

January 27, 1998

MEMORANDUM TO: L. Joseph Callan Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Annette L. Vietti-Cook, Acting Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - SECY-97-293 - WALNUT CREEK FIELD OFFICE (WCFO) CLOSURE PLAN

The Commission has approved the Walnut Creek Field Office (WCFO) closure plan subject to the conditions and comments provided below. The staff should proceed to implement the plan, including the development of transition plans to ensure program continuity and stability, under the direction of the EDO and the Region IV Administrator.

Based on the significantly larger number of Agreement States in Region IV, the staff should further evaluate the adequacy of only one Agreement State Officer in Region IV. The staff should utilize the IMPEP review process and routine interactions as the mechanism for monitoring the need for additional resources as a result of centralizing the State Agreement Officer and the State Liaison functions in Region IV. Because of resource constraints, the staff should consider providing additional support through the use of Headquarters staff as backup or rotational assignments, and allowing the Agreement State Officer and the two State Liaison Officers to jointly fill these functions. Such arrangements could be tried on a trial basis and, if they prove insufficient, an increase in staffing levels is an approach that should be considered in meeting workload demands. Regional and Headquarters staff overseeing the implementation of the closure plan should pay particular attention to maintaining effective communications with licensees and States that may be affected by this action.

The EDO, as the appropriate member of the Executive Council, should report significant new information or changes related to the WCFO closure plan or policy issues in its implementation to the Commission, along with staffing projections, associated costs, and innovative personnel staffing approaches.

cc: Chairman Jackson  
Commissioner Dicus  
Commissioner Diaz  
Commissioner McGaffigan  
OGC  
CIO  
CFO  
OCA  
OIG

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SECY NOTE: THIS SRM AND SECY-97-293 CONTAIN SENSITIVE INFORMATION AND WILL BE LIMITED TO THE NRC UNLESS THE COMMISSION DETERMINES OTHERWISE.