

From: Richard Barrett *NR*
To: Newberry, Scott *NR*
Date: Wednesday, January 24, 2001 12:56 PM
Subject: Re: Decommissioning Policy Paper

Scott:

We plan to be active participants. I have already given your staff an option that I would like to have included.

Glenn Kelly will be the principal SPSB contact for this activity.

--Rich

>>> Scott Newberry 01/24 7:45 AM >>>

As you know, the results of the final technical study on spent fuel pool accident risk at decommissioning nuclear power plants raised issues about Price-Anderson insurance requirements, staff decisions related to emergency preparedness, and safeguards. In the cover memo for the study, we committed to provide to the Commission in May 2001 a policy options paper related to these issues. The staff would then wait for Commission direction on the policy paper before proceeding with a course of action (e.g., rulemaking). The purpose of this e-mail is to obtain leadership agreement on our approach for satisfying our commitment to the Commission and to obtain the necessary resources.

Approach

DRIP/RGEB has lead responsibility for developing the May policy paper. We plan to prepare two Commission papers. In the first, which we would provide no later than May, we would frame the policy issues, provide recommendations for addressing the issues (e.g., solicit input from FEMA and other stakeholders), and provide a plan and schedule for addressing the issues. After the Commission approves the plan, we would carry it out and provide recommendations on the policy issues themselves in a followup paper.

Resource Needs

(This addresses resource needs and commitments through May 2001. Resources for work beyond May (i.e., for the second paper) will be visited after the first paper is completed.)

Steve West is supervising this effort. He has assigned three of his section members to this project: Bill Huffman (team leader), Stu Magruder (risk coordination and other assistance as needed), and Eileen McKenna (to provide general policy consultation as needed). To meet the May schedule, RGEB will need significant support from other NRR branches, as well as other NRC offices. It is essential that we take steps to maintain continuity of the staff assigned to this effort at least through May, and beyond if possible. I am requesting your support in obtaining the staff in the areas indicated below. We estimate that up to 50 percent of each individual's time should be available for this task from now until the end of May.

Decommissioning reactor emergency planning (IOLB) --- requested participant: Falk Kantor. (Daniel Barss is currently working on the decommissioning EP issues, however, he will be unavailable after February 6th due to an overseas assignment with the IAEA.)

Decommissioning reactor safeguards (IOLB) --- requested participant: Noel Dudley. (Noel has been dedicated to this effort from the Safeguards Section. However, he is on a rotational assignment from the ACRS that will end on February 22nd. Therefore, his rotational assignment will need to be extended or IOLB will need to assign another individual to this effort.)

Decommissioning reactor insurance (Soon to be under REXB) -- current participant: Ira Dinitz.

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Decommissioning risk — TBD. We have touched base with Rich Barrett and he has agreed to provide support.

In addition, significant resource assistance and coordination (estimated at as much as 25 percent of the participant's time) will be needed from offices outside of NRR. Specifically:

SFPO safeguards considerations ----- suggested participant Skip Young.

NMSS safeguards considerations ----- suggested participant Merri Horn or Barry Mendelsohn or Merri Horn.

OGC safeguards and decommissioning expert-----current participant Steve Lewis (Stu Treby has committed to provide Steve).

Requested Action

Bill Huffman plans to hold kick off meeting with the team members on Thursday, January 25. Please send Dave or me your agreement and/or comments on my proposal by COB today. We will discuss for a few minutes at leadership tomorrow. Thanks.

Scott

CC: Huffman, William, Kelly, Glenn, Rubin, Mark