MEMORANDUM TO: John C. Hoyle, Secretary

FROM: Commissioner Jeffrey S. Merrifield

SUBJECT: COMSECY-98-036 DRAFT NRC CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR THE YEAR 2000 ISSUE IN THE

NUCLEAR INDUSTRY

Given the seriousness of the potential consequences outlined in this plan, I believe that the Commission should consider including one of the Commissioners as part of the Executive Team that will be in standby mode on December 31, 1999. In addition, should the Commission decide to accept the staff recommendation of a back-up Operations Center in Region IV, we may also want to consider having a Commissioner present at that site as well.

If the Commission accepts the recommendations included in SECY-98-184, (upgrading the NRC Operations Center Emergency Telecommunications System), I believe we should expedite the purchase and installation of mobile satellite units at each nuclear power plant site to have this system operational prior to December 31, 1999.

cc: Chairman Jackson

Commissioner Dicus Commissioner Diaz

Commissioner McGaffigan