

April 28, 2004

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers  
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary /RA/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING ON RESEARCH PROGRAMS, PERFORMANCE, AND PLANS, 9:30 A.M.,  
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2004, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE,  
MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the NRC staff from the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) on the programs, performance, and plans for the office.

The staff should communicate research results, particularly those involving conservative bounding analyses, to the public using plain English and in a manner to facilitate better understanding of the context and limitations of the information presented. When research reports are misused and quoted out of context, the staff should respond promptly.

The staff should inform the Commission through the budget process about how specific recommendations in the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) report, NUREG-1635, Volume 6, "Review and Evaluation of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Safety Research Program," dated March 2004, were dispositioned by the staff.

The Commission requested that the staff keep them currently informed on progress in the research on reactor material degradation issues.

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