

December 11, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO: L. Joseph Callan
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: John C. Hoyle, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - SECY-97-242 - UPDATE ON THE SITE DECOMMISSIONING MANAGEMENT PLAN and BRIEFING ON SITE DECOMMISSIONING MANAGEMENT PLAN (SDMP), 2:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1997, COMMISSION CONFERENCE ROOM, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

This is to advise you that the Commission has not approved the staff's proposal to phase out use of the SDMP terminology. The staff should continue to issue the SDMP report. If the staff would like to transition the SDMP program into a comprehensive decommissioning management program to encompass all sites, a detailed transition plan should be provided for Commission approval. The information should include the status of the guidance documents that would be needed after the transition. The staff should also address how the concerns identified in the May 1989 General Accounting Office report entitled, "NRC's Decommissioning Procedures and Criteria Need to Be Strengthened," and those identified during the August 3, 1989, Congressional hearing were resolved.

The staff's description should include, but not be limited to, the following information:

- the impact of the License Termination Rule on the branch technical position that the staff has been developing to screen SDMP sites
- the status of existing guidance and documents, such as the preliminary hazards analysis, Reg. Guide 1.86, and other documents (see for example Attachment 2 to SECY-97-242) when the transition from SDMP to the License Termination Rule is complete
- how sites for which the screening process had already begun will be handled under the License Termination Rule and how sites already released from the SDMP list will measure up to the new criteria contained in the rule in view of the grandfather provisions of the License Termination Rule
- an evaluation of whether the issues identified by the Congress in hearings on site decommissioning which the SDMP was intended to address have been satisfactorily resolved

(EDO)

(SECY Suspend: 6/30/98)

- the current schedule for developing the associated regulatory guidance for the License Termination Rule
- the resource savings achieved by consolidating the various radiological laboratories in the Regions

(EDO)

(SECY Suspend: 1/30/98)

The staff should continue to consult with the Commission in cases where a license issued to an SDMP site is proposed to be terminated for unrestricted use and the site does not comply with the release standards identified in the license termination rule.

cc: Chairman Jackson
Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
OGC
CIO
CFO
OCA
OIG
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
PDR
DCS

SECY NOTE: THIS SRM WILL BE MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE UPON ISSUANCE. SECY-97-242 WAS RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC AT A COMMISSION BRIEFING ON OCTOBER 29, 1997.