

Memorandum

LLS:1spm
cc: Files
Sudo
Simms
Retrieval

Subject

Reward to Citizens for Providing Information Regarding
Improper Disposal of Special Nuclear Material

Date

1 2 JAN 1981

To

From

Ann Hoffman
Executive Assistant
Office of the Attorney General

Larry L. Simms
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legal Counsel

This responds to your note of January 8, 1981 to Mr. Harmon requesting our advice regarding material on this subject transmitted to you by the Land and Natural Resources Division on January 5, 1981.

Although this Office has no experience with or expertise regarding the Atomic Weapons and Special Nuclear Materials Act, 50 U.S.C.A. 47 (1980 Supp.), it would appear to us that regulations establishing a procedure for rewarding citizens who report information regarding improper disposal of special nuclear material should be issued. We say this because it would seem to us likely that rewards may be sought from time to time by a number of citizens and that such a program should not be carried on on an ad hoc basis.

We recommend that the present application for a reward be held in abeyance while the Land and Natural Resources Division, perhaps in conjunction with the Justice Management Division, draft regulations establishing a procedure for handling applications for rewards under this Act. Once such regulations have been drafted, we will, of course, play our traditional role of reviewing them for form and legality prior to their promulgation in the Federal Register.

Enclosure