

October 25, 2010

Said Abdel-Khalik, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: CLOSURE OPTIONS FOR GENERIC SAFETY ISSUE 191, "ASSESSMENT OF
DEBRIS ACCUMULATION ON PRESSURIZED-WATER REACTOR SUMP
PERFORMANCE"

Dear Dr. Abdel-Khalik:

Thank you for your letter of September 17, 2010, in which the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) reviewed and commented on SECY-10-0113, "Closure Options for Generic Safety Issue – 191 (GSI-191), Assessment of Debris Accumulation on Pressurized Water Reactor Sump Performance." As you pointed out in the letter, the staff and ACRS have discussed the many technical aspects of GSI-191 over a period of years. The staff appreciates these interactions and continues to benefit from the ACRS review of the staff's work.

The staff is pleased to learn that the ACRS concurs with the staff's assessment of the current status and options for closure of GSI-191, including the decision to continue to treat sump screen head loss and in-vessel effects as two aspects of a single safety issue. The staff will give careful consideration to the ACRS recommendation to specify an explicit schedule should Option 2 be adopted.

The staff looks forward to continued interactions with ACRS concerning the resolution of GSI-191 and thanks the Committee for its efforts during the present review.

Sincerely,

/RA by Martin J. Virgilio for/

R. W. Borchardt
Executive Director
for Operations

cc: Chairman Jaczko
Commissioner Svinicki
Commissioner Apostolakis
Commissioner Magwood
Commissioner Ostendorff
SECY

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