

October 31, 2003

MEMORANDUM TO: John T. Larkins,
Executive Director ACRS/ACNW

William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

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

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - MEETING WITH ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS (ACRS), 9:30 A.
M., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2003, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH,
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

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

1. Overview
2. Materials Degradation Issues
3. Reactor Oversight Process
4. Improvement of the Quality of Risk Information for Regulatory Decisionmaking

The ACRS should identify, as part of its normal review of advanced reactor designs, those features, approaches, and common phenomenology that could be applied to operating reactors to enhance safety, resolve issues or streamline future activities.

In the security arena, the ACRS should continue to focus its attention and expertise on technical issues associated with the progression and potential consequences of postulated terrorist actions, and the assessment of the effectiveness of mitigation strategies. The ACRS should not involve itself in issues associated with threat assessment (i.e. assessments of the likelihood of various types of events), physical security, or force-on-force assessments since these are outside the committees area of expertise, and involve intelligence information not available to the committee.

The NRC staff should:

1. explain the process currently used or planned for addressing significant operating experience in staff PRAs and for encouraging or requiring licensees to also address significant operating experience in their PRAs; and
2. provide the Commission the status, approach and plans for maintaining a current and effective set of guidance documents (Regulatory Guides, Standard Review Plans and Review Standards) for staff and applicant use. The staff should identify priority and resource considerations in this area.

(EDO)

(SECY Suspend: 2/27/04)

cc: Chairman Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
OGC
CFO
OCA
OIG
OPA
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
PDR