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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
(Tuesday, June 21, 1994)

NRC NAMES DR. DANA A. POWERS  
TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has appointed Dr. Dana A. Powers, a Department Manager at Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, New Mexico, to the independent Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS).

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 special assignments as the Commission may request, such as the review of NRC research programs.

Dr. Powers was born in 1948, in Ironton, Missouri. He received his B.S. degree in chemistry from the California Institute of Technology in 1970, and his Ph.D. degree in chemistry, chemical engineering and economics in 1975 from the same institution.

Dr. Powers began his career with Sandia National Laboratories in 1974 as a staff member in the Chemistry and Metallurgy Division. He developed techniques for the hot pressing of self-propagating reaction mixtures and studied the nature of reaction ignition.

From 1981 through August 1991, he was a Division Supervisor responsible for experimental and analytic investigations of severe reactor accident phenomena on behalf of the NRC and the Department of Energy (DOE).

From August 1991 to March 1992, Dr. Powers was an Acting Department Manager responsible for conducting reactor experiments and phenomenological modeling of nuclear reactor accidents, and the development of plasma-facing components for fusion reactors.

Presently, Dr. Powers is responsible for the development of safety research programs for DOE nuclear facilities. He

is a consultant for the Chemical Reactions Subcommittee of the Tank Advisory Panel examining safety issues of radioactive wastes stored by DOE and a member of an experts group on risk acceptance criteria that is defining safety goals and limits for DOE nuclear facilities.

He was a consultant to the ACRS Subcommittee on Class 9 Accidents in the early 1970's and also served as a consultant to the President's Commission on the Accident at Three Mile Island in 1979.

From 1986 through 1991, Dr. Powers served as a consultant for a variety of boards and committees, including the International Atomic Energy Agency's International Nuclear Safety Advisory Group on the Chernobyl Accident. He was a member of the National Research Council's Committee to Assess Safety and Technical Issues at DOE reactors and the Council's Steering Committee for a workshop on chemical processes and products in severe reactor accidents, and DOE's Advisory Committee on Nuclear Facility Safety.

Dr. Powers is a member of the American Chemical Society, the American Nuclear Society and Tau Beta Pi. He has also written numerous publications.

A list of other ACRS members follows:

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

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Mr. William J. Lindblad, retired President, Portland General Electric, Portland, OR;

Mr. James C. Carroll, retired Manager, Nuclear Operations Support Department, Pacific Gas & Electric, San Francisco, CA;

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, Sheridan, WY;

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;

Dr. William J. Shack, Associate Director, Energy Technology  
Division, Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, IL;

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

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