

April 11, 2001

MEMORANDUM John T. Larkins

TO: Executive Director, ACRS/ACNW

FROM: Annette L. Vietti-Cook, Secretary /RA/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - MEETING WITH ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE (ACNW), 10:30 A.M., THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2001, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by members of the ACNW on the following topics:

1. Integrated Strategy to Evaluate the Staff's Licensing Capability and Sufficiency Review
2. Vertical Slice Review
3. Key Technical Issue Resolution
4. Alloy 22 Corrosion
5. NRC Staff Performance Assessment Capability

The Commission supports the ACNW's vertical slice approach for evaluating the staff's issue resolution activities and sufficiency review of DOE's site recommendation. This evaluation should be conducted with minimal impact on NRC staff resources.

The Committee should provide an index when using acronyms during public meetings, and, as appropriate, explain technical terminology in future letters and presentations. The Committee also should provide specific recommendations on how to improve staff's communications with the public concerning the NRC's required role, responsibilities, and interactions with the Department of Energy with respect to the Yucca Mountain site characterization and pre-licensing activities. These recommendations should be applicable to all NRC program offices and committees that address the general public on the Yucca Mountain topic. The Committee should also provide specific recommendations on any key technical issues that warrant scrutiny by NRC staff and the Department of Energy.

cc: Chairman Meserve
Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
OGC
EDO
CFO
OCA
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Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
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