

July 20, 2004

Dr. Mario V. Bonaca, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: DIGITAL INSTRUMENTATION AND CONTROLS RESEARCH PROGRAM

Dear Dr. Bonaca:

Thank you for your letter, dated June 9, 2004, in which you communicated the perspectives of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS or the Committee) and an individual ACRS member's comment concerning research activities conducted by the staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, as they relate to risk assessment of digital instrumentation and control (I&C) systems. We appreciate the Committee's support of the Digital I&C Research Program and our goals for developing more quantitative measures of digital system reliability.

The staff values continued interaction with the ACRS on our Digital I&C Research Program and expects to discuss our progress in developing more quantitative measures of digital system reliability in future interactions with the ACRS.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Luis A. Reyes
Executive Director
for Operations

cc: Chairman Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan, Jr.
Commissioner Merrifield
SECY

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