

UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

SEP 13 1971

Mr. H. Dopchie, Directeur
Association Vincotte
1640 Rhode-Saint-Genese
Belgium

221

Dear Mr. Dopchie:

This letter acknowledges receipt of your letters dated April 27 and June 25, 1971, concerning a loss-of-coolant accident for a Westinghouse PWR type reactor.

As you may know, the adequacy of emergency core cooling systems has been under stringent review by our staff for some months now. This continuing effort has demanded the concentrated attention of much of our staff and has precluded an early reply to your inquiries.

As I understand it, the accident which concerns you is a loss-of-coolant accident originating in the vapor portion of the pressurizer for a PWR type reactor while the containment is open. Although we are familiar with this type of reactor plant, we are hesitant to comment in any detail on this accident because of the possibility of some unique and different features of the containment in comparison to containments utilized in this country. An evaluation based on U.S. containments could possibly be misleading to both you and the owners of these plants. Additional information, such as size and volume of the containments, purging rates, high pressure set point and high radioactivity set point, would be required to provide a meaningful evaluation.

The concepts of redundancy and diversity form the basis of our protection for this type of sequential events accident. In this case containment pressure provides a diverse signal to the coincident pressurizer pressure-level signal for safety injection. The high activity signal in the containment provides a diverse signal in relation to the containment pressure signal. This degree of redundancy and diversity has been judged to be sufficient so that a supplementary signal to the high containment activity signal is not required.

8001100903

A

H. Dopchie

If you should wish a more detailed evaluation of the postulated accident, please forward the indicated information with respect to your specific containment design. This would permit a more complete evaluation of your system.

We are always glad to be of assistance to you and your programs.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
Stephen H. Hanauer

for

Clifford K. Beck
Deputy Director of Regulation

DISTRIBUTION:
PWR-4 Reading
R. C. DeYoung
P. A. Morris
C. K. Beck
C. Hale
H. J. Faulkner
General Files
DR-3360
DR-3537 ✓
H.L. Price

POOR ORIGINAL

DRS
E.G. Case
9/3/71

OFFICE ▶	DRL:PWR-4	DRL:PWR-4	DRL:AD/PWRs	DRL:DIR	DBIB:DR
SURNAME ▶	HF Faulkner: eag	ASchwencer	RCDeYoung	PAMorris	CKBeck
DATE ▶	8/19/71	8/17/71	9/3/71	9/7/71	9/9/71