

May 8, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: Gary M. Holahan, Director
Division of Systems Safety and Analysis
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Michael E. Mayfield, Director
Division of Engineering Technology
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

Farouk Eltawila, Director
Division of Systems Analysis and Regulatory Effectiveness
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

John T. Greeves, Director
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

Michael F. Weber, Director
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

Donald A. Cool, Director
Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

E. William Brach, Director
Spent Fuel Project Office
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

John T. Linehan, Director
Program Management, Policy Development and Analysis Staff
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

FROM: Thomas L. King, Director /RA/
Division of Risk Analysis and Applications
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT RESEARCH PLAN:
FISCAL YEARS 2001-2002

Attached is our final draft report documenting the overall RES fire risk assessment research program (i.e., ongoing and planned work). The plan describes ongoing initiatives to ensure that the risk due to fires in nuclear power plants is well characterized and understood. In particular, it describes a number of activities intended to improve fire PRAs and support use of their

results in such activities as development of a risk-informed, performance-based alternative to the current fire protection regulations in 10 CFR 50.48; the revised reactor oversight program; and the review of fire-related risk-informed applications. This work is considered as anticipatory research; with one exception, it is not the subject of user need requests.

This final draft version of the plan takes into account the comments we received in response to our memorandum dated November 22, 2000, to the divisions and other groups in RES, NRR, and NMSS that are concerned with the risk from fires. We very much appreciate your comments, and invite you to contact us if you would like to know how specific comments were taken into account in this final version. This final draft version also reflects comments made in the ACRS' March 22, 2001 letter on reactor safety research regarding fire protection research being carried out by RES.

RES intends to publish the final version of this material as a NUREG report in the near future. In the interim, the attached final draft is al 3. EPRI, "Fire PRA Implementation Guide," TR-105928, December 1995 so available to the public thru the ADAMS system at accession number ML011150101.

CONTACT: H. Woods, PRAB/DRAA/RES
301-415-6622

Attachment: as stated

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NAME	HWoods*		NSiu*		MCunningham*		TKing			
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RBarrett

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CLiu

JHannon

PBaranowski

NChokshi

HWoods

Steven Nowlen

SNL

Mail Stop 0748

P.O. Box 5800

Albuquerque, NM 87185-0748

Dr. Remy Bertrand

IPSN

CEA B.P.6

92265 Fontenay-Aux-Roses

Cedex, FRANCE

Dr. Marina Roewekamp

Gesellschaft fur Anlagen und

Reaktorsicherheit

Schwertnergasse 1

D-50667 Koln

GERMANY

Reino Virolainen

STUK

P.O. Box 14

FIN-00881 Helsinki

FINLAND

Hiroko Tezuka

International Atomic Energy Agency

Wagramer Strasse 5, P.O. Box 100

A-1400 Vienna

AUSTRIA

Mamoru Fukuda

Institute of Nuclear Safety

Nuclear Power Engineering Corporation

Fujita Kanko Toranomon Building, 7F

17-3, 3-Chome Toranomon

Minato-Ku, Tokyo 105

JAPAN

Dr. Tsu-Mu Kao

Institute of Nuclear Energy Research

ROCAEC

1000 Wenhua Road, Chiaan Village,

Lungtan

Taoyuan, Taiwan, 325 Republic of China

Robert Kassawara

Electric Power Research Institute

3412 Hillview Ave.

Pala Alto, CA 94303

Fred Emerson

Nuclear Energy Institute

Suite 400

1776 I Street, NW

Washington, DC 20006-3708

Dr. David Evans, Chief
Fire Safety Engineering Division (864)
National Institute of Standards and
Technology
Building 224, Room A249, Stop 8642
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8642

Jason D. Averill
Fire Safety Engineering Division (864)
National Institute of Standards and
Technology
Building 224, Room A247, Stop 8642
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8642

Professor A. Mosleh
Dept. of Materials and Nuclear Engineering
Rm. 2100AH, Marie Mount Hall
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742-2115

Dr. Frederick W. Mowrer
Dept. of Fire Protection Engineering
Rm. 0151, Engineering Classroom Building
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742-3031

Bijan Najafi
Data Systems & Solutions, LLC
12100 Sunset Hills Road
Reston, VA 20190

David Johnson
PLG Co.
4590 MacArthur Blvd., Suite 400
Newport Beach, CA 92660-2027

Peter Rew c/o Cliff Naylor
WS Atkins Inc.
Suite 263-E Expo Mart
105 Mall Boulevard
Monroeville PA 15146

Dennis C. Bley
Buttonwood Consulting, Inc.
11738 English Mill Ct.
Oakton, VA 22124-2253

Dr. Anthony Hamins
Mail Stop 8653
National Institute of Standards and
Technology
100 Bureau Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8653

Dr. Kevin McGrattan
Mail Stop 8653
National Institute of Standards and
Technology
100 Bureau Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8653

Dr. Walter Jones
Mail Stop 8653
National Institute of Standards and
Technology
100 Bureau Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8653

Barry Kaufer
Nuclear Safety Division
OECD Nuclear Energy Agency
Le Seine Saint Germain - Bât. B
12, boulevard des Iles
92130 Issy-les-Moulineaux; FRANCE