



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

October 9, 2015

SECRETARY

COMMISSION VOTING RECORD

DECISION ITEM: SECY-14-0148

TITLE: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR "PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT
COORDINATOR" POSITION IN RESPONSE TO STAFF
REQUIREMENTS MEMORANDUM – SECY-14-0078

The Commission acted on the subject paper as recorded in the Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) of October 9, 2015.

This Record contains a summary of voting on this matter together with the individual vote sheets, views and comments of the Commission.



Annette L. Vietti-Cook
Secretary of the Commission

Enclosures:

1. Voting Summary
2. Commissioner Vote Sheets

cc: Chairman Burns
Commissioner Svinicki
Commissioner Ostendorff
Commissioner Baran
OGC
EDO
PDR

VOTING SUMMARY - SECY-14-0148

RECORDED VOTES

	APRVD	DISAPRVD	ABSTAIN	NOT PARTICIP	COMMENTS	DATE
CHRM. BURNS	X	X			X	10/1/15
COMR. SVINICKI		X			X	1/9/15
COMR. OSTENDORFF	X				X	1/16/15
COMR. BARAN	X				X	9/11/15

NOTATION VOTE

RESPONSE SHEET

TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary
FROM: CHAIRMAN BURNS
SUBJECT: SECY-14-0148: Implementation Plan for "Public Engagement Coordinator" Position in Response to Staff Requirements Memorandum-SECY-14-0078

Approved X Disapproved X Abstain

Not Participating

COMMENTS: Below Attached X None



SIGNATURE

1 October 2015

DATE

Entered on "STARS" Yes X No

**Chairman Burns' Comments on
SECY-14-0148: Implementation Plan for "Public Engagement Coordinator"
Position in Response to Staff Requirements Memorandum-SECY-14-0078**

I disapprove the staff's proposed implementation plan for a Public Engagement Coordinator Position in the Office of the Executive Director for Operations (OEDO) at this time. The staff should assess whether a dedicated staff position to direct or navigate external stakeholders to other NRC organizations for information will materially strengthen public interface as part of the Project AIM re-baselining effort and make a recommendation in its report. Further, the Commission strongly supports the Executive Director for Operation's (EDO) goal to make organizational change to improve the NRC's agility, effectiveness and efficiency. Deferral of a decision at this time will allow the EDO to restructure his organization in a way that is informed by previous Commission direction and the fresh perspective that the re-baselining activity will provide.



Stephen G. Burns
01 October 2015

NOTATION VOTE

RESPONSE SHEET


TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary
FROM: COMMISSIONER SVINICKI
SUBJECT: SECY-14-0148: Implementation Plan for "Public Engagement Coordinator" Position in Response to Staff Requirements Memorandum-SECY-14-0078

Approved _____ Disapproved XX Abstain _____

Not Participating _____

COMMENTS: Below XX Attached ___ None ___

Consistent with my position on SECY-14-0078, I disapprove the creation of a new public engagement coordinator position and all proposed implementing actions associated with it. As I noted in my vote on SECY-14-0078, based on the staff's analysis, this new position would be redundant with activities carried out by no less than seven current NRC organizations and would create unnecessary new overhead at a time when the agency is working expressly to reduce this burden. I note also the concerns previously expressed by OIG that this new position could have a chilling effect on matters within OIG's purview or be viewed as a bureaucratic filter for whistleblower complaints intended for OIG. I continue to support the modest set of process enhancements contained in SECY-14-0078, as subelements a, b, and c of that paper's Option 1.



SIGNATURE

01/ 9 /15

DATE

Entered on "STARS" Yes No _____

NOTATION VOTE

RESPONSE SHEET

TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary
FROM: COMMISSIONER OSTENDORFF
SUBJECT: SECY-14-0148: Implementation Plan for "Public Engagement Coordinator" Position in Response to Staff Requirements Memorandum-SECY-14-0078

Approved X Disapproved _____ Abstain _____

Not Participating _____

COMMENTS: Below X Attached ___ None ___

I approve the staff's implementation plan for the new Public Engagement Coordinator position in the Office of the EDO. The actions currently described for the Public Engagement Coordinator position appear somewhat reactive. Staff should include in the roles and responsibilities additional proactive activities, such as attending and evaluating various public meetings held by staff and providing critical feedback.

W. Ostendorff
SIGNATURE

1/16/15
DATE

Entered on "STARS" Yes ___ No ___

NOTATION VOTE

RESPONSE SHEET

TO: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary

FROM: Commissioner Baran


SUBJECT: SECY-14-0148: Implementation Plan for "Public Engagement Coordinator" Position in Response to Staff Requirements Memorandum-SECY-14-0078

Approved XX Disapproved _____ Abstain _____ Not Participating _____

COMMENTS: Below _____ Attached XX None _____

Entered in STARS

Yes XX
No _____



Signature
7/11/15

Date

**Commissioner Baran's Comments on SECY-14-0148:
Implementation Plan for "Public Engagement Coordinator" Position**

In the Staff Requirements Memorandum for SECY-14-0078, the Commission directed the NRC staff to prepare an implementation plan for (1) several enhancements to the current framework for interacting with the public and (2) creating a new Public Engagement Coordinator position. The staff submitted the plan on December 31, 2014.

I strongly agree with the principles underlying the implementation plan: that "public involvement in the agency's activities [is] a cornerstone of strong, transparent regulation of the nuclear industry" and that "[b]eing aware of and appropriately addressing issues from the public contributes to the agency's ability to effectively achieve its mission of protecting public health and safety."

I approve the implementation plan, subject to a few modifications. The portions of the plan relating to enhancing NRC's website and operator services should be implemented as drafted. However, rather than creating a rotational opportunity with the purpose of helping to establish the new position, the Office of the Executive Director for Operations should expeditiously develop the roles and responsibilities of the Public Engagement Coordinator. The basic scope of those responsibilities would be to serve as an additional agency point of contact for the public for raising complaints and concerns, to direct individuals or organizations to the appropriate processes and people within the agency to respond to those complaints or concerns, to track resolution of the issues raised, and to collect feedback on the effectiveness of this process. Two years after the position is filled, the Executive Director for Operations should provide the Commission with an evaluation of the effectiveness of the new position in enhancing public interaction and a recommendation as to whether the position should be maintained.