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The Honorable Lando W. Zech, Jr.  
Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Chairman Zech:

SUBJECT: REPORT ON NUREG-1150, "REACTOR RISK REFERENCE DOCUMENT"

During the 340th meeting of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safe-  
guards, August 11-13, 1988, we discussed the staff's plan for the  
development of the final version of NUREG-1150, "Reactor Risk Reference  
Document," with Mr. V. Stello, Jr., Executive Director for Operations,  
and members of his staff. We also had the benefit of the documents  
referenced.

In our July 20, 1988 letter to you on the Integration Plan for Closure  
of Severe Accident Issues, we stated, "We believe that subjecting the  
final version of NUREG-1150 to a thorough peer review is required as  
part of the process of establishing credibility."

Reviews by a number of individuals and groups were highly critical of  
the original draft of NUREG-1150. In view of the extensive modifica-  
tions that have been made in response to this criticism, the current  
version must be regarded as a new document. Also, since this document  
is intended to play a substantial role in the implementation of the  
Commission's severe accident policy, its quality and credibility are  
very important.

We recommend that before publication in final form, the final version of  
NUREG-1150 be subjected to a thorough peer review.

Sincerely,

W. Kerr  
Chairman

References:

1. Memorandum dated August 10, 1988 from V. Stello (EDO) to R. Fraley (ACRS), "Plans for Review of Final NUREG-1150"
2. SECY-88-147, Memorandum dated May 25, 1988, for the Commissioners from V. Stello, Executive Director for Operations, Subject: Integration Plan for Closure of Severe Accident Issues
3. Brookhaven National Laboratory Report, NUREG/CR-5000, "Methodology for Uncertainty Estimation in NUREG-1150 (Draft): Conclusions of a Review Panel," H. Kouts et.al., December 1987
4. Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Report, NUREG/CR-5113, "Findings of the Peer Review Panel on the Draft Reactor Risk Reference Document, NUREG-1150," W. Kastenberg et.al., May 1988
5. American Nuclear Society, "Initial Report of the Special Committee on Reactor Risk Reference Document (NUREG-1150)," L. LeSage et.al., Draft Report dated April 1988

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