



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20555 - 0001**

September 9, 2014

MEMORANDUM TO: Mark A. Satorius  
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Edwin M. Hackett, Executive Director /RA/  
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards

SUBJECT: ACRS REVIEW OF INTERIM STAFF GUIDANCE

During the 617<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), September 4-6, 2014, the Committee discussed its role regarding the review of interim staff guidance (ISG). The scope of ACRS review responsibilities includes regulatory guidance documents with safety or risk significance such as regulatory guides, branch technical positions, standard review plans, and interim staff guidance. The Committee has noted the staff issuance of ISGs in which the ACRS was not given an opportunity to provide a timely review. This includes both draft ISGs issued for public comment and final ISGs issued for use. This results in staff consideration of comments from industry but not the ACRS.

The memorandum of understanding between the OEDO and the Executive Director for the ACRS states that:

When a proposed regulatory action is to be published for public comment, the ACRS may review the matter both before and after public comment, as appropriate for the particular case. There may be circumstances when the ACRS will defer its review of a specific matter until after public comments have been received and addressed by the staff. The NRC staff should plan for this in its scheduling.

The staff and ACRS have established an effective process for informing the Committee of new or revised regulatory guides and allowing the Committee to identify those guides it wishes to review prior to issuance. The Committee requests your assistance in developing and implementing a similar process for ISGs throughout the agency.

## REFERENCES

1. Memorandum of Understanding Between the Office of the Executive Director for Operations and Executive Director for the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, dated October 28, 2009, (ML091970400)
2. ACRS Memorandum, Subject: Procedure for ACRS Review of Regulatory Guides, dated August 10, 2011 (ML11216A100)

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OFFICE	ACRS	SUNSI Review	ACRS	
NAME	QNguyen	QNguyen	EMHackett	
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