



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

MEMORANDUM FOR: Commissioner Ahearne

THRU: Lee V. Gossick (Signed) Lee V. Gossick
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: ACRS LETTER: STUDIES TO IMPROVE REACTOR SAFETY
(August 14, 1979)

This is a further response to your memo dated September 6, 1979 requesting information concerning the staff response to the August 14, 1979 ACRS letter on safety studies.

Of the 12 recommendations in the ACRS letter, numbers 5, 6, 8, 9 and 12 are directly addressed by specific recommendations in the final report of the Lessons Learned Task Force (NUREG-0585).

Number 7 can and should be addressed in the licensing process revision which is likely to follow from recommendations by the President's Commission. The other studies recommended by the ACRS are system interaction, system interface, system reliability or accident evaluation type studies. Studies of this sort (a) are being required by bulletins and orders, (b) will soon be proposed by the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research as part of the Integrated Reliability Evaluation Program (IREP) and (c) were included as one of the long term recommendations of the NRR Lessons Learned Task Force. A plan to coordinate all of these separate elements is required and is being developed within NRR and in cooperation with other offices. Completion of such a plan will follow our review of the report of the President's Commission, and will more completely answer the question posed in your memo.

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: Chairman Hendrie
Commissioner Gilinsky
Commissioner Kennedy
Commissioner Bradford
Raymond Fraley, ACRS
Saul Levine, RES
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