

NOTATION VOTE

RESPONSE SHEET

TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary
FROM: Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko
SUBJECT: SECY-11-0033 – PROPOSED NRC STAFF APPROACH
TO ADDRESS RESOURCE CHALLENGES
ASSOCIATED WITH REVIEW OF A LARGE NUMBER
OF NFPA 805 LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUESTS

Approved Disapproved Abstain

Not Participating

COMMENTS: Below Attached None



SIGNATURE

3/24/11

DATE

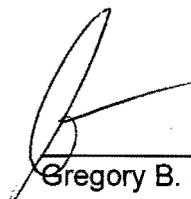
Entered on "STARS" Yes No

**Chairman Jaczko's Comments on SECY-11-0033,
"Proposed NRC Staff Approach to Address Resource Challenges Associated With
Review of a Large Number of NFPA 805 License Amendment Requests"**

I approve of the staff's proposal to stagger the license amendment request submittals, including providing additional resources towards initially completing each review within a two year timeframe. Furthermore, I would expect that after review of the first round of applications, we should strive to achieve these licensing reviews nearer to a goal of approximately one year, keeping safety as the utmost priority.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has struggled since the Browns Ferry fire in 1975 to develop a comprehensive set of fire protection regulations despite the fact that fire is one of the single most significant initiators of accident scenarios for operating reactors. Fire protection at nuclear power plants continues to be one of my highest priorities. I am encouraged by the considerable progress made by the staff on a broad range of important fire protection issues in the last few years. For example, the staff has resolved fire barrier issues, the use of manual operator actions, provided final guidance on resolving fire-induced circuit failures, and completed a significant milestone in approving the use of this alternate fire protection rule at the two pilot plants.

The licensees of the other 44 reactors that have opted for this approach should promptly submit their applications, and the agency must assign adequate resources to review those applications in a timely fashion. NFPA 805 is a good rule, because as we have seen at Shearon Harris and Oconee, it does improve overall reactor safety. As the staff proposes, this would enable them to complete these reviews by fiscal year 2016. Although I would prefer to have these reviews completed sooner, I support the staff's proposal because I understand they have given me their best judgment on the time and resources required to make sure we do it right – and that is always our priority. Therefore, we should process these applications in the timeliest manner focusing first on the plants with the most enhancements to safety.



Gregory B. Jaczko 3/24/11
Date