

March 12, 2004

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

Janice Dunn Lee, Director
Office of International Programs

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

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING ON MATERIALS SAFETY PROGRAMS, PERFORMANCE, AND PLANS, 9:30 A.
M., TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2004, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH,
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the NRC staff on the materials safety programs, performance, and plans in the Office of Materials Safety and Safeguards (NMSS). The Commission restated its prior guidance in the following areas:

1. Development of the Interim Database and the National Source Tracking System should remain a high priority effort.
2. The final NRC licensing decision on Louisiana Energy Services' (LES) application for a gas centrifuge enrichment facility should take no longer than thirty months. The staff should endeavor to identify efficiencies and provide appropriate resources to further reduce the time, if possible.
3. Staff should keep the Commission fully informed about resource requirements needed to manage its wide-ranging areas of responsibility, as well as activities that may need to be shed due to resource constraints.
4. Staff should provide specific milestones for completing and implementing Additional Security Measures (ASMs) for remaining categories of materials licensees.
5. Staff should keep the Commission fully informed about the ongoing rulemaking on the control of solid materials, and related international activities.
(EDO) (SECY Suspense: status report, 4/30/04; Proposed rule, 7/30/04)
6. Staff should complete the rulemaking on export/import controls for high-risk sources in a timely manner.
(OIP) (SECY Suspense: Proposed rule, 5/28/04)

The staff should examine the need to modify the information on the NRC website, concerning materials licensees, for security considerations.

Finally, the staff should consider the need for a periodic exchange with the European Commission in Brussels on nuclear materials issues.

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