

JUL 8 1960

Dr. Leslie Silverman, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Silverman:

I have discussed with staff members your letter of May 26, 1960, which was in response to my letter to you of May 20, 1960, regarding the need to have certain calculations performed to assist the ACRS to check out certain tentative safety criteria on reactor designs and sites.

I am advised that in your Environmental Subcommittee meeting of April 8, 1960, the ACRS and Dr. Beck exchanged informal, rough draft outlines of tentative site criteria and, as you state, Dr. Beck followed this up on May 7, with additional, more detailed material on his proposed criteria. According to the subcommittee request accompanying the draft copy which was furnished to him, Dr. Beck understood that the tentative draft proposal given to him by the subcommittee was for his information only, not for distribution or for discussion even within the Commission.

I am also advised that the ACRS may have given further thought to site criteria since the rough draft was handed to Dr. Beck but, as you know, nothing has been transmitted by the ACRS to the Commission.

Calculations and revisions are proceeding on the criteria being developed by the staff in anticipation that the Commission will wish to adopt rules covering reactor site criteria ^{as soon as possible.} ~~in the near future.~~ If the ACRS has comments and suggestions on these draft criteria or has alternate suggestions of site criteria, including calculations which should be made, we would be pleased to have them.

Sincerely yours,

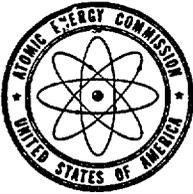
SIGNED, A. R. LUEDECKE

General Manager

(Ltr. retyped in Off. of AGMR&S 7/6/60)

c.c.: GM
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UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Dr. Leslie Silverman
Chairman, Advisory Committee on
Reactor Safeguards
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Silverman:

I have discussed with staff members your letter of May 26, 1960, which was in response to my letter to you of May 20, 1960, regarding the need to have certain calculations performed to assist the ACRS to check out certain tentative safety criteria on reactor designs and sites.

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I am also advised that the ACRS may have given further thought to site criteria since the rough draft was handed to Dr. Beck but, as you know, nothing has been transmitted by the ACRS to the Commission.

Calculations and revisions are proceeding on the criteria being developed by the staff. If the ACRS has comments and suggestions on these draft criteria or has alternate suggestions of site criteria, including calculations which should be made, we would be pleased to have them.

Sincerely yours,

General Manager

in anticipation that the Commission will wish to adopt rules covering reactor site criteria in the near future.

Dr. Leslie Silverman
 Chairman, Advisory Committee on
 Reactor Safeguards
 U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
 Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Silverman:

I have discussed with staff members your letter of May 26, 1960, which was in response to my letter to you of May 20, 1960, regarding the need to have certain calculations performed to assist the ACES to check out certain tentative safety criteria on reactor designs and sites.

I am advised that in your Environmental Subcommittee meeting of April 8, 1960, the ACES and Dr. Beck exchanged informal, rough draft outlines of tentative site criteria and, as you state, Dr. Beck followed this up on May 7, with additional, more detailed material on his proposed criteria. According to the subcommittee request accompanying the draft copy which was furnished to him, Dr. Beck understood that the tentative draft proposal given to him by the subcommittee was for his information only, not for distribution or for discussion even within the Commission.

I am also advised that the ACES may have given further thought to site criteria since the rough draft was handed to Dr. Beck but, as you know, nothing has been transmitted by the ACES to the Commission.

Calculations and revisions are proceeding on the criteria being developed by the staff. If the ACES has comments and suggestions on these draft criteria or has alternate suggestions of site criteria, including calculations which should be made, we would be pleased to have them.

