No. 11-098   June 6, 2011

OPENING STATEMENT OF NRC CHAIRMAN GREGORY B. JACZKO AT TODAY'S ACRS MEETING

Good morning. The Commission meets today with members of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS). I would like to begin by thanking the members of the ACRS for their tremendous work over the past few months. The ACRS has experienced a very high workload and, to their credit, processed it in the timely and thorough manner that they are known for.

The ACRS may be pleased to hear that it appears that their workload may stabilize and perhaps slowdown a bit over the next couple of months. But as we all know, there are many important issues that the agency will be addressing over the coming year. The ACRS will have a very important role as the Japan task force completes its work and the Commission considers the long-term implications of the events in Japan for domestic nuclear safety. As a result, there will be little rest for the weary, on either side of this table.

During today's meeting, we will discuss several important issues, including fire protection, small modular reactors, the Fuel Cycle Oversight Process, and the AP1000 reactor design certification. As always, we have benefited from the ACRS's independent, expert perspective on these important questions. In today's meeting, the Commission looks forward to discussing the ACRS's views on these issues.

###