



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

8006090227

April 15, 1980

Honorable John F. Ahearne
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

SUBJECT: BABCOCK AND WILCOX NUCLEAR PLANTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Dear Dr. Ahearne:

During its 240th meeting, April 10-12, 1980, the ACRS reviewed Mr. H. Denton's proposal, conveyed in his memorandum of January 22, 1980, not to halt construction of nuclear plants currently under construction which use Babcock & Wilcox nuclear steam supply systems. The plants in question are Consumers Power Company's Midland Units 1 and 2, Tennessee Valley Authority's Bellefonte Units 1 and 2, and Washington Public Power Supply System's (WPPSS) WNP Units 1 and 4. The ACRS had the benefit of discussions with the NRC Staff, and representatives of the Babcock and Wilcox Company and the Utilities. A subcommittee reviewed this matter on April 8, 1980.

In view of information supplied by the utilities on the status of construction, design improvements already undertaken, and the commitment of WPPSS to make further studies, the ACRS agrees that it is not necessary to halt construction of these plants. The ACRS understands that the possibility of imposing additional requirements will not be precluded by the decision to continue construction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Milton S. Plesset".

Milton S. Plesset
Chairman

Reference:

Memorandum, H. Denton to Commissioners, "Determination Whether B&W Designed Plants Presently Under Construction Be Allowed to Continue," January 22, 1980.