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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

January 28, 1988

R E V I S E D

MEMORANDUM FOR: Victor Stello, Jr.
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Samuel J. Chilk, Secretary

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING ON STATUS OF
NRC INTERNAL DRUG PROGRAM, 10:00 A.M.,
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1988, COMMISSIONERS'
CONFERENCE ROOM, D.C. OFFICE (OPEN TO PUBLIC
ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the staff on the status of NRC's compliance with Executive Order 12564 and Public Law 71-100, directing government agencies to implement an internal drug testing program.

The Commission stressed the importance of implementing a drug testing program for NRC personnel as soon as possible and of prompt notification by the staff if the Chairman's active involvement with the Department of Health and Human Services is required.

Commissioner Roberts emphasized the importance of ensuring that the employee selection process for random testing is credible and that the tests are accurate.

Commissioner Bernthal expressed the following concerns and requests:

- Ø An employee's signature on a statement as a condition for employment that he or she is aware of NRC's drug-free policy may be legally unenforceable as a reason for separation.
- Ø The current plans which allow some testing-designated persons within an organization to be tested while others

must await union negotiations would create two classes of citizens. The EDO should take steps to resolve the dichotomy as quickly as possible.

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Ø He requested the staff to clarify which elements in NRC's drug testing policy apply to abuse of alcohol and legal drugs. If the policy is not applicable to alcohol and legal drugs, he requested the staff to assess the need to upgrade or develop requirements to assure that employees do not abuse alcohol and legal drugs.
(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 2/29/88)

Commissioner Rogers made the following comments and request:

Ø He stressed that it may be unwise to request bargaining unit employees to volunteer for drug testing before the union negotiations are completed.

Ø All employees should be made aware of the basis for classifying their job as requiring random drug testing.

Ø He requested a briefing on NRC's alcohol abuse program for prevention of alcohol impairment on the job.
(EDO) (SECY Suspense: 3/15/88)

cc: Chairman Zech
Commissioner Roberts
Commissioner Bernthal
Commissioner Carr
Commissioner Rogers
OGC (H Street)
GPA
PDR - Advance
DCS - 016 Phillips