

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Public Affairs  
Washington, DC 20555  
Phone 301-415-8200 Fax 301-415-2234  
Internet:opa@nrc.gov

No. S-98-20

TALKING POINTS  
MEETING WITH NRC MANAGERS  
SEPTEMBER 17, 1998

- I am here today to share with you that Joe Callan the Executive Director of Operations (EDO) has informed me recently that he plans to retire from government service effective October 16, 1998.
- I make this announcement with deep regret. Joe has provided outstanding support to me and to the Commission, and leadership for the staff.

I have relied on his expertise and leadership and he has helped me and the NRC in setting and accomplishing many important goals.

- as Chairman of the Executive Council, Mr. Callan led agency efforts to revise the manner in which the agency plans, budgets, and allocates resources;
- ensured a strong safety focus was maintained by the NRC staff;
- provided leadership for the agency's oversight of Millstone and other troubled stations;
- brought the final design approval for the Westinghouse AP600 advanced reactor design to fruition;
- coordinated an integrated time line (technical review with the adjudicatory process) for an accelerated review of license renewal and license transfer applications; and
- devised an agency-wide plan in response to my recent tasking memorandum that set the direction for change at the NRC that

refined, consolidated, and accelerated a set of ongoing initiatives in the following areas: risk-informed, performance-based regulations; reactor inspection and enforcement; reactor licensee performance assessment; licensing activities; NRC's organizational structure; and significant licensing actions.

- Joe's departure will add to the challenge we face, but I want to be clear that our commitment to our plans and schedules for an accelerated and effective change to our regulatory process and organizational structure remains unchanged.

It is because of Mr. Callan's leadership in beginning a succession planning process that we have been able to quickly identify candidates from a list of potential replacements.

I have made a recommendation to the Commission for a selection for the successor to Mr. Callan as Executive Director for Operations. The Commission has approved that selection. I therefore am pleased to announce that William D. Travers will assume the position of EDO. I know that you will all continue to provide your exceptional professionalism in support of Dr. Travers.

Mr. Callan will be ending a career in government service which began with his time in the United States Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. He joined the NRC in 1979 as a Resident Inspector, and he has maintained his questioning attitude and his desire to "constantly see improvement" - traits that he honed during this time. He has served in a number of increasingly responsible positions, including Section Chief, Director of the Divisions of Reactor Projects, Reactor Safety, and the Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards in Region IV. In February 1994 Mr. Callan was appointed Regional Administrator for Region IV, where he served until he was appointed Executive Director for Operations in January of 1997,

In closing let me say that I know and understand the sacrifices Joe has made during his tenure as EDO. I thank him for his untiring efforts, his personal dedication and sacrifice, and particularly for the support and counsel he has provide to me during an important time for the agency. On behalf of the Commission, I wish him continued success. Godspeed.