

March 21, 2012

Dr. J. Sam Armijo, Chairman  
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

SUBJECT: DISPOSITION OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR  
SAFEGUARDS' REVIEW OF DRAFT 10 CFR 50.54(f) LETTER ON  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEAR-TERM TASK FORCE  
RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FUKUSHIMA DAI-ICHI EVENT

Dear Dr. Armijo:

The purpose of this letter is to provide the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) with the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff's (NRC or the staff) review and evaluation of the recommendation from the ACRS letter dated February 15, 2012. In this letter, the ACRS recommended that the guidance for the performance of a seismic margin analysis should cite Part 5 of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers/American Nuclear Society Standard RA-Sa-2009, as endorsed by Interim Staff Guidance DC/COL-ISG-020, "Interim Staff Guidance on Implementation of a Probabilistic Risk Assessment-Based Seismic Margin Analysis for New Reactors."

The staff carefully reviewed the ACRS's letter and briefed the Steering Committee on the associated recommendation. The Steering Committee determined that the cited guidance associated with the technical scope of the requested evaluations of seismic risk included in the Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 50.54(f) letter prepared by the staff was appropriate, such that the 10 CFR 50.54(f) letter did not need to be revised. The 10 CFR 50.54(f) letter was submitted to the Commission for information on February 17, 2012, and was issued on March 12, 2012.

The staff appreciates the comments and recommendations provided by ACRS. The staff is currently working with stakeholders on developing implementation guidance for the orders and 10 CFR 50.54(f) letter, and looks forward to continuing to work with the ACRS in the future.

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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