



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

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JUL 1 1980

Mr. Byron Lee, Jr., Chairman
AIF Policy Committee on Nuclear Regulation
Atomic Industrial Forum, Inc.
7101 Wisconsin Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20014

Dear Mr. Lee:

Thank you for your letter of June 12, 1980 to Chairman Ahearne expressing the concern of your committee regarding the NRC staff's approach to resolution of the Anticipated Transients Without Scram (ATWS) issue.

As you have requested, the comments of the AIF Committee on Reactor Licensing and Safety and other public comments we have received on NUREG-0460, Volume 4, will be taken into account when the Commission considers this issue.

The NRC staff is presently preparing for Commission consideration a proposal to initiate a rulemaking proceeding to resolve the ATWS issue. The staff paper to the Commission will include the staff's analysis of comments received in response to our Federal Register notice inviting public comments on NUREG-0460. We will send copies of that analysis to all commenters when the staff paper is made publicly available.

Regarding your request to address the Commission on the same day as the staff's presentation on ATWS, the Commission believes that because ATWS is a complex subject, a full discussion of this matter may require several Commission sessions. Moreover, the Commission has received other requests for an opportunity to make a presentation. In view of these circumstances, the Commission has decided to devote the first session on ATWS to the NRC staff, and to hear from other interested persons at later sessions. Of course, you will receive timely notification of scheduled sessions on ATWS and of the time allotted for your participation.

Sincerely,

(Signed) William J. Dircks

William J. Dircks, Acting Executive
Director for Operations

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