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**ATOMIC INDUSTRIAL FORUM MEETING FOR DISCUSSION OF THE NOTICE OF PROPOSED  
RULE MAKING REGARDING FACTORS CONSIDERED IN SITE EVALUATION FOR POWER  
AND TEST REACTORS**

The purpose of the meeting, which was held at the AIF offices in New York City on June 30, 1959, was for exchange of ideas between the nuclear industry and the AEC in order to provide a better understanding by the nuclear industry of the rationale behind the Notice of Proposed Rule Making and, in addition, to provide the AEC with an insight to the thinking of industry on the subject. Representatives of AEC, U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Weather Bureau participated in the meeting which was attended by representatives of the power industry, reactor manufacturers, and engineering design firms. Dr. McCullough and I attended.

The following points summarize the discussion:

1. I emphasized that publication of the Notice was intended only as a first step in development of a rational approach to the site selection problem; that AEC is aware of the danger of adopting prematurely definitive requirements on site selection, but is also aware of the need for criteria on this important subject. Such criteria need not be expressed in a regulation but possibly could be issued in the form of a statement of philosophy on the subject.
2. I mentioned that a detailed list of information required for site evaluation and the timing for submittal of this information is presently being developed. With development of criteria covering the other facets of reactor safety, which is also presently under way, it is hoped that a policy statement covering all aspects of the safety problem can be formulated.
3. Dr. McCullough stated that the ACRS is concerned primarily with "other than normal" reactor operations and the impact on the health and safety of the public if an accident should occur. Economics is not included in the ACRS "Charter;" however, in its evaluation of a project it realistically cannot ignore the economic problem. The need for a factor of safety of perhaps 10 to 100 better than other industries is indicated because of the limited experience in the nuclear industry to date.

4.	He also stated that the ACRS is considering an approach to the				
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problem of rating sites on the basis of total damage which might result from an accident and which might suggest the degree of "engineered in" protection required for a site.

5. For economic reasons, chiefly related to fuel handling and smoke control, utilities view nuclear power as a promising possibility for location in large centers of population and they feel that this is precluded by the proposed statement of considerations in the Notice. A process heat reactor for industry also would be precluded.
6. Industry feels that "absolute safety" is being required of the nuclear industry which economically is unreasonable to attain.
7. The industry representatives were almost unanimous in the view that incorporation into the Commission's regulations of definitive criteria on siting would be quite premature at this time.
8. A statement of philosophy by the Commission on the interrelated factors of reactor siting, engineering design characteristics and hazard analysis is desired by the industry.

The Forum group adopted resolutions on the following points:

1. That it is not now timely for the AEC to issue any firm and definitive rule governing site selection.
2. To support and encourage the Division of Licensing and Regulation in preparing a more detailed list of information needed in applications for construction permits and operating licenses that the listing now contained in AEC regulations, together with the time at which each type of information should be submitted.
3. To support symposia dealing with various aspects of site selection and hazard analysis. The papers should be presented under such auspices as to permit free expression of views to reflect advances in the related technologies.
4. Encourage the AEC to prepare and issue a paper setting forth its philosophy regarding the interrelated factors of reactor siting, engineering design characteristics of nuclear power plants and hazard analysis.
5. Encourage the ACES in its approach to evaluation of reactor accidents and to make available its studies on the subject because it might provide a basis for rating the relative hazard status of a particular reactor project or suggest other means for classifying or rating the relative safety of projects.

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