

# NRC: COMSECY-99-031 - Additional Information Concerning Staff Requirements - SECY-99-070 - Implementation Plan for the Public Communications Initiative (DSI-14) - Commissioner Merrifield's comments

September 14, 1999

MEMORANDUM TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary

FROM: Jeffrey S. Merrifield

SUBJECT: COMSECY-99-031 -- ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING STAFF REQUIREMENTS - SECY-99-070 - IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS INITIATIVE (DSI-14):

I approve the staff's recommendation in COMSECY-99-031 with the following comments. What was left out of COMSECY-99-031 was the assistance the staff will provide to the public in learning how to use the ADAMS software in the PDR. I would expect as a minimum that the staff would plan to conduct periodic free training sessions for the public on the use of the computer software, particularly in the first few months after the system is placed in operation. From my perspective, spending money on the training sessions (or even possible a training video) would be more productive than continuing to provide hard copies of documents. In addition, I will support the Commission office briefings discussed in both the Chairman's and Commissioner McGaffigan's vote. But I want to make it clear that I expect the OCIO to be actively monitoring the interactions with the public during this transition period and using initiative and innovative thinking to resolve conflicts early. Except in unusual circumstances, it should not take Commission level action to ensure the public can relatively easily access documents in the PDR.

cc: Chairman Dicus  
Commissioner Diaz  
Commissioner McGaffigan  
OGC  
OPA  
OCA  
CIO  
CFO  
EDO