

May 19, 1999

MEMORANDUM TO: William D. Travers
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Annette L. Vietti-Cook, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - COMSECY-99-013 - DEVELOPMENT OF BRANCH TECHNICAL POSITION ON A PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY FOR LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITIES (NUREG-1573)

The Commission has approved the staff's proposal to delay finalization of the subject Branch Technical Position (BTP) until FY 2000. In view of the Chairman's March 19, 1999 letter to Texas House Representative Walker which states that NRC would review any application for an assured storage facility that was intended to be permanent under Part 61 low-level waste disposal requirements (e.g., the performance objectives), the staff should keep abreast of the current Texas debate on assured storage and what constitutes disposal and expedite the schedule for finalizing the BTP if necessary.

cc: Chairman Jackson
Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield
OGC
CIO
CFO
OCA
OIG