



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION I

2100 RENAISSANCE BOULEVARD, SUITE 100
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-2713

February 11, 2014

Bruce Skud, Co-Founder
No More Fukushima
14 Olive Street
Newburyport, MA

Dear Mr. Skud:

I am responding to your January 17, 2014, email which requested that I remove James Trapp from any duties related to the Seabrook Station and that a statement made at the December 18, 2013, public meeting related to the impact of alkali-silica reaction be clarified.

The request related to Mr. Trapp was based on a statement made during a meeting with the NRC's Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), that you believe was meant to portray public advocacy groups in a negative light. Your letter indicates that you are aware that this issue has been referred to the NRC's Inspector General and that you don't agree with this course of action. However, we treat allegations or assertions of improper conduct by NRC Officials very seriously, and are obliged to refer such issues to the NRC's Inspector General, the group that is designated to investigate concerns of this nature.

I have worked closely with Mr. Trapp for over twenty years, and have always found him to have the highest standards of professional and ethical behavior. I am aware that Mr. Trapp has engaged in numerous conversations with public interest groups both at public meetings and on the telephone, and do not believe that he would reference any statement that was not made personally to him. Further, I have frequently observed Mr. Trapp speaking positively and respectfully about public interest groups and believe that he would not make any statement meant to intentionally malign or harm any group or individual. I have full confidence in Mr. Trapp's performance; therefore, he will continue to lead our oversight activities of concrete degradation at Seabrook Station. I have discussed this issue with Mr. Bill Dean, our Regional Administrator, and he concurs with my decision.

The second issue in your letter sought clarification regarding a perceived inconsistency between a statement made during a meeting with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, and a statement made by an inspector at the December 18, 2013, public meeting. There was no inconsistency between the two statements. Specifically, the inspector's statement referred to the fact that there was no observable or visible bowing of any concrete walls at Seabrook Station, whereas the statement at the ACRS meeting was referring to a postulated mechanism where concrete expansion associated with the alkali-silica reaction could introduce stress to the reinforcing bar and lead to microscopic deformation or bowing. This effect would not be visibly observable to an inspector but, if present, could be detected with sophisticated testing as planned to be conducted at the University of Texas.

I reviewed the remainder of your letter and did not identify any new information that would affect our assessment of the concrete at Seabrook Station and its current safe operation. You can be assured that we would have no hesitation to require any action or remedy, including a plant shutdown, if we were to conclude that any licensed facility was not being operated and maintained in a safe manner.

If you have additional questions or concerns that you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact me at (610) 337-5128 or Mr. Mel Gray of my staff at (610) 337-5209.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Raymond K. Lorson, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

I reviewed the remainder of your letter and did not identify any new information that would affect our assessment of the concrete at Seabrook Station and its current safe operation. You can be assured that we would have no hesitation to require any action or remedy, including a plant shutdown, if we were to conclude that any licensed facility was not being operated and maintained in a safe manner.

If you have additional questions or concerns that you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact me at (610) 337-5128 or Mr. Mel Gray of my staff at (610) 337-5209.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Raymond K. Lorson, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Distribution: via email
R. Lorson, DRS

SUNSI Review Complete: RKL (Reviewers Initials)

DOCUMENT NAME: P:\Letter to Mr Bruce Skud.docx

After declaring this document An Official Agency Record it **will be / will not be** released to the Public.

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: **ML14042A515**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review kah		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Publicly Available	
OFFICE	RI/DRS				
NAME	RLorson/RKL				
DATE	02/11/2014				

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY