



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
WASHINGTON, DC 20555 - 0001

ACRSR-2239

March 22, 2007

Luis A. Reyes
Executive Director for Operations
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REVISION TO STANDARD REVIEW PLAN SECTION 15.9, "BWR STABILITY"

Dear Mr. Reyes:

During the 540th meeting of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, March 8-9, 2007, we reviewed the proposed new NUREG-0800, Standard Review Plan (SRP), Section 15.9, "BWR Stability." Our Subcommittee on Thermal-Hydraulic Phenomena previously reviewed this matter on February 28, 2007. During these reviews, we had the benefit of discussions with representatives of the NRC staff and the document referenced.

This is a new SRP Section that includes the guidance previously covered in SRP Section 4.4, "Thermal-hydraulic Design." The objectives of this new Section are to provide guidance to reviewers on reactor stability issues and to ensure compliance with the requirements in General Design Criteria 10, "Reactor Design," and 12 "Suppression of Reactor Power Oscillations." It applies to both new and existing plants. The SRP Section provides guidance on generic stability problems and acceptance criteria for detection and suppression systems. The focus is on dealing with density wave oscillations, but the reviewers are also expected to ensure that other types of oscillations will be suppressed or are not possible. The staff agreed to address all comments made by the members during the Subcommittee and Full Committee Meetings. The SRP Section 15.9 should be issued.

Sincerely,

/RA/

William J. Shack
Chairman

Reference:

1. Memorandum from Thomas O. Martin, Director, Division of Systems Safety, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, to Frank Gillespie, Executive Director, ACRS, "Transmittal of Proposed Revision to Standard Review Plan NUREG-0800 Section 15., Rev. 0, "BWR Stability", February 27, 2007, ML0632410318

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