



ACRS R-1197

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

June 9, 1986

Honorable Nunzio J. Palladino
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Dr. Palladino:

SUBJECT: ACRS RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATION

In its report to you of December 18, 1984 on the operating license application for the Hope Creek Generating Station, the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards made the following comments:

- 1) "Because of the nonoptimum orientation of the turbine relative to vital components in this plant, we recommend that a structured test program for evaluating overspeed protection of the turbine be prepared and submitted to the NRC Staff for review and approval before full power operation."
- 2) "Although the control room at the Hope Creek Generating Station has been reviewed with respect to human factors, we encourage the NRC Staff to give additional attention to its habitability requirements. This should include evaluations of the potential loss of both trains of the emergency ventilation system and the heat load and rate of temperature rise in the room under a range of HVAC conditions."

Appendix H to Supplement No. 5 of the Hope Creek Generating Station Safety Evaluation Report includes the NRC Staff's response to both of these concerns.

With respect to the first, the Staff notes that the Applicant plans a loss-of-load test at 100 percent power which meets the requirements of Regulatory Guide 1.68, and observes that the requirements of GDC 4 are met. They also note, however, that the "test program proposed by the applicant does not actually test the trip setting of the mechanical and backup electrical overspeed trips, nor does it show that the trip setpoints (110% and 112% of rated speed for mechanical and backup electrical overspeed, respectively) are set to limit the turbine overspeed to 120% of rated speed (design overspeed)."

We do not consider this a basis for a conclusion that the turbine overspeed protection at Hope Creek is adequate, and suggest that the Staff be asked to provide justification based on safety considerations, prior to Commission approval of full power operation.

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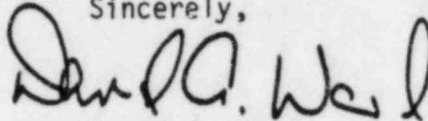
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The Committee's concerns about control room habitability in the event of loss of ventilation were addressed by an analysis. Although the Staff has concluded that a loss-of-ventilation and loss-of-cooling test would be necessary to completely address those concerns, the NRC Staff has concluded that nothing more is needed as part of the operating license review but that additional test requirements or limitations resulting from resolution of Generic Issue 83, "Control Room Habitability," would result in additional plant-specific action. We find this acceptable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David A. Ward". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" being the most prominent.

David A. Ward
Chairman