



OFFICE OF THE
COMMISSIONER

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

SECRETARIAT RECORD COPY

January 4, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: William J. Dircks
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Thomas M. Roberts *TR*

SUBJECT: URANIUM MILL TAILINGS REGULATIONS

Your subject memorandum of December 20, 1982, states that "[A] working group has been appointed to take a fresh look at the mill tailings regulations and to consider the options for change if any are indicated." Given my continuing interest in this subject, I would like to know the make-up of this group and be provided with a schedule of upcoming meetings. I am aware that during the recent UNTRAC debate, Senator Schmidt, and Congressmen Lujan and Lowry made statements concerning the viability of having EPA and NRC use risk comparisons as one consideration for the technical basis of the uranium mill tailings regulations. Please have the working group peruse the record of the subject hearings and debate.

Additionally, let me refer you to the last paragraph of my September 9, 1982, memorandum which was attached to the October 13, 1982, memorandum for staff to "give consideration to the questions and comments contained" therein. Your December 20 response detailing staff plans fails to include an assessment of the implementation of branch technical positions used to regulate uranium mill tailings. I expect this task to be assigned to the working group.

cc: Chairman Palladino
Commissioner Gilinsky
Commissioner Ahearne
Commissioner Asselstine
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