

May 14, 1998

MEMORANDUM L. Joseph Callan
TO: Executive Director for Operations
FROM: John C. Hoyle, Secretary /s/
SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - SECY-98-036 - RULEMAKING TO MODIFY EVENT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR POWER REACTORS

The Commission has approved the proposed rulemaking to modify the event reporting requirements of 10 CFR 50.72 and 10 CFR 50.73. Public comments on the rulemaking schedule should be solicited as well as comments on the content of the proposed rule.

Many States (Agreement States and Non-Agreement States) have agreements with power reactors to inform the States of plant issues. State reporting requirements are frequently triggered by NRC reporting requirements. The staff should seek State input on proposed changes to the power reactor reporting requirements.

The staff should evaluate current regulations to identify areas where event reporting requirements can be risk-informed and/or simplified. For example, the time limit for reporting could be adjusted based on the safety significance of the event and the need for NRC's immediate action. The burden associated with reporting events or conditions with little or no safety or risk significance should be minimized. The staff should request industry identification of other reporting requirements that are potential candidates for modifying to a more risk-informed approach in the planned ANPR on § 50.72, and include this issue in the agendas for the upcoming workshops on § 50.72 and DSI 13. Based on the results from these workshops, a schedule and plan of action should be submitted to the Commission. The staff should also consider the merits of using criteria similar to that developed by the Special Projects Office in establishing thresholds for categorizing design deficiencies.

(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 1/29/99)

If practical, the staff should coordinate the revised reporting with the implementation of ADAMS, to facilitate the use of electronic notifications, when appropriate.

Any changes resulting from this proposed rulemaking should be consistent with agency actions to improve integrated plant assessments.

SECY NOTE: THIS SRM, SECY-98-036, AND THE COMMISSION VOTING RECORD CONTAINING THE VOTE SHEETS OF ALL COMMISSIONERS WILL BE MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE 5 WORKING DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THIS SRM.

cc: Chairman Jackson
Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
OGC
CIO
CFO
OCA
OIG
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
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