

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

November 26, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR: Carlyle Michelson, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards

FROM: John C. Hoyle, Acting Secretary

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - PERIODIC MEETING WITH
THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
(ACRS), 2:00 P.M., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8,
1990, COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM, ONE
WHITE FLINT NORTH, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (OPEN
TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE)

The Commission was briefed by the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) on the following issues:

- o Essentially complete design
- o Decoupling siting and source term
- o Resolution of Generic Safety Issue B-56, diesel generator reliability
- o Containment design criteria for future plants
- o Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance

The ACRS was represented by the following individuals:

Carlyle Michelson, Chairman
Harold W. Lewis
David A. Ward
James C. Carroll
Chester P. Siess
William Kerr
Paul G. Shewmon
Ivan Catton
J. Ernest Wilkins, Jr.

The issue of level of design detail required for certification of a standardized design was discussed, with particular emphasis given to the fact that different levels of detail were appropriate for different systems, and that whatever is required for safety evaluation must be provided. SECY-90-377 was issued on 11/8/90 and the ACRS committed to respond to the staff's

recommendation in December. The Commission asked that the Committee comment on (1) what information in an application for

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design certification should be codified in a manner that cannot be changed without an amendment or exemption and (2) what process should be used for changing the design below that level of detail, keeping in mind the objective of encouraging standardization.

(ACRS) (SECY Suspense: 12/14/90)

Commissioner Curtiss commented that the Committee's effort in formulating containment design criteria for future plants could become a critical path item for the passive plants and encouraged the Committee to keep this in mind in determining their schedule for completing this initiative.

The ACRS requested that it be informed of the Commission's resolution of issues in cases where the staff advises the Commission of a disagreement between it and the ACRS. The Commission agreed to indicate its position on the disagreement through its normal decision making process, such as Staff Requirements Memoranda or letters to the ACRS. In the specific case discussed at the briefing, Resolution of Generic Safety Issue B-56, "Diesel Generator Reliability" (SECY-90-340), the paper was converted to a Notation Vote paper on October 31, 1990 and the Commission decision will be documented in a Staff Requirements Memorandum upon completion of the voting process.

cc: Chairman Carr
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Curtiss
Commissioner Remick
EDO
OGC
GPA
PDR - Advance
DCS - P1-2