

March 27, 2011

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

SUBJECT: SECY-11-0014, "USE OF CONTAINMENT ACCIDENT PRESSURE IN
ANALYZING EMERGENCY CORE COOLING SYSTEM AND
CONTAINMENT HEAT REMOVAL SYSTEM PUMP PERFORMANCE IN
POSTULATED ACCIDENTS"

Dear Dr. Abdel-Khalik

Thank you for your letter of February 17, 2011, to Chairman Jaczko.

During the 580th meeting of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), the staff discussed with the committee Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) SECY-11-0014, "Use of Containment Accident Pressure in Analyzing Emergency Core Cooling System and Containment Heat Removal System Pump Performance in Postulated Accidents." The purpose of SECY-11-0014 is to request direction from the Commission in resolving issues that arose from continuing discussions between the staff and the ACRS on the topic referenced in the title.

Your letter was a clear statement of disagreement in approach between the staff and the ACRS on this topic. The staff has adopted several ACRS suggestions including a quantitative accounting of uncertainties and a generic risk analysis for a boiling water reactor with a Mark I containment. The staff values ACRS's views and suggestions and, following Commission direction as provided in SRM SECY-11-0014, looks forward to further discussions on both generic and plant-specific aspects of this issue.

Sincerely,

/RA by Martin 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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***Concurrence via email**

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DATE	03/17/11	03/17/11	03/17/11	03/18/11	03/23/11	03/27/11

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