

No. 94-69
Tel. 301/504-2240

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Wednesday, May 4, 1994)

DR. THOMAS S. KRESS BECOMES ACRS CHAIRMAN,
MR. WILLIAM J. LINDBLAD VICE-CHAIRMAN

Dr. Thomas S. Kress has succeeded Dr. J. Ernest Wilkins, Jr., as Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's independent Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards for 1994. Mr. William J. Lindblad has succeeded Dr. Kress as Vice-Chairman.

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. Kress was appointed to the ACRS on September 4, 1991. Mr. Lindblad was appointed to the ACRS in 1992.

Dr. Kress was born in Kingsport, Tennessee. He received his Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in mechanical engineering from the University of Tennessee, and earned his Ph.D. in engineering science from the same institution.

Dr. Kress has been with the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) since 1959. He has been involved in a wide range of issues including energy, space, military, and environmental research and development.

Before joining ORNL, Dr. Kress worked for three years with Pratt and Whitney Aircraft on the design of the Aircraft Nuclear Propulsion Reactor. From 1974 to 1979, Dr. Kress managed the aerosol release and transport program related to liquid metal-cooled fast breeder reactor and light-water reactor safety.

Dr. Kress managed ORNL's light water reactor severe accident programs from 1980-1989. During 1989, Dr. Kress was Manager of ORNL's Modular High Temperature Gas-Cooled Reactor fission product transport programs. Since 1989, Dr. Kress has been Head of the Applied Systems Technology Section of the Engineering Technology Division of ORNL.

Mr. Lindblad was born in Oakland, California. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from the University of California in 1951.

In 1954, following a period of service with the U.S. Navy, Mr. Lindblad joined the Pacific Gas and Electric Company as a performance and results engineer in various steam-electric generating plants in Northern California. In 1956, he moved into the Company's Engineering Department and began his association with the development and design of nuclear power plants by representing the company in a consortium that was building the Dresden Nuclear Power Station in Illinois. During the next 20 years, he served in positions of increasing responsibility in the engineering of fossil-fired and nuclear-powered generating plants. In 1976, he was the engineering manager for the Company's Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant project.

Mr. Lindblad was elected president of Portland General Electric Company (PGE) in 1980. His responsibilities included executive direction of engineering for the utility and of the operation of its power plants, which included the Trojan Nuclear Power Plant. He retired from PGE in 1991.

Other members of the ACRS are:

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.