

August 27, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR: James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: John C. Hoyle, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING ON SPENT FUEL
POOL COOLING ISSUES, 3:00 P.M., THURSDAY,
AUGUST 1, 1996, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE
ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE,
MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The NRC staff briefed the Commission on spent fuel pool cooling issues.

The Commission requested that the staff provide answers to the following questions:

1. How much of the reactivity margins depends on Boraflex and degradation of Boraflex as opposed to other factors?
2. Have any of the utilities had to replace the Boraflex or part of it? Does it require replacing the whole rack?
3. Does the generic letter allow you to deal adequately with all of the remaining fuel reactivity concerns?
4. How are non-power reactors affected?

(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 9/9/96)

The Commission also requested that the staff provide schedules or completion dates for the following activities:

1. Revise the standard review plan.
2. Complete regulatory analysis.
4. Complete enhancements at 22 affected sites.

(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 9/6/96)

The Commission understands that the staff plans to provide a proposed revised shutdown rule which includes requirements related to the operation of spent fuel pools by January, 1997.

The Commission urged the staff to evaluate spent fuel pool issues and benefits from the action plan from a risk perspective and then, develop milestones to bring these issues effectively and efficiently to closure.

cc: Chairman Jackson
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
OGC
OCA
OIG
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
PDR - Advance
DCS - P1-24