

November 8, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO: R. W. Borchardt  
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Annette L. Vietti-Cook, Secretary **/RA/**

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS – SECY-11-0076 – IMPROVING THE  
PUBLIC RADIATION SAFETY CORNERSTONE OF THE  
REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS

The Commission has approved the staff's commitment to work with internal and external stakeholders on potential enhancements to the performance indicator program, but has not approved changes to the radiological effluent performance indicator or other modifications to the reactor oversight process (ROP) related to groundwater contamination control at this time. NRC inspections of groundwater and environmental monitoring and radioactive effluents should continue to focus on assessing licensee compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

As directed in the SRM of August 15, 2011, on SECY-11-0019, if the staff finds that the voluntary initiatives are not conducted in a committed and enduring fashion, the staff should present information to this effect to the Commission which can and, if necessary, will revisit this matter.

Any proposed revisions to the NRC's regulatory program in this area should be provided to the Commission in a notation vote paper. In developing such proposals, the staff should keep in mind, among other things, that the ROP already has assessment tools for potentially serious doses to the public.

The staff should continue to coordinate with stakeholders in developing objective and repeatable performance assessment tools.

The staff should continue efforts to enhance public education and awareness of issues related to groundwater contamination.

cc: Chairman Jaczko  
Commissioner Svinicki  
Commissioner Apostolakis  
Commissioner Magwood  
Commissioner Ostendorff  
OGC  
CFO  
OCA  
OPA  
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ASLBP (via E-Mail)  
PDR