

May 11, 2006

MEMORANDUM TO: Luis A. Reyes
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Andrew L. Bates, Acting Secretary */RA/*

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - MEETING WITH THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION (FERC), 2:00 P.M., Monday, April 24, 2006, FERC Headquarters, 888 First St., NE, Washington, DC (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission met with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in a joint meeting on electric grid reliability and its relationship to nuclear power plant safety.

The staff should provide its existing data on nuclear power plant loss of offsite power events to FERC, including an explanation of terms and definitions for such events, in a manner that will best assist FERC in understanding the relationship of event frequencies within specific regional power markets.

The staff should maintain its ongoing interaction with FERC on the impact of grid reliability to nuclear power plant safety, and additionally should engage FERC, DOE, and/or other stakeholders as appropriate, regarding the potential for new generating capacity, both nuclear and nonnuclear to impact grid reliability and thereby affect nuclear power plant safety (of both existing and new plants as applicable). Staff should provide any associated recommendations for enhancing the NRC's regulatory process, during the next Commission meeting on grid reliability issues.

The staff should provide information requested by FERC regarding NRC's experience (e.g., human reliability research, use of simulators for training, NRC processes for addressing safety issues), with due regard for requirements on handling sensitive information if applicable.

The NRC staff should coordinate with FERC staff to schedule a joint NRC and FERC Commission meeting in approximately one year to discuss progress on issues of mutual interest to both agencies.

The staff should obtain a better understanding of FERC's Open Access Same time Information System (OASIS), the role that this system plays in communicating information about the grid, and to what extent the system may assist licensees in assessing operability of offsite power.

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