

July 31, 2012

Dr. J. Sam Armijo, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

SUBJECT: STATE-OF-THE-ART REACTOR CONSEQUENCE ANALYSES (SOARCA)
PROJECT

Dear Dr. Armijo:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, I am responding to your letter dated May 15, 2012, providing the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) summary conclusions and recommendations regarding the State-of-the-Art Reactor Consequences Analyses (SOARCA) project. The staff's responses to the ACRS's six summary comments are contained in the enclosure. The staff has incorporated your feedback into the SOARCA reports as indicated.

I agree that the SOARCA work is a major step forward in severe accident analysis and supplements the Agency's body of knowledge. The tools and methods developed for SOARCA will be applied to other agency activities such as the Site Level 3 Probabilistic Risk Assessment and activities supporting the Fukushima lessons learned.

I appreciate your comments and look forward to continued interactions with the ACRS.

Sincerely,

/RA by Michael F. Weber for/

R. W. Borchardt
Executive Director for Operations

Enclosure:
As stated

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

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