



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

SL-0397

PDR 9/25/92

September 14, 1992

The Honorable Ivan Selin
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Chairman Selin:

SUBJECT: SUMMARY REPORT - THREE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHTH MEETING
OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS, AUGUST
6-8, 1992, AND OTHER RELATED ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE

During its 388th meeting, August 6-8, 1992, the Advisory Committee
on Reactor Safeguards discussed several matters and completed the
Reports and Memoranda as noted.

REPORTS

The following reports were sent to you:

- Elimination of Requirements Marginal to Safety (Report dated August 11, 1992)
- Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria Program for the GE ABWR Design (Report dated August 12, 1992)
- Proposed Policy Statement on Conversion to the Metric System (Report dated August 14, 1992)
- Electric Power Research Institute Advanced Light Water Reactor Utility Requirements Document -- Volume II, Evolutionary Plants (Report dated August 18, 1992)
- Severe Accident Research Program Plan (Report dated August 18, 1992)

The following reports were sent to Mr. James M. Taylor, Executive Director for Operations:

- ACRS Plan for Reviewing the Application for Certification of the GE Advanced Boiling Water Reactor Design (Report dated August 12, 1992)

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- Supplement 1 to Generic Letter 83-28, "Required Actions Based on Generic Implications of Salem ATWS Events" (Report dated August 14, 1992)
- Proposed Revision 3 to Regulatory Guide 1.101, "Emergency Planning and Preparedness for Nuclear Power Reactors" (Report dated August 14, 1992)
- Proposed Resolution of Generic Safety Issue 106, "Piping and the Use of Highly Combustible Gases in Vital Areas" (Report dated August 14, 1992)
- Proposed Resolution of Generic Issue 151, "Reliability of ATWS Recirculation Pump Trip in Boiling Water Reactors" (Report dated August 14, 1992)
- Issues Pertaining to Evolutionary and Passive Light Water Reactors and their Relationship to Current Regulatory Requirements (Report dated August 17, 1992)
- Proposed Regulatory Guide and Interim Standard Review Plan for License Renewal and a Related Branch Technical Position on Fatigue Evaluation Procedures (Report dated August 17, 1992)

MEMORANDA

- SECY-92-237, "Status Report on the Staff's Efforts to Prioritize and Schedule Generic Communications in Light of Ongoing Regulatory Activities" (Memorandum for James M. Taylor, Executive Director for Operations, from Raymond F. Fraley, Executive Director of the ACRS, dated August 12, 1992)
- Proposed Rulemaking to Amend 10 CFR 50.54, "Receipt of Byproduct and Special Nuclear Material" (Memorandum for Robert M. Bernero, Director of Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, from Raymond F. Fraley, Executive Director of the ACRS, dated August 14, 1992)
- Proposed Resolution of Generic Issue 73, "Detached Thermal Sleeves" (Memorandum for Eric S. Beckjord, Director of Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, from Raymond F. Fraley, Executive Director of the ACRS, dated August 12, 1992)

HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ISSUES CONSIDERED BY THE COMMITTEE

1. Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC)

Representatives of the staff and General Electric Nuclear Energy (GE) continued their discussions with the Committee on use of ITAAC as part of the certification process for the GE ABWR.

The Committee provided a report to you on this matter as noted above.

2. Supplement to Generic Letter 83-28, Required Actions Based on Generic Implications of Salem ATWS Events

Representatives of the staff summarized the background leading up to the preparation of the proposed supplement to the generic letter.

Mr. Charles Morris, NRR, discussed his Differing Professional Opinion on this matter.

The Committee provided a report on this matter to the Executive Director for Operations as noted above.

3. Emergency Planning and Preparedness

Representatives of the NRC staff briefed the Committee on the background of the proposed final version of Revision 3 of Regulatory Guide 1.1-1, endorsing an alternative emergency action level (EAL) scheme to Appendix 1 of NUREG-0654 and the important aspects of the NUMARC guidelines.

A representative from NUMARC noted that NUMARC is planning a workshop on this topic on September 22-23, 1992.

The Committee provided a report on this matter to the Executive Director for Operations as noted above.

4. EPRI Requirements for Evolutionary Light Water Reactors

Representatives of the NRC staff and EPRI briefed the Committee on the EPRI Requirements Document, Volume II for Evolutionary Plants, and the staff's Final Safety Evaluation Report.

The Committee provided a report to you on this matter as noted above.