Sincerely yours,

General Manager

OFFICE ▶	HEB:DL&R	DL&R	AGMRS	AGMA	DGM	
SURNAME ▶	CKBeck:vm	HLPride	Finan			
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OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

To: Dwight Ink

On your question re the attached, following testimony given by Silverman during the indemnity hearings before the Joint Committee and with reference to certain statements which he made, the General Manager in a letter to Silverman indicated that Finan would be responsible for the questions of administrative and support problems of the ACRS and that he was available to discuss such matters with Silverman. The letter went on to call Silverman on statements which he made on their progress in developing site criteria, requesting that a preliminary draft of their work be provided the Commission. The attached is in response to the May 20 letter. It is clear that Finan has responsibility for the administrative-support problem area. Licensing and Regulation has the responsibility for the site criteria matter. I confirmed the latter with Harold Price, giving him a copy of Silverman's letter at the same time.


Sherman B. Boivin

6/3/60

Attachment:
Ltr. Silverman to
GM

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

May 26, 1960

Mr. A. R. Luedecke
General Manager
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Luedecke:

This is in reply to your letter of May 20, 1960. I shall be glad to discuss administrative and support problems of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards with Mr. Finan as soon as a meeting can be arranged. I am planning to be in Washington June 1 and am suggesting to Mr. Finan that we meet then.

In regard to the site criteria project, the Environmental Subcommittee and the ACRS as a whole have been considering the problem for over a year. At an Environmental Subcommittee meeting on April 8, 1960, the latest draft of preliminary criteria for sites for certain types of reactors was discussed. Dr. C. K. Beck was present during the afternoon session, heard the discussion and was given a copy of the rough draft.

At the last meeting of the ACRS May 5-7, 1960 Dr. C. K. Beck furnished the Committee with a draft of site criteria as proposed by the Hazards Evaluation Branch, together with the table showing how certain existing reactors compared using these criteria. There was some discussion of the HEB criteria and the Environmental Subcommittee criteria at the ACRS meeting. There are considerable similarities in the approaches for the proposed criteria but also certain differences.

From your letter it may be inferred that manpower is available to study various aspects of these criteria and make whatever calculations are necessary. There is sufficient basic understanding by members of HEB and the ACRS to guide such studies now. If a working group could be formed the project could be started immediately. The computations

Mr. A. R. Luedecke

- 2 -

5/26/60

required are comparisons of various sites on the basis of meteorology, radioactivity releases and actual population distributions. Consideration would also be given to ground water supply and use, stream flows and their use, highways and roads where these factors are applicable. The ACRS will cooperate fully.

The Environmental Subcommittee is planning a meeting within the next two weeks to consider site criteria in further detail. Their recommendations will be referred to the full Committee and should be available soon thereafter. However, a study group does not need to wait for these actions.

The ACRS believes that general site criteria might be possible at this time. However, it realizes the difficulty of arriving at any rigid quantitative criteria. Although there are several seemingly promising approaches the Committee is unwilling to recommend criteria until sufficient study, including some comparative computed values, has been given to establish that they provide adequate protection for the health and safety of the public.

Sincerely yours,

Leslie Silverman

Leslie Silverman *by JBS*
Chairman

cc: W. F. Finan/OGM

APR 20 1960

Dr. Leslie Silverman, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
United States Atomic Energy Commission
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Silverman:

In the course of the testimony presented by the ACRS during the recent industry hearings held by the AEA, you and Dr. McCullough mentioned several matters involving the administration and other support of the ACRS. I am asking Mr. Flinn to discuss these matters with you at some convenient time in the near future.

One item came up, however, which is of such importance that I wish to communicate with you about it immediately. Dr. McCullough stated that the Committee has made real progress in developing some site criteria and there remains the need for these to be checked in the light of actual reactor designs and sites. He stated that manpower had not been available to perform this checking.

The Committee would like to have the benefit of the Committee's views on this matter as soon as possible even though the criteria may require further refinement by the Committee. In addition, we do not want further work held up, as was stated to be the situation, because we have not had an opportunity to make arrangements to have the calculations performed.

It is desired, therefore, that the Committee provide the Commission with a preliminary draft of the criteria that have been developed, including a description of the computational work needed so that this can be done as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

(NOTE: Ltr. retyped
5/13/60 in OFF. of
ACR/S) *General Manager*

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(see context)

reference on file

attached follow

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General Manager