



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

November 14, 2008

Mr. R. W. Borchardt
Executive Director for Operations
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: WHITE PAPER ON "HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES AND INSIGHTS ON
REACTOR CONSEQUENCE ANALYSES"

Dear Mr. Borchardt:

In a June 26, 2008, Staff Requirements Memorandum, resulting from the June 5, 2008, meeting with the ACRS, the Commission directed the staff to "continue working to address Committee concerns, such as with SOARCA [State-Of-the-Art Reactor Consequence Analyses], ... and, as necessary and appropriate, provide timely policy decision papers to the Commission to resolve any disagreements."

To support our continued dialogue with the staff on SOARCA, we asked Dr. Hossein Nourbakhsh, ACRS Senior Technical Advisor, to prepare the enclosed white paper. This paper provides an overview of previous major studies of reactor consequences and concludes it is feasible to develop a simplified approach for updating results from earlier Level-3 PRAs such as NUREG-1150 for comparison with aspects of SOARCA results.

We look forward to continue our discussions with the staff on SOARCA.

Dr. Dana Powers did not participate in the Committee's deliberations regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

William J. Shack
Chairman

Enclosure:
Historical Perspectives and Insights on Reactor Consequence Analyses

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OFFICE	ACRS	SUNSI Review	ACRS	ACRS	ACRS
NAME	H. Nourbakhsh	H. Nourbakhsh	A. Dias/C. Santos	E. Hackett	E. Hackett for W. Shack
DATE	11/14/08	11/14/08	11/14/08	11/14/08	11/14/08

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