

AUG 3 1961

Mr. F. R. Farmer
Head of Research Safety Division
Health and Safety Branch
United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority
Risley, England

Dear Mr. Farmer:

Thank you for your letter of July 18 and the most interesting enclosed report by Mr. Edwards which arrived a few days ago. I am clearing my desk in anticipation of being away for three weeks and have not had time to read the report in detail. Members of the staff will study this in the interim and I will reply more fully when I return.

Your suggestion that some of the pertinent developments in technical matters relating to reactor safety be discussed between us on an informal correspondence basis is an interesting one. I believe this is a timely suggestion and would be of considerable benefit to both of us. We will be pleased to comment on the document you have sent us as a beginning point.

By now you have probably received my letter regarding the IBO-IAEA Conference on reactor siting. This is tentatively scheduled for late October, and I understand the Agency staff is moving along well on the development of plans.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Clifford K. Beck
Assistant Director for
Facilities Licensing
Division of Licensing and
Regulation

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UNITED KINGDOM ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY,

AUTHORITY HEALTH AND SAFETY BRANCH,
RISLEY,
WARRINGTON,
LANCS.

18th July, 1961.

Dear Clifford Beck,

I would like to foster an exchange between us on technical matters of common interest. Whilst there are already formal lines for exchange between the A.E.C. and the A.E.A. on specific topics, there are a number of matters peculiar to safety which could more reasonably be dealt with directly between the two of us. I have met one such point recently in our study of accidents to high pressure water reactors. Although in much of our work we are concerned with gas-cooled systems, we also have to exercise some judgement on water reactors as, for example, the DREADNOUGHT and a similar prototype under construction at Dounreay.

My staff have been concerned with the derivation of the maximum pressure in a containment space following a failure of the high pressure system. They have read published American reports which have come our way and also any relevant articles in "Nuclear Safety". Their present conclusions have been written down in a memorandum which I enclose, A.H.S.B. (S) M.45. I should be very grateful to you if you could arrange for this memo to be studied. You may find that there is additional information which you could point out to us or you may find some error in the derivation of our conclusions. In any event, I would be very happy to have your comment.

I have heard recently that there is some possibility of the Agency discussing reactor siting in October. I believe this is connected with the I.S.O. work which you are sponsoring. I would hope that our position will be a little more developed by that time and I would be very pleased to meet you and join in the discussions.

Yours sincerely,

F. R. Farmer
F. R. Farmer.

Dr. Clifford K. Beck,
Assistant Director for Facilities Licensing,
Division of Licensing and Regulation,
U.S.A.E.C.,
Washington 25, D.C.,
U.S.A.