



OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

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

IN RESPONSE, PLEASE
REFER TO: M961018A

November 5, 1996

MEMORANDUM TO: James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: John C. Hoyle, Secretary

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - BRIEFING ON INDEPENDENT
SAFETY ASSESSMENT TEAM INSPECTION (ISAT) AT
MAINE YANKEE, 9:00 A.M., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18,
1996, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE
WHITE FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN
TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the NRC staff on the Independent Safety Assessment Team Inspection at Maine Yankee. The Commission requested a follow up briefing by Maine Yankee on the corrective actions taken in response to this inspection. As a second part of the briefing, the staff, including Region I, should report on the follow up actions for specific inspection items.

The Commission also requested subsequent briefings to:

- 1) focus on inspection criteria, evolution of assessment categories, and the SALP system. The presentation should include examples and should define, and demonstrate the differences between, acceptable and unacceptable performance in each category.
- 2) follow-up on the regulatory process generic issues identified through the ISAT. This would include an assessment of the adequacy of the inspection program to identify the type of problems involved at Maine Yankee. Additionally, the staff should: (a) identify other licensees who have a similar ownership structure and discuss the performance of those licensees, particularly the way performance may be impacted by the financial arrangements that result from such ownership structures, and (b) provide an assessment of how the interrelationships of work-arounds impact operational safety. This briefing could be accomplished in the context of the Commission briefing on the results of a comprehensive staff review of the reactor oversight program.

(EDO)

(SECY Suspense:

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In future presentations on this type of inspection, the staff should discuss the range of views used in ultimately determining a performance rating for each category evaluated. The staff should also provide information on how any diversity of view is accounted for and resolved. Additionally, special team inspection findings and recommendations should be as specific as possible.

cc: Chairman Jackson
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
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OCA
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Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
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