

COMSECY-07-0001

January 23, 2007

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Klein  
Commissioner McGaffigan  
Commissioner Merrifield  
Commissioner Jaczko  
Commissioner Lyons

FROM: Luis A. Reyes */RA/*  
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT TO THE PATIENTS' RIGHTS ADVOCATE  
POSITION FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE  
MEDICAL USES OF ISOTOPES

This is to inform the Commission that the Director, Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME), recommends Darrell R. Fisher, Ph.D., for appointment to the Patients' Rights Advocate position on the Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes (ACMUI), based on the recommendation of the screening panel.

In the February 28, 2006, Staff Requirements Memorandum, which responded to SECY-06-0028, "Recommendations for Streamlining the Appointment Process and Enhancing the Overall Effectiveness of the Advisory Committee on the Medical Use of Isotopes," the Commission approved a new process for appointing members to the ACMUI. The process authorizes the Director, FSME, to appoint members of the ACMUI based on recommendations of the screening panel, but only after consultation with the Commission. Currently, the Patients' Rights Advocate position needs to be filled to replace Robert Schenter, Ph.D., who resigned on August 2, 2006.

After Dr. Schenter resigned, the staff began the selection process to seek his replacement. In response to the *Federal Register* notice and staff requests to stakeholder organizations, the staff received four nominations. The screening panel held a meeting on November 6, 2006. The panel unanimously recommended Dr. Fisher.

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The screening panel believes Dr. Fisher is the best candidate because he has patient experience, serves three patient advocacy organizations, counsels cancer patients who need to evaluate cancer treatment options. He also has a strong knowledge in radiation science; he specializes in the health effects and dosimetry related to exposure to radioactive materials and radiopharmaceuticals. Although the other candidates were experts in their own specialty fields, they had either minimal or no experience in the patient advocacy area.

SECY, please track.

cc: SECY  
OGC  
OCA  
OPA  
CFO

