



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

NOV 7 1979

Mr. Robert Hall
Brookhaven National Laboratory
Long Island, New York 11973

Dear Mr. Hall:

RE: EVALUATION OF NUTECH'S IN-SITU TEST METHOD

By letter dated October 3, 1979, the Yankee Atomic Electric Company submitted copies of NUTECH's test report, "Smoke Simulation Prototype Test Conducted at Yankee Rowe," dated October 3, 1979, and requested that we review this test, its results and methodology and then decide if it meets the in-situ test criteria specified in Section 4.2, Yankee Rowe's Fire Protection Safety Evaluation Report (SER).

During the week of October 7, 1979, we provided copies of this report to J. Boccio, J. Klevan, I. Asp, and requested their evaluation, at least two weeks, prior to a meeting with NUTECH, Yankee Rowe, and other sponsoring utilities then scheduled for November 5, 1979. By letter dated October 17, 1979, J. Boccio provided his evaluation, however no evaluations were received from I. Asp and J. Klevan. J. Boccio's evaluation indicated that NUTECH test method was a viable one, however to fully meet NRC requirements for smoke detector siting, further research would be required. The research required was not specified.

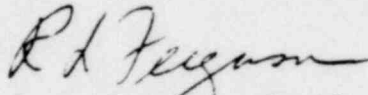
To prepare for the pending November 5 meeting, the staff met on October 29, 1979, to discuss NUTECH test report and Mr. Boccio's letter. It was decided at that time, to cancel the November 5 meeting, and request BNL to prepare a report which clearly and completely specified our evaluation of NUTECH's test method. This report would form the basis for a future meeting with NUTECH and the concerned utilities.

Accordingly, we request that an evaluation of NUTECH test method be prepared by J. Boccio with I. Asp, J. Klevan, and I. Pinkel, and submitted to the staff as soon as possible but no later than December 3, 1979. This evaluation should be in a letter report form and should, as a minimum:

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1. Represent the composite and unified positions and evaluations of J. Boccio, I. Asp, J. Klevan, and I. Pinkel.
2. State whether or not this prototype method satisfies our criteria for in-situ testing, as specified in Section 4.2 of Yankee Rowe's Fire Protection SER and provide the technical basis for your decision.
3. If NUTECH method is acceptable, recommend how and where this method may be used most effectively to satisfy the in-situ test criteria.
4. If additional work (research, analysis, etc.) is required to make NUTECH method acceptable, clearly specify the important details of such work.



R. L. Ferguson, Section Leader C
Plant Systems Branch
Division of Operating Reactors

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