



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

November 7, 1996

MEMORANDUM TO: Frank J. Miraglia, Acting Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Carl A. Paperiello, Director
Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards

Regional Administrators

FROM: James M. Taylor *Hugh L. Thompson Jr*
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: RECORDING OF TIME EXPENDED ON ALLEGATIONS

Attached is a copy of the Agency Allegation Advisor's Annual Report on the Status of the Allegation Program. Recommendation 3 in the report states that management should increase the emphasis placed on properly documenting time spent on allegations. The report provides a comparison of allegation workload, as indicated by the number of allegations received and closed, and the number of hours expended on allegation follow-up, as recorded in RITS. The comparison indicates that all NRC employees may not be properly documenting the time spent reviewing and resolving allegations. Graphs 8 and 10 in the report indicate that Regions II and IV, respectively, experienced a significant rise in allegations received and allegations closed between July 1995 and June 1996. However, Graph 15 indicates that the number of hours expended per allegations between October 1995 and April 1996 in these two regions decreased. While this could be interpreted to imply more efficient processing of allegations in Regions II and IV, it could also mean that the time spent in the reviews has not been properly documented. Based on discussions between regional management and the Agency Allegation Advisor, the latter appears to be the case.

With the increased emphasis on improving both the quality of the staff's review of allegations, and the quality and timeliness of communications with allegers, an accurate account of the hours expended on allegation follow-up is essential to understanding the associated resource implications. Therefore, you are requested to emphasize the importance of properly documenting time spent on allegations to your management and staff. Additionally, for allegations closed in July, August, and September of this year, please review the time reported by the individuals assigned to resolve them and determine whether the time reported accurately reflects the time expended resolving the allegations.

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Multiple Addresses

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Please inform me of the results of your review within 45 days of the date of this memorandum. If you determine that time expended on allegation follow-up is not being properly documented, please include the corrective actions you have taken in your response.

Attachment: As stated