



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

February 18, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO:

Donald A. Cool, Director  
Division of Industrial and  
Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS

Elizabeth Q. Ten Eyck, Director  
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety  
and Safeguards, NMSS

John T. Greeves, Director  
Division of Waste Management, NMSS

Charles J. Haughney, Director  
Spent Fuel Project Office, NMSS

FROM:

Carl J. Paperiello, Director  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

*Carl J. Paperiello*

SUBJECT:

IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMISSION'S DIRECTION TO IDENTIFY  
POTENTIAL ABNORMAL OCCURRENCES

In a Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) dated November 7, 1996, on SECY 96-193, "Abnormal Occurrence Reports: Implementation of Section 208 Energy Reorganization Act of 1974: Final Policy Statement," the Commission stated that "The staff should file incident information on potential abnormal occurrences (AOs) in the Public Document Rooms (PDRs) as soon as possible.... In following this direction, the staff should place already existing documents on these incidents in the PDRs and identify the incident as a potential AO."

To implement this directive, when sufficient information on an event has been obtained to identify it as a potential AO, a copy of the memorandum from NMSS to AEOD transmitting potential AO write-ups, as directed in DRAFT Management Directive 8.1, "Abnormal Occurrence Reporting Procedure," (Attachment 1), should be sent to the PDR. The memorandum should include the following statement:

" The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has identified the attached event as a potential abnormal occurrence (AO), and it may be included in the AO report that NRC prepares annually to inform Congress of events reported by NRC and Agreement State licensees, which the Commission has determined are significant to public health and safety."

CONTACT: Mark A. Sitek, NMSS  
(301) 415-6155

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O+m-8 Repts to Congress

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Since the memoranda and attached potential AO write-ups will be placed in the PDRs, it is important that the memoranda and write-ups have appropriate management review in your division before they are issued.

AEOD will revise draft Management Directive 8.1 to include this new AO process function.

The revised AO criteria is attached to facilitate your identification of potential AOs.

Attachments: 1. Memo fm DRoss to  
CPaperiello dtd 1/29/97  
2. MD 8.1  
3. Revised AO Criteria  
(61 FR 67077-67078)

cc: Regional Administrators

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2. MD 8.1  
3. Revised AO Criteria (61 FR 67077-67078)

cc: Regional Administrators

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(301) 415-6155

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