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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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July 10, 2000

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

FROM: Elizabeth L. Doroshuk
Office of International Programs

SUBJECT: Meeting Summary - Weekly FSU Status Meeting, July 6, 2000

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Purpose:

The purpose of this note is to document the results of the weekly FSU Status Meeting, held on Thursday, July 6, 2000. A list of attendees is included as Attachment 1.

Discussion:

Beth Doroshuk led the first portion of the meeting with a review of the status of all action items documented in three previous Weekly FSU Status Meeting summaries. A list of these items is included as Attachment 2. The resolution of action items is proceeding on schedule.

Donna-Marie Perez raised several additional issues for the group's consideration before the close of the meeting. First, she noted that there appears to be some inconsistency in the criteria applied in the determination of which applications for foreign assignees should be approved. In particular, it is not clear whether a foreign assignee must commit to a minimum of 3-6 months here at the NRC in order to be invited. In some cases applications for foreign assignees have been reviewed on their own merits and approved, though for a shorter duration. Janice asked Donna-Marie to prepare a one-page summary documenting the problem, and specifically the justification for recommending disapproval of the application of the Romanian assignee. This information may be used as the basis for further discussions with representatives of those program offices that typically host foreign assignees. Janice suggested that she may discuss this topic during the next International Council meeting, scheduled for July 31, 2000.

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Donna-Marie also reminded the group that the NRC has received an invitation to the VVER Regulators' meeting to be held in Odessa in Ukraine this fall. She agreed to provide those attending our meeting with copies of the letter. Gordon mentioned that he would like to attend the meeting in Odessa.

Donna-Marie raised the question of how best to thank individuals at the NRC for their support during meetings with international visitors. Janice said that there are no hard and fast rules, and that the desk officers should provide her with their recommendation, and in each case prepare the appropriate note of appreciation with a corresponding list of addressees.

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Donna-Marie advised those attending our meeting that she is preparing responses to a G-24 questionnaire, and that she plans to consult with others for information needed to complete the questionnaire.

The issue of funding for nuclear safety assistance to Bulgaria was also raised. An international meeting is to be held in Sofia on September 11, 2000, to discuss the matter further.

- Attachments: 1. List of Attendees
2. List of Action Items

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WEEKLY FSU MEETING

July 6, 2000

LIST OF ATTENDEES

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

ATTACHMENT 1

WEEKLY FSU MEETING

July 6, 2000

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LIST OF ACTIONS ITEMS

1. Letter response to William Taylor on status of USAID funds for nuclear safety assistance in Russia and Ukraine - Jack/Beth
2. E-mail response to the EDO's office with estimated completion dates for two action items described in the NRC's response to Congress on the GAO report - Beth
3. Actions to obligate funds for nuclear safety assistance to Ukraine before September 30 - Gordon
4. Follow up with EPA to determine that status of EPA's request of the NRC for participation in AMEC project for 40-tonne cask certification in Russia - Beth
5. Jon Johnson's (NRR) travel to Russia and Ukraine in September - Gordon/Beth
6. Report of Jack Ramsey's travel to Armenia, and debriefing of meetings in Kazakhstan - Jack
7. Letter to DOS requesting extension of time to obligate funds for nuclear safety assistance in CEE - Donna-Marie
8. Item of interest describing NRR planning meeting in Russia held during the week of July 10 - Gordon
9. Draft papers describing the status of nuclear safety assistance activities in CEE - Donna-Marie
10. Summary for Commissioner Diaz in advance of briefing on nuclear safety assistance activities in Russia - Gordon
11. Need for response to TOPS report - Jack
12. Visit and briefing of Jim Turner on NRC's nuclear safety assistance activities - Janice

ATTACHMENT 2