

December 3, 2009

Dr. Mario V. Bonaca, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
LETTER ON "CLOSURE OF STEAM GENERATOR ACTION PLAN ITEMS 3.1k,
3.4, 3.5, 3.10, 3.11, AND 3.12" AND STAFF CLOSEOUT OF STEAM
GENERATOR ACTION PLAN

Dear Dr. Bonaca:

I am responding to your letter of October 22, 2009, regarding the closure of the Steam Generator Action Plan (SGAP) Items 3.1k, 3.4, 3.5, 3.10, 3.11, and 3. On October 8, 2009, during the 566th meeting of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), the ACRS met with the staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to review the closeout of the subject SGAP Items. The ACRS Subcommittee on Materials, Metallurgy, and Reactor Fuels had previously reviewed these activities at its September 24–25, 2009, meeting. Your letter offered the following three recommendations:

1. Research activities within the SGAP focusing on induced steam generator tube rupture (Items 3.1k, 3.4, 3.5, 3.10, and 3.12) can be concluded. Additional research needed in this area can be identified through the normal "user need" process.
2. As a part of closing items of the SGAP dealing with the induced steam generator tube rupture issue, staff should prepare a summary document that describes the current state of understanding of this issue and the technical issues that remain to be resolved for specific plant applications.
3. The previous ACRS endorsement of the resolution of Generic Safety Issue 163, "Multiple Steam Generator Tube Leakage," in the May 20, 2009, ACRS report means that item 3.11 of the SGAP can be closed.

Consistent with the first and third recommendations, which cover all SGAP items that the ACRS had not previously reviewed and closed, the staff's work in connection with the SGAP is complete and, therefore, the SGAP is closed. Notwithstanding, the staff has identified a limited number of areas that need additional research. Staff will coordinate this work as well as the preparation of a summary document as recommended by ACRS through the user need process.

M. Bonaca

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The staff sincerely appreciates the ACRS's review of these SGAP items.

Sincerely,

/RA Bruce S Mallett for/

R. W. Borchardt
Executive Director
for Operations

cc: Chairman Jaczko
Commissioner Klein
Commissioner Svinicki
SECY

M. Bonaca

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The staff sincerely appreciates the ACRS's review of these SGAP items.

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