



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20555 - 0001**

April 28, 2016

The Honorable Stephen G. Burns  
Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

**SUBJECT: REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF THE NRC SAFETY RESEARCH PROGRAM**

Dear Chairman Burns:

During the 633<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, April 7-9, 2016, we completed our review and evaluation of the safety research sponsored by the NRC. Enclosed is an advance copy of the 2016 ACRS report entitled, "Review and Evaluation of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Safety Research Program." The final report will be issued as NUREG-1635, Vol. 12.

This report presents our observations and recommendations concerning the NRC Safety Research Program being carried out by the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES). In our evaluation of the NRC research activities, we considered the programmatic justification for the research as well as the technical approaches and progress of the work. The evaluation identifies research crucial to the NRC mission.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Dennis C. Bley  
Chairman

Enclosure:  
As stated

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