

NRC STAFF RESPONSE TO NRDC FIRST SET OF
CP INTERROGATORIES AND REQUEST TO PRODUCE

Interrogatory 1

Does the Staff believe a CDA, or core meltdown, at CRBR is more likely, less likely or of comparable probability to a CDA, or core meltdown in an LWR? Please explain fully the basis for the Staff's answer.

Response

The Staff believes that the probability of a CDA or core meltdown in the CRBR is no greater than the probability of a CDA or core meltdown in an LWR. The basis for this conclusion appears in Section 15 and Appendix A of the CRBR Safety Evaluation Report ("SER"), NUREG-0968. Documents relied on are referenced in the SER.

Interrogatory 2

Does the Staff believe the consequences of a core meltdown in CRBR are less, greater, or comparable to the consequences of a core meltdown in an LWR? Please explain fully the basis for the Staff's answer.

Response

The Staff believes the consequences of a core meltdown in CRBR are comparable to the consequences of core meltdown in an LWR. The Staff bases this judgment on the SER and FES. The SER is the composite discussion of the bases of this judgment. The FES Supplement No. 1, NUREG-0139 (October 1982), Vol. 2, Appendix J gives a qualitative comparison between CRBR and some LWRs.

Interrogatory 3

Does the Staff define "CDA" anywhere in its CP review or in the SER in a manner different from the definition in the footnote on p. A.1-1 of the SER? If so, please explain.