

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

December 13, 1960

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

Subject: POOL-TYPE REACTORS

Dear Mr. McCone:

In response to its request of November 17, 1960, the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards received a report dated December 6, 1960 from the Division of Licensing and Regulation on pool-type control rod problems.

From the information contained in this report, it is evident that in certain pool-type reactors a control rod jamming in a fuel element could withdraw the element from the core and then subsequently permit it to drop back into the core. This type of malfunction could result in a serious accident.

It is therefore the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards that, in view of the possibility of a serious accident, all operators of pool-type reactors should be notified to take special immediate action to make sure that no fuel elements can be withdrawn with control rods.

Sincerely yours,

Sgd/LESLIE SILVERMAN

Leslie Silverman
Chairman

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