



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

July 8, 1980

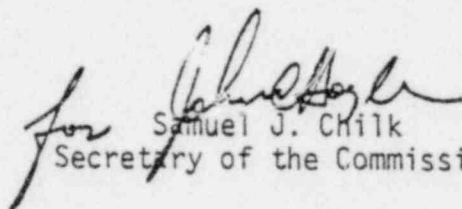
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

Mr. Glenn G. Sherwood, Manager
Safety and Licensing Operation
General Electric Company
175 Curtner Avenue
San Jose, California 95125

Dear Mr. Sherwood:

This is in response to your letter of May 21, 1980 requesting an opportunity to participate in the forthcoming Commission discussion of the NRC staff paper regarding Anticipated Transients Without Scram (ATWS). Because ATWS is a complex subject, the Commission believes that 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,


for Samuel J. Chilk
Secretary of the Commission

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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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Atomic Industrial Forum, Inc.
7101 Wisconsin Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20014
Telephone: (301) 654-9260
Cable: Atomforum Washington



June 12, 1980

The Honorable John Ahearne
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Chairman Ahearne:

The AIF Policy Committee on Nuclear Regulation, which I chair, reviewed the current status of the Anticipated Transient Without Scram (ATWS) issue at its June 5, 1980 meeting. We have deep concern with the direction in which the Staff is proceeding.

In this regard, we call to your attention the enclosed May 27, 1980 letter from D. Clark Gibbs, Chairman of the AIF Committee on Reactor Licensing and Safety, to Harold Denton. We endorse the reasons for its disagreement with the proposed resolution of the ATWS issue contained in Volume 4 of NUREG-0460.

We request that you take the enclosed comments directly into account in your consideration of this issue. We also request that you urge the Staff to respond to these comments and to the May 20, 1980 comments submitted by the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI).

Finally, we request the opportunity to make a presentation before you on the day the Staff brings this issue to you for consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Byron Lee Jr.".

Byron Lee, Jr., Chairman
AIF Policy Committee on Nuclear
Regulation

BL:lgc

cc: Commissioner Hendrie
Commissioner Bradford
Commissioner Kennedy
Commissioner Gilinsky

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