



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
WASHINGTON, DC 20555 - 0001**

September 25, 2019

Ms. Margaret M. Doane
Executive Director for Operations
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: PROPOSED FOCUS AREA REVIEW APPROACH OF THE ADVANCED SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT WITH NO OPEN ITEMS FOR THE DESIGN CERTIFICATION APPLICATION OF THE NUSCALE SMALL MODULAR REACTOR

Dear Ms. Doane:

During the 666th meeting of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, September 4-6, 2019, the Committee adopted a recommendation to conduct a focus area approach to review the advanced safety evaluation report (SER) with no open items associated with the NuScale design certification application (DCA) review. The Committee has completed its review of the SER with open items (Phase 3) and is anticipating receipt of the staff's advanced SER with no open items (Phase 4) on December 12, 2019, with the objective of completing our review (Phase 5) by June 23, 2020.

To meet these objectives, we propose to have our chapter leads conduct a completeness review of the advanced SER chapters. However, unless the review of an individual chapter warrants a subcommittee meeting, we would focus our attention on potentially safety-significant issues that are cross-cutting over multiple DCA chapters, as documented in our letter reports during Phase 3. The currently identified areas of focus include:

- Emergency Core Cooling System and Valve Performance;
- Helical Tube Steam Generator Design;
- Boron Dilution and Return to Criticality;
- Source Term; and
- Probabilistic Risk Assessment.

We recognize that this is a departure from past reviews of design certification applications; however, we see considerable merit in this approach in assuring a more complete, in-depth

review of matters that are inherently cross-cutting regarding integrated system safety performance. We request your support and the cooperation of the staff in planning and implementing this approach for the new calendar year.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Peter C. Riccardella
Chairman

REFERENCE

1. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Review Schedule for the NuScale Power, LLC, Standard Design Certification of a Small Modular Reactor," May 22, 2017 (ML17103A380).

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