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

Dear Mr. Zech:

SUBJECT: ACRS COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT COMMISSION POLICY STATEMENT ON
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

During its 315th meeting, July 10-12, 1986, the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards reviewed the Draft Commission Policy Statement on Technical Specifications transmitted to us by a memorandum from William T. Russell, NRR, dated June 30, 1986. This matter was also discussed during a meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Plant Operating Procedures on July 1, 1986.

In our view, the intent of the proposed statement is appropriate. We agree that the technical specification requirements and NRC practices have resulted in a large number of detailed technical specifications that, in some cases, place an unnecessary burden on licensees and plant operators. Furthermore, we welcome the effort made to clarify the scope and purpose of technical specifications and commend the NRC Staff on its work with the Atomic Industrial Forum in developing a set of criteria for screening items for inclusion in revised technical specifications.

We recommend that the Commission issue the Draft Commission Policy Statement for public comment. We would like to meet with the NRC Staff again on this issue after comments by the public have been received and taken into consideration.

Sincerely,

David A. Ward
Chairman

Reference:

Federal Register Notice for "Draft Commission Policy Statement on Technical Specification Improvement," Draft 2, transmitted by memorandum from William T. Russell, NRR, to Carlyle Michelson, ACRS, dated June 30, 1986.

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