



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 16, 2021

Matthew W. Sunseri, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
LETTER ON NUSCALE TOPICAL REPORT – CONTROL ROOM STAFFING
PLAN

Dear Mr. Sunseri:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff, I would like to thank you for the letter from the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS or the Committee), dated May 21, 2021 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML21139A226), regarding the ACRS review of the staff's evaluation of NuScale Topical Report, (TR)-0420-69456, Revision 1, "NuScale Control Room Staffing Plan." I appreciate the time and effort that the ACRS has devoted to this subject, as reflected in meetings held with the ACRS Subcommittee on March 16, 2021, and the Full Committee on April 8-9, 2021.

The ACRS letter included the following conclusions and recommendations:

1. The proposed staffing of a NuScale power plant of up to 12 modules by a minimum shift crew of two senior reactor operators and a single reactor operator, from a single control room, is adequate for safe operation of the plant.

Staff Response: The staff agrees with the ACRS's conclusion.

2. The staff's final safety evaluation report on the NuScale control room staffing plan topical report should be issued.

Staff Response: The staff agrees with the ACRS's recommendation.

3. Several items identified in this letter report will not be completed until an applicant takes up this topical report and references it for the purpose of seeking an exemption on staffing requirements. We look forward to reviewing license submittals that reference this topical report.

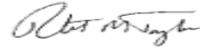
Staff Response: The staff understands that there are several items that ACRS would like to review when the topical report is used by an applicant. As explained in the staff's safety evaluation report for the topical report, a NuScale applicant may use the topical report as the technical basis for an exemption request from NRC requirements for staffing and Shift Technical Advisor training, subject to the conditions of applicability listed in Section 5.0 of the safety evaluation report. Therefore, the staff will review how a future application satisfies the conditions of applicability as part of their evaluation of the exemption request.

M. Sunseri

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The NRC staff appreciates the ACRS's review and looks forward to future interactions with the Committee.

Sincerely,



Signed by Taylor, Robert
on 06/16/21

Robert M. Taylor
Deputy Office Director for New Reactors
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No.: 99902078

cc: Chairman Hanson
Commissioner Baran
Commissioner Caputo
Commissioner Wright
SECY

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 SAFEGUARDS LETTER ON NUSCALE TOPICAL REPORT – CONTROL
 ROOM STAFFING PLAN DATED: JUNE 16, 2021

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