

December 13, 2004

MEMORANDUM TO: Luis A. Reyes
Executive Director for Operations

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

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - SECY-04-0221 - MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT ON THE INTERAGENCY MODELING AND ATMOSPHERIC ASSESSMENT CENTER

The Commission has approved William F. Kane, Deputy Executive Director for Homeland Protection and Preparedness, signing the memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the Interagency Modeling and Atmospheric Assessment Center (IMAAC).

The details of how the Agency will interact with the IMAAC will be contained in the MOA's annex, which will be jointly developed by the NRC and the Department of Homeland Security. Therefore, it is important that the staff ensures that the annex includes clear guidance on how the agencies will interact during an event. As described in the paper, there could be cases where the NRC's code may produce plume information that may significantly differ from the plume information that would be generated by IMAAC. The Commission understands that the NRC's codes are capable of producing plume information quicker than can be provided by IMAAC. The organizations responding to an event should use the best available information, including the use of the information provided by the NRC's code early in the response to an event. Once the IMAAC information is available and any significant differences between the two sets of information are understood and agreed to by the two organizations, IMAAC would become the official single source of predictions. In addition, the staff should ensure that the annex includes clear guidance to facilitate a smooth transition from the use of the plume information provided by the NRC code to the use of the information provided by IMAAC.

cc: Chairman Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
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