

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

November 19, 1984

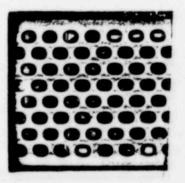
NOTE TO: Jack Heltemes, Director, AEOD FROM: T. A. Rehm, Assistant for Operations, EDO SUBJECT: "NTSB" STUDY

I note two issues which you might consider relevant:

- In evaluating assignment of the Board as reporting directly to the Commission, there is no discussion of the span of control of that body (11 offices without interviewing management).
- 2. In several places (e.g., p. 170, Paragraph e) the assignment of "investigators" is suggested. I assume they mean technical people with training in technical evaluations. Since the term "investigator" is loaded, they may wish to clarify.

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T. A. Rehm Assistant for Operations, EDO



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November 19, 1984

- MEMORANDUM FOR: Raymond Fraley, Executive Director Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
- FROM: C. J. Heltemes, Jr., Director Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data

11.9

SUBJECT: STUDY OF THE NEED FOR AN INDEPENDENT AGENCY TO INVESTIGATE INCIDENTS AT NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

In the recent NRC Appropriations Act, Congress required that the NRC conduct a study, to be submitted to the Congress, of the need for and feasibility of an independent organization responsible for conducting investigations of significant safety events, including significant operational incidents, at facilities licensed by the Commission. Subsequently, responsibility for the study was assigned to AEOD. We contracted with the Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) to conduct the study.

BNL has completed a draft report (enclosed) of the results of this study. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide you with a copy of the report for your information. The report is currently being reviewed by the staff with regard to its completeness and technical accuracy. Based on this review, changes may be made by BNL in the report if the underlying information is in error. A copy of the final BNL report that is forwarded to the Commission will be forwarded to you for review and comment.

We are placing a copy of this draft report in the Public Document Room. Please call me or Fred Hebdon (x24480) if you have any questions concerning this matter.

> Original Signed by C. J. Heltemes, Jr.

C. J. Heltemes, Jr., Director Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data

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