ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

washington 25, D. C.

May 9, 1960

Honorable John A. McCone Chairman U. S. Atomic Energy Commission Washington 25, D. C.

Subject: PLUTONIUM RECYCLE TEST REACTOR (PRTR)

Dear Mr. McCone:

At its twenty-fifth meeting on May 5-7, 1960, the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards heard a report of its PRTR Subcommittee which had conferred extensively with representatives of Hanford, Division of Reactor Development and the Hazards Evaluation Branch. It was concluded that most of the details mentioned in our letters of February 1, 1960, to you and Mr. Luedecke are being satisfactorily settled. However, the following comments seem pertinent:

- 1) Filters should be installed at the outlet of the containment ventilating system.
- 2) Experimental information on void coefficients will be developed during the critical experiment program. Efforts to avoid a positive void coefficient should not be relaxed.
- 3) The Committee is skeptical of the claimed advantages of automatic control under any other condition than constant power.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Leslie Silverman Chairman

cc: A.R.Luedecke, GM W.F.Finan, OGM H.L.Price, DL&R

Reference: HW-61236 SUP 1, 4/15/60