

April 29, 2013

Dr. J. Sam Armijo, Chairman  
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS  
RECOMMENDATION ON DRAFT DESIGN SPECIFIC REVIEW STANDARD FOR  
mPOWER iPWR CHAPTER 7 INSTRUMENTATION AND CONTROL SYSTEMS

Dear Dr. Armijo:

By letter dated March 19, 2013 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML13084A057), the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS or Committee) provided a recommendation and conclusion in response to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's disposition of several ACRS recommendations documented in a letter dated February 6, 2013. These ACRS recommendations relate to the issuance of Chapter 7 of the draft Design Specific Review Standard (DSRS) for the mPower iPWR, titled "Instrumentation and Control Systems."

**Recommendation and Conclusion:**

The March 19, 2013, ACRS letter included the following recommendation and conclusion:

1. The staff's disposition of the recommendations in our December 18, 2012 letter is satisfactory except for an essential element of recommendation 3.
2. The staff should incorporate the revision to the mPower DSRS Chapter 7, Section 7.2.9, Item 2 discussed in our December 18, 2012 letter.

The Committee's recommendation and conclusion regarding Item 2 of Section 7.2.9 relates to data communications from a common network bus, passing plant data from safety systems to the main control room, technical support center, or emergency support center; and also passing plant control signals back to safety systems.

**Staff Response:**

The NRC staff appreciates the ACRS recommendation and conclusion. The NRC staff is considering the recommendation and conclusion and will update the Committee on progress in upcoming meetings related to this topic. The NRC staff will provide a letter to inform the Committee of our decision on the recommendation and conclusion before the staff finalizes Chapter 7 of the mPower DSRS.

Sincerely,

***/RA Mike Johnson for/***

R. W. Borchardt  
Executive Director  
for Operations

cc: Chairman Macfarlane  
Commissioner Svinicki  
Commissioner Apostolakis  
Commissioner Magwood  
Commissioner Ostendorff  
SECY

**REFERENCES**

1. ACRS letter, "Draft Design Specific Review Standard for mPower iPWR Chapter 7 Instrumentation and Control Systems," December 18, 2012 (ML12362A173).
2. NRC staff letter, "Response to Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Recommendations on Chapter 7, "Instrumentation and Controls," of the Draft Design Specific Review Standard for the mPower Integral Pressurized-Water Reactor," February 6, 2013 (ML13004A385).
3. ACRS letter, "Draft Design Specific Review Standard for mPower iPWR Chapter 7 Instrumentation and Control Systems," March 19, 2013 (ML13084A057).
4. Draft for Comment, "Design Specific Review Standard for mPower iPWR Design," Section 7.2, System Characteristics, September 19, 2012 (ML12179A151).

**Staff Response:**

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