

November 30, 2000

NOTE TO: Janice Dunn Lee, Director  
Office of International Programs

FROM: Elizabeth L. Doroshuk */RA/*  
Office of International Programs

SUBJECT: MEETING SUMMARY - WEEKLY FSU STATUS MEETING, NOVEMBER 29,  
2000

Purpose:

The purpose of this note is to document the results of the weekly FSU Status Meeting, held on Wednesday, November 29, 2000. A list of attendees is included as an Attachment.

Discussion:

Janice Dunn Lee began the meeting by noting that recently she held a discussion with Warren Stern, US Department of State (DOS), about the need for an independent review and assessment of the Ukrainian regulator's capability to support licensing Rovno 2/Khmelnitsky 4. One alternative they discussed might be to provide funds to Riskaudit and Sciencetech for developing a scoping report that could be used by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in consideration of a loan for R4/K2 construction completion. The matter is still considered "unresolved," she said.

Janice then asked the group to focus its attention on the annual meetings to be held with GAN here at the NRC next week. Gordon Fowler provided the group with a draft memo to the Commissioners highlighting the arrangements that have been made, and anticipated topics of discussion. He noted that Mr. Gutsalov, First Deputy Director, GAN is expected to request more inspection related assistance activities next year. Janice emphasized that it will be important to include NRC senior staff representatives who have responsibility for implementing each of the program activities in next week's meetings. For example, Mike Weber should be invited to the MOX and Core Conversion project discussions, and Jon Johnson may want to participate in the Licensing and Inspection Program discussions. Recognizing that the responsibility for implementing nuclear safety assistance activities in Russia is divided not only among various NRC program offices, but also among several U.S. Government agencies, Janice suggested that all of the NRC's nuclear safety assistance activities in Russia, regardless of which agency has the lead, should be addressed in the Memorandum of Meeting (MOM) that will be finalized as a result of next week's meetings.

The group also discussed plans for the proposed interagency roundtable discussion with Mr. Gutsalov to be held on Thursday, December 7, 2000. It was recognized that the roundtable will provide a unique opportunity for senior U.S. Government officials to explore the implications of

the legislation recently proposed in the Russian Duma (Parliament) which would transfer GAN's licensing authority to Minatom. The legislation could have far-reaching implications for the safe conduct of nuclear activities in Russia, and therefore for U.S. nuclear assistance to Russia. It is also recognized, though not all agree, that the interagency discussions that would take place during the roundtable could highlight potential program changes that might be expected as a result of the transfer of responsibility, and may in fact help lay the groundwork for policy considerations in the new administration.

Donna-Marie continued the meeting briefly mentioning a recent verbal request from SUJB of the Czech Republic for help and advice in responding to Austrian criticisms of the Temelin startup. Janice cautioned that the matter is probably best handled between the two governments themselves.

Jack mentioned that he is planning to debrief Janice on the results of the meeting he attended in Kiev to discuss the status of the SIP program. One general conclusion reached during the meeting, he said, was that regulatory issues may need to be addressed sooner than expected.

Jack also mentioned that he is developing FY 2002 budget projections for FTE usage in implementing FSU nuclear safety assistance activities. He reminded the group that it is still necessary to go through the formal budgeting process to develop estimates for these resource needs, though not as controversial as it was several years ago.

Before adjourning, Janice asked the group members to develop a list of possible questions that could be raised during the roundtable discussion with GAN next week.

the legislation recently proposed in the Russian Duma (Parliament) which would transfer GAN's licensing authority to Minatom. The legislation could have far-reaching implications for the safe conduct of nuclear activities in Russia, and therefore for U.S. nuclear assistance to Russia. It is hoped that the interagency discussions that could take place during the roundtable would highlight potential program changes that might be expected as a result of the transfer of responsibility, and may in fact help lay the groundwork for policy considerations in the new administration.

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Before adjourning, Janice asked the group members to develop a list of possible questions that could be raised during the roundtable discussion with GAN next week.

Attachment: List of Attendees

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OFFICE:	OIP/A	OIP/A	OIP/A	OIP/A
NAME:	*EDoroshuk	MCarter	DMPerez	GFowler
DATE:	12/5/00	12/7/00	12/7/00	12/8/00
OFFICE:	OIP/A	OIP/DD	OIP/D	
NAME:	*JRamsey	*RHauber	*JDunnLee	
DATE:	12/7/00	12/11/00	12/11/00	

WEEKLY FSU MEETING

NOVEMBER 29, 2000

LIST OF ATTENDEES

1. Gordon Fowler
2. Donna-Marie Perez
3. Jack Ramsey
4. Mary Carter
5. Janice Dunn Lee
6. Beth Doroshuk

ATTACHMENT