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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Wednesday, June 16, 1993)

DR. J. ERNEST WILKINS, JR, BECOMES ACRS CHAIRMAN,
MR. JAMES C. CARROLL, VICE-CHAIRMAN

Dr. J. Ernest Wilkins, Jr., has succeeded Dr. Paul G. Shewmon as Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's independent Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) for the remainder of 1993. Mr. James C. Carroll has succeeded Dr. Wilkins as Vice-Chairman. The successions result from the expiration of Dr. Shewmon's term as a member of the ACRS on May 31, 1993.

The ACRS was established in 1957 by the Congress to advise the former Atomic Energy Commission, and subsequently the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, on the safety aspects of proposed and existing nuclear facilities and the adequacy of related safety standards. The ACRS also performs such other special assignments as the Commission may request, including the review of related research programs.

Dr. Wilkins was appointed to the ACRS on April 23, 1990. Mr. Carroll was appointed to the ACRS in June 1988 and reappointed in 1992.

Dr. Wilkins was born in Chicago, IL. He received his Bachelor and Master of Sciences degrees in Mathematics from the University of Chicago, and earned his Ph.D. in Mathematics from the same institution. He continued his studies at New York University where he obtained additional Bachelor and Master degrees in Mechanical Engineering.

From 1943-44, Dr. Wilkins served as an Instructor of Mathematics at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. He served as a Physicist in the Metallurgical Laboratory of the University of Chicago from 1944 through 1946. During the period from 1946-50, he was employed by the American Optical Company in Buffalo, NY. Dr. Wilkins joined United Nuclear Corporation (UNC) in 1950 in White Plains, NY, and was Manager of Research and Development when in left in 1960.

From 1960-1970, Dr. Wilkins continued in the nuclear field with General Atomic Company of San Diego, CA. From 1970-1977, he served as Distinguished Professor of Applied Mathematical Physics at Howard University, and from 1977-1984, he served as Vice President and Deputy General Manager for Science and Engineering at EG&G Idaho, Inc. He spent 1984-1985 as an Argonne Fellow for Argonne National Laboratory in Illinois. At present, he is Distinguished Professor of Applied Mathematics and Mathematical Physics at Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA.

Mr. Carroll was born in San Francisco, CA. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley in 1952. Mr. Carroll began his career with Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) in 1952, retiring in October 1987 as Manager, Nuclear Operations Support Department.

While with PG&E, Mr. Carroll was involved with all of the company's nuclear power plants, beginning in 1957. He was a licensed reactor operator at Humboldt Bay Unit No. 3 and under a joint venture between PG&E and General Electric Company, he also served as a licensed operator at GE's Vallecitos power reactor.

During his career, Mr. Carroll held managerial positions responsible for operations, maintenance, personnel training, information management, and plant staff support functions. He served on PG&E's General Office nuclear plant safety review committee and its special task force convened to study and evaluate the Three Mile Island accident.

Other members of the ACRS are:

Dr. Ivan Catton, Professor of Engineering, Department of Mechanical, Aerospace and Nuclear Engineering, School of Engineering and Applied Science, University of California, Los Angeles, CA;

Mr. Peter R. Davis, Consultant, Idaho Falls, ID;

Dr. Thomas S. Kress, Head of Applied Systems Technology Section, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN;

Dr. Harold W. Lewis, Professor Emeritus of Physics, Department of Physics, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA;

Mr. William J. Lindblad, retired President, Portland General Electric, Portland, OR;

Mr. Carlyle Michelson, retired Principal Nuclear Engineer, Tennessee Valley Authority, Knoxville, TN, and retired Director, Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC;

Dr. Robert L. Seale, Professor of Nuclear and Energy Engineering,
Department of Nuclear and Energy Engineering, College of Engineering and Mines, University
of Arizona, Tucson, AZ;

Mr. Charles J. Wylie, retired Chief Engineer, Electrical Division, Duke Power Company,
Charlotte, NC.

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