02/24/59

Return to Mr. Beck

John R. Horan, Director, Health and Safety Div.
Idaho Operations Office

Clifford K. Beck, Chief
Hazards Evaluation Branch, Washington, D. C.

CRITERIA FOR REACTOR OPERATIONS

The criterion suggested in the last paragraph of your February 10 memorandum is consistent with the general approach we utilize in evaluating the adequacy of safety in the design of proposed reactor facilities. It appears reasonable for the purpose you describe. It should be noted, however, that neither 25 rem nor any other exposure level has been designated as permissible emergency dose. The medical and biological people would be the ones to consult if such a definition were to be considered.

HKB:DLR HLR

Beck:cse H.L.PRICE

2/24/59 2/ /59

A/40

FROM:

John A Horan
Idaho OO

TO:

Clifford Beck

CLASSIF.: U

POST OFFICE

REG. NO:

DESCRIPTION: (Must Be Unclassified)

CRITERIA FOR REACTOR OPERATIONS

ENCLOSURES:

REMARKS:

Reply made 2/25/59

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DATE RECEIVED: 2/13/59

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REPLY NECESSARY ☐
NO REPLY NECESSARY ☐

DATE ANSWERED: 2/18/59

BY: CCB

REFERRED TO	DATE	RECEIVED BY	DATE
~~Dr. Beck~~	2/13		
Tabled Criteria & Standards			

U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

C-733 2019

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Clifford K. Beck, Chief
Hazards Evaluation Branch, AEC, Headquarters

DATE: February 10, 1959

FROM : John R. Horan, Director, Health and Safety Div.
Idaho Operations Office

SUBJECT: CRITERIA FOR REACTOR OPERATIONS

SYMBOL: HS:JRH

During HTRE-II operations at the ANP area, the operating contractor placed a prohibitive restriction on his operations as the result of a misinterpretation of an IDO standard. It has been the IDO philosophy that off-site exposure be minimized and that the ICRP recommendations would not be exceeded during routine operations. The contractor interpreted this to mean that calculations of dosages greater than 500 mrem to a portion of the off-site populace, due to "the maximum credible accident", would not permit operation. This basically eliminated all operations under inversion conditions.

To alleviate this situation, we have recommended that the criteria for reactor operations be based on the following: Reactor operations will be permitted if calculations based on the maximum credible accident, as defined in the hazard report, indicate an emergency dose of less than 25 rem to the critical organ at the NRTS boundary or the nearest downwind facility on the NRTS.

Your comments on the above approach would be appreciated.

CC: G. Victor Beard, Chief
Health ProtectiondBranch, DBM, Washington

To Horan —

The criterion suggested in the last ¶ of your Feb 10 memorandum is consistent with the general approach we utilize in adequacy of safety in the design of reactor facilities. It appears reasonable for the purpose you describe. It should be noted, however, that 25 rem (normally the upper limit) has been designated as a permissable emergency dose. The medical and biological people would be the ones to consult if such a definition were to be considered.

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