

January 14, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO: John T. Larkins, Executive Director
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards

FROM: John C. Hoyle, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - MEETING WITH ADVISORY
COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS (ACRS), 9:30
A.M., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1996,
COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE WHITE
FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN TO
PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the ACRS on the following topics:

1. Digital Instrumentation and Control Systems
2. Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) Plan for Upgrading Thermal-Hydraulic Codes
3. Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Regulation and Related Matters
4. Potential Use of IPE/IPEEE Results to Compare the Risk of the Current Population of Plans with the Safety Goals
5. Use of Safety Goals on a Plant-Specific Basis
6. Use of RuleNet in the Regulatory Process.

ACRS should continue to be forward-looking to bring developing concerns to the Commission's attention and continue follow up on issues such as digital I&C and use of Safety Goals for regulatory purposes. In this regard, the Commission would be interested in the ACRS views on the relationship between the concept of "adequate protection," as used in the NRC regulations, and the NRC safety goals, from the standpoint of levels of risk.

On the issue of I&C design process and acceptable product performance, the staff was asked to reduce the use of standards referenced and to consider how a process and product specific QA could track requirements and ensure the acceptability criteria is pertinent and sufficient.

cc: Chairman Jackson
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
OGC
OCA
OIG
Office Directors, Regions, ACRS, ACNW, ASLBP (via E-Mail)
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