POLICY ISSUE
(Information)

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FOR: The Commissioners

FROM: Luis A. Reyes
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SUBJECT: SEMIANNUAL REPORT ON STATUS OF STAFF INFORMATION
                 TECHNOLOGY/INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND BUSINESS
                 PROCESS ACTIVITIES IN PREPARATION FOR THE HIGH-LEVEL
                 WASTE REPOSITORY PROCEEDINGS

PURPOSE:

To inform the Commission about the status of Information Technology/Information Management
(IT/IM) and business process activities in preparation for the proceeding on a license application
for the construction of a high-level waste (HLW) repository in an electronic environment. This
paper does not address any new commitments or resource implications.

BACKGROUND:

As first committed to in SECY 04-0056 dated April 7, 2004, this report is issued semiannually
and covers HLW IT/IM and business process activities. The last semiannual information paper,
SECY 06-0189 dated August 29, 2006, covered the period January 1, 2006 through June 30,
2006. The scope of this information paper includes activities from July 1, 2006, through
December 31, 2006.

DISCUSSION:

A.   Program Management

The HLW Licensing Support Program Project Plan continues to be maintained using an
interactive process and ongoing communication with staff and management from all
organizations that support the program.

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B.   Status of the HLW Meta-System

Essentially all resources in the HLW IT/IM area remained focused on supporting Release 3 of the HLW Meta-System. The Enterprise Digital Data Management System (DDMS), a component of the HLW Meta-System, has been moved into a production environment. Additionally, the Office of Information Services (OIS) supported the DDMS video conferencing efforts by assisting in resolving technical issues, and continues to support DDMS connectivity.

OIS and the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel (ASLBP) tested and resolved data exchange problems between the Electronic Hearing Docket (EHD) and DDMS. OIS also clarified the requirements for Internet Protocol version 6 (IPV6) compliance by application systems that are not installed on the NRC infrastructure and advised ASLBP that a mandate does not exist to migrate the Licensing Support Network (LSN) to IPV6 before year 2010.

C.   Electronic Information Exchange

OIS has implemented enhancements to the agency's Electronic Information Exchange (EIE) capability to provide, as appropriate, priority to HLW electronic submissions. OIS began planning for the modernization of EIE and has completed revisions to existing Web pages which more accurately reflect the submission process and available end-user support. OIS began to revise electronic submission guidance documents to eliminate redundancies and confusion related to the use of EIE and submission formats.

D.   Electronic Hearing Docket

As a result of the e-filing rulemaking for adjudications, OIS and the Office of the Secretary (SECY) considered merging the EHD for the HLW proceeding with the EHD for general proceedings. The resulting EHD will accommodate all proceedings, providing a protective order file and a search engine for web-based searches. The appropriate security documentation for obtaining certification and accreditation for the EHD as a single system was submitted to the Senior Information Technology Security Officer (SITSO) for review. OIS and personnel from SECY continue to address the feedback provided by the SITSO on the documentation submitted. The new folder structures for the EHD and DDMS were fully implemented and provide a higher degree of flexibility in the display of folders on the EHD. This folder structure allows mapping directly from EHD servers to the appropriate folder in the DDMS file structure.

The redesign of the EHD website was completed and now provides links to and between adjudicatory material in a way that makes the tools needed to participate in the NRC adjudicatory process readily available to the public, potential parties in proceedings and parties in active proceedings.

E.   Licensing Support Network

OIS, ASLBP, and the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) continue to work together to ensure that the agency LSN document collection is updated. NMSS is currently working with OIS to process legacy e-mail into its collection.   OIS continues to work with NMSS to resolve the issue of the availability of documents published to the LSN that were subsequently made non-public after an agency document review.

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COORDINATION:

The Office of General Counsel has reviewed this package and has no legal objection. This paper has also been coordinated with SECY, NMSS, and the LSN Administrator.

/RA/

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 for Operations