5. Regulatory Requirements Marginal to Safety

Representatives of the staff and NUMARC briefed the Committee on their plans to eliminate requirements marginal to safety.

The Committee provided a report on this matter to you as noted above.

6. Session with NRC Chairman

Dr. Kerr participated in his final meeting as a member of the Committee and received a letter from the Commission thanking him for his many years of service as an ACRS member.

7. ACRS Subcommittee Activities

The following reports from the chairmen of cognizant subcommittees were discussed:

Planning and Procedures Subcommittee Meeting on July 8, 1992

Recommendations resulting from the July 8, 1992 Planning and Procedures Subcommittee meeting were discussed and endorsed as appropriate.

Planning and Procedures Subcommittee Meeting on August 5, 1992

Recommendations from the August 5, 1992 Planning and Procedures Subcommittee meeting were discussed and endorsed as appropriate.

Computers in Nuclear Power Plant Operations Meeting on June 16, 1992

Dr. Lewis provided a report on the June 16, 1992 meeting of the Subcommittee on Computers in Nuclear Power Plant Operations.

8. Reconciliation of ACRS Comments and Recommendations

Nine responses by the Executive Director for Operations to previous ACRS reports were discussed. The Committee will await further developments with regard to several of the responses before deciding whether to take any future action.

9. Subcommittee Meetings

During the period between the July 9-11 and the August 6-8, 1992 ACRS meetings, the following Subcommittee meetings were held:

- Improved Light Water Reactors, July 27, 1992

The Subcommittee continued its review of the NRC staff's Final Safety Evaluation Report related to the Electric Power Research Institute's (EPRI's) requirements document for evolutionary light water reactors.

- Control and Electrical Power Systems, August 4, 1992

The Subcommittee reviewed proposed Supplement 1 to Generic Letter 83-28, "Required Actions Based on Generic Implications of Salem ATWS Events," and the associated Differ Professional Opinion filed by Charles Morris, NRC Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR).

- Decay Heat Removal Systems/Advanced Boiling Water Reactors, August 5, 1992

The Subcommittees discussed Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC) for selected systems related to the General Electric Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR).

- Flanning and Procedures, August 5, 1992

The Subcommittee discussed proposed ACRS activities and related matters. Qualifications of candidates nominated for appointment to the ACRS were also discussed.

10. Anticipated ACRS Activities

The Committee agreed to discuss the following during its 389th meeting, September 10-12, 1992:

- A. Meeting with Director, NRC Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) - Briefing by and discussion with the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, regarding items of current interest, including the basis for NRR staff action regarding the FitzPatrick nuclear plant individual plant examination (IPE), scheduling and conduct of team inspections taking into account findings of the NRC Regulatory Impact Survey, the NRC staff's planned use of PRA in the formulation and implementation of the maintenance rule, and the policy implications of the NRC staff decision on use of Bayesian statistical methodology in evaluation of the Watts Bar nuclear plant quality assurance records.
- B. Evaluation of Shutdown and Low-Power Operations Risk Issues - Review and report on NRC staff evaluation of nuclear power plant risk during shutdown and low-power operations. Representatives of the nuclear industry will participate as appropriate.

- C. Regulatory Impact on Nuclear Power Plant Safety - Briefing by and discussion with Nuclear Management and Resources Council (NUMARC) representatives regarding the impact of regulatory activities on the safety of nuclear power plant operations.
- D. Meeting with NRC Commissioners - Meeting with NRC Commissioners to discuss matters of mutual interest, including the status of ACRS reviews on advanced reactor designs, use of design acceptance criteria (DAC) and inspections, tests, analyses and acceptance criteria (ITAAC) in the certification process, and Safety Goal Policy implementation.
- E. GE Nuclear Energy's Generic Power Uprate Program/Enrico Fermi Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 2 Proposed Power Increase - Review and comment on GE Nuclear Energy's generic program in support of power level increases for GE BWRs and on the request for a power level increase for this nuclear plant. Representatives of the NRC staff, GE Nuclear Energy, and the licensee will participate as appropriate.
- F. Policy Issues for Certification of Evolutionary and Passive LWR Nuclear Plants - Review and report on policy issues identified by the NRC staff which are applicable to the certification of evolutionary and passive LWR nuclear power plants. Representatives of the NRC staff and the nuclear industry will participate as appropriate.
- G. Implementation of the NRC Safety Goal Policy - Discuss the ACRS plan of action to use the NRC safety goal policy in determining where unnecessary regulations exist.

Sincerely,



David A. Ward
Chairman