

LPDR



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

DEC 18 1979

Mr. Charles Childs, Director
Program Assurance
Office of the Engineer
Code DP-4
NASA Headquarters
Washington, D.C. 20546

Dear Mr. Childs:

Recent events in the commercial nuclear power industry including the accident at the Three Mile Island Facility have raised a number of questions regarding the adequacy of NRC requirements for protection of the public health and safety. One of these questions concerns the adequacy of the quality assurance requirements applied to the activities involved in the design, construction, and operation of nuclear power plants. This question has caused us to reassess the quality assurance requirements that NRC imposes on the nuclear power industry to determine the need for additional controls and clarification for existing controls. As part of this reassessment, we are strongly interested in examining and comparing the specific philosophy and requirements that form the basis of the quality assurance programs for other Federal agencies, and their contractors, such as DOD (Navy, Army, and Air Force), DOE, FAA, and NASA.

To this end, we would very much appreciate your making available to us the first and second tier documents that describe the overall philosophy and requirements for your quality assurance program. We would also like to arrange a meeting with you or your designee in the very near future to discuss your approach to QA, to obtain these documents, and to further discuss our needs.

We plan to be in touch with you shortly to make mutually acceptable arrangements for our proposed meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Walter P. Haass".

Walter P. Haass, Chief
Quality Assurance Branch
Division of Project Management

7912310243