



OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

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

June 27, 1995

IN RESPONSE, PLEASE
REFER TO: M950621B

MEMORANDUM TO: James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: John C. Hoyle, Secretary

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING ON NRC USE OF
EXPERT ELICITATION IN HLW PERFORMANCE
ASSESSMENTS, 10:30 A.M., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21,
1995, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE
WHITE FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN
TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the NRC staff on the plans to develop guidance on the use of expert elicitation. As the guidance is developed further, the Commission would be interested in how the determination of an expert is made and by whom. An important criterion for determining participation as an expert is the willingness of experts to be identified publicly with their judgments. In addition, declarations of conflicts of interest and biases should be made in the beginning of the process. Also, the terms "reasonable assurance" and "reasonably obtainable" must be used carefully and consistently, and the context in which they are used must be described. The Commission also suggested that the staff consider broader applications where expert elicitation might be useful. The Commission continues to be interested in this process, and would like to review the Staff Technical Position during the public comment period and before the staff issues the position in final form.

(EDO)

(SECY Suspense: 9/29/95)

Prior to publishing a final Staff Technical Position, the staff should provide the Commission a copy along with a complete review and analysis of public comments received on the draft.

(EDO)

(SECY Suspense: 3/29/96)

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cc: The Chairman
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner de Planque
Commissioner Jackson
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