

December 9, 2003

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USNRC

December 9, 2003 (4:10PM)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

DRAFT POLICY STATEMENT

68FR62642

[Response was E-mailed]

Dear Ms. DeMey:

I am responding to your November 18, 2003, e-mail request for additional time to respond to the November 5, 2003, Federal Register Notice (68 FR 62642) that provided a 60-day period to comment on the Commission's draft Policy Statement on the Treatment of Environmental Justice Matters in NRC Regulatory and Licensing Actions. The draft policy statement is available at the NRC Internet site at: <http://ruleforum.llnl.gov/cgi-bin/rulelist?type=policy>. You requested an extension of time to comment for approximately 180 days to July 4, 2004, and at least 10 public meetings.

A 60-day comment period provided in the November notice is twice the 30-day time period that is required by the Administrative Procedure Act for a formal rulemaking. The Commission is satisfied that the 60-day period is appropriate to air the issues associated with this policy statement. However, the Commission has no objection to an extension of time for an additional 30 days. A Federal Register notice will be issued to announce the extension.

We look forward to your comments.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Annette L. Vietti-Cook

December , 2003

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Sincerely,

Annette L. Vietti-Cook
Secretary

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