




UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 11, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO: R.W. Borchardt  
Executive Director for Operations

Stephen G. Burns  
General Counsel

FROM: Gregory B. Jaczko 

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT OF OPTIONS FOR MORE HOLISTIC RISK-  
INFORMED, PERFORMANCE-BASED REGULATORY  
APPROACH

To provide a more complete understanding of the possible steps needed for the NRC to employ a more comprehensive and holistic use of risk-informed and performance-based principles within the NRC's regulatory framework, I have asked Commissioner Apostolakis to lead a task force to assess options for the NRC.

Attached is the charter for the task force. I have asked Commissioner Apostolakis to complete this effort and provide me with options and recommendations within 12 months of the date of this memorandum.

Attachment: As stated

cc: Commissioner Svinicki  
Commissioner Apostolakis  
Commissioner Magwood  
Commissioner Ostendorff

**Charter for Task Force for  
Assessment of Options for More Holistic Risk-Informed,  
Performance-Based Regulatory Approach**

**PURPOSE / SCOPE**

Develop a strategic vision and options for adopting a more comprehensive and holistic risk-informed, performance-based regulatory approach for reactors, materials, waste, fuel cycle, and transportation that would continue to ensure the safe and secure use of nuclear material. The options may range from a complement to or alternative to current regulatory framework.

**OBJECTIVES**

The task force should identify the options and specific actions that the NRC could pursue to achieve a more comprehensive and holistic risk-informed, performance-based regulatory structure. The task force will address the following basic questions:

1. Are the current practices adequate for accomplishing the goal of a holistic risk-informed and performance-based regulatory structure?
2. How effective have past and on-going risk-informed initiatives been? What are the relevant lessons learned from these initiatives?
3. Should the use of risk information continue to be voluntary?
4. How effective have recent major deterministic licensing actions (i.e., license renewals, power uprates, B5b mitigation strategies) been? What are the relevant lessons learned from these actions?
5. What are the visions for a holistic risk-informed, performance-based regulatory structure for reactors, materials, waste, fuel cycle, and security?
6. How can the transition from the current system to a more holistic risk-informed, performance based regulatory structure be optimized?
7. What is the schedule for achieving this regulatory structure?
8. How should this structure be implemented?
9. How should stakeholder input be considered?
10. In each area, what are the capabilities and limitations of current probabilistic risk assessment methodologies?

## **SCHEDULE**

The task force final report should be provided to the Chairman within 12 months of the issuance of the Chairman Tasking Memorandum to the EDO and OGC.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

The members of the team will be selected in consultation with the EDO and OGC.