August 14, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO: L. Joseph Callan

Executive Director for Operations

FROM: John C. Hoyle, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - SECY-97-140 - MEMORANDUM

OF UNDERSTANDING AND INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT, BETWEEN THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND THE

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, ON

ALUMINUM-BASED RESEARCH REACTOR SPENT NUCLEAR

FUEL

The Commission has approved signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Interagency Agreement with the Department of Energy subject to the following comments.

- 1. The staff should ensure that its actions do not compromise or give the impression that NRC has compromised regulatory authority, independence, and objectivity in carrying out its responsibility under this and other MOUs with DOE.
- 2. The frequency of meetings between NRC and DOE representatives should be dictated by need.
- 3. The NRC FTE in FY99 associated with this activity should be identified as "business-like."

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