

## UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

July 20, 2018

Dr. Michael Corradini, Chairman Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

# SUBJECT: REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION SAFETY RESEARCH PROGRAM

Dear Dr. Corradini:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff, I am responding to your letter to Chairman Svinicki dated February 26, 2018, providing the "Biennial Review and Evaluation of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Safety Research Program." We greatly value the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) review and evaluation, and useful perspectives and insights to enhance our program.

The staff will use the Committee's review in guiding our research program. The ACRS review provides two recommendations to enhance the NRC safety research mission. The staff agrees with these recommendations and plans to implement them within existing programs and process.

The enclosure contains the NRC staff responses to the ACRS's recommendations and specific observations. We will consider your recommendations as we execute the research program and develop research plans and budgets for upcoming fiscal years.

The staff looks forward to continued interactions with the ACRS and future reviews of our safety research program.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Raymond V. Furstenau Director of Nuclear Regulatory Research

Enclosure: As stated

cc: Chairman Svinicki Commissioner Baran Commissioner Burns Commissioner Caputo Commissioner Wright SECY

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