in a efficient and timely manner. Now that the staff has completed license renewal reviews for each reactor design (i.e., General Electric, Babcock and Wilcox, Combustion Engineering, and Westinghouse), I recommend that all future license renewals be sent to the Commission as an information paper only. The review process is working well. Based on the reviews completed thus far, I recommend that the Office Director of NRR be allowed to renew operating licenses once the Director has made the appropriate findings without prior Commission review and approval.

Commissioner Diaz

I approve the staff's recommendation that the Commission authorize the Director of NRR to renew the operating licenses for Turkey Point Nuclear Plant Units 3 and 4.

I once again commend the staff for their continued excellent work in the license renewal area.

Commissioner McGaffigan

I join Commissioner Diaz in commending the staff for its outstanding effort in processing the Turkey Point license renewal application in a timely and professional manner while offering numerous opportunities for substantial public involvement in the process. I also applaud the efforts of the ACRS in carrying out its statutory function of reviewing the safety evaluation report and expeditiously providing their views to the Commission.

I approve authorizing the Director of NRR to renew the operating licenses for Turkey Point Units 3 and 4 after making the appropriate findings on safety and environmental matters.

I also note that the staff will make any necessary conforming changes to the renewed licenses as a result of any pending licensing actions while the Commission is considering the staff's recommendations.

Furthermore, I believe the time has come for the Commission to authorize the Director of NRR

to issue subsequent uncontested operating license renewals without prior Commission authorization. The staff originally made this recommendation in SECY-00-0010, "Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2 - Renewal of Full-power Operating License." At that time (March 2000), the Commission disapproved the staff's recommendation as premature but indicated that the Commission would reconsider delegating this authority to the Director of NRR after several more plants (e.g., up to and including Hatch and Turkey Point) had gone through the license renewal process and the Commission had resolved the generic license renewal issues to be addressed in the final generic aging lessons learned (GALL) report.

In my view, we are now well positioned to act on the staff's original recommendation to authorize the Director of NRR to issue subsequent uncontested operating license renewals without prior Commission authorization. By my count, to date we have received renewal applications for 19 units; of these, Turkey Point Units 3 and 4 will represent the ninth and tenth units to have completed the process. Licensees for an additional 25 units have formally indicated their intent to submit renewal applications in the next three years. The final GALL report and the Standard Review Plan for License Renewal have been issued. In my view, the NRC has established a stable and predictable license renewal process -- including substantial opportunities for meaningful public involvement. In doing so, the NRC staff has excelled in rising to meet what the 106th Congress characterized as "one of the most important challenges facing the Commission."¹ The staff should take great pride in this achievement.

If a majority of the Commission agrees with this proposal, I believe that the current 25 month review schedule for an uncontested license renewal application should be reduced to 22 months by virtue of the 3 months allocated for Commission review. For contested hearings, there would be no change to the current 30 month review schedule.

Commissioner Merrifield

I approve the staff's recommendations presented in SECY-02-0088. Specifically, I support authorizing the Director of NRR to renew the operating licenses for Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant, Units 3 and 4 for an additional 20 years of operation, upon making the appropriate findings on safety and environmental matters. I also note that the staff will make any necessary conforming changes to the renewed licenses as a result of any pending licensing actions while the Commission is considering the staff's recommendations.

I appreciate the staff's considerable efforts associated with the review of the Turkey Point license renewal application. I also appreciate the ACRS's considerable efforts associated with the review of this application and the staff's related final Safety Evaluation Report (SER).

¹See the conference report accompanying the FY 2000 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act (Conference Report H. R. 106-336)