



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

April 28, 2016

The Honorable Stephen G. Burns
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

SUBJECT: REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF THE NRC SAFETY RESEARCH PROGRAM

Dear Chairman Burns:

During the 633rd meeting of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, April 7-9, 2016, we completed our review and evaluation of the safety research sponsored by the NRC. Enclosed is an advance copy of the 2016 ACRS report entitled, "Review and Evaluation of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Safety Research Program." The final report will be issued as NUREG-1635, Vol. 12.

This report presents our observations and recommendations concerning the NRC Safety Research Program being carried out by the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES). In our evaluation of the NRC research activities, we considered the programmatic justification for the research as well as the technical approaches and progress of the work. The evaluation identifies research crucial to the NRC mission.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Dennis C. Bley
Chairman

Enclosure:
As stated

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