



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

March 17, 1981

Honorable Joseph M. Hendrie
Chairman
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

SUBJECT: STATUS OF GENERIC ITEMS RELATING TO LIGHT-WATER REACTORS

Dear Dr. Hendrie:

Starting more than a decade ago, the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards developed a list of generic items related to light-water reactors. This grew into a list which was last reported in our letter of March 21, 1979. The work of the Staff to resolve these, as well as items from their list of generic items, has steadily become more formal, stemming more recently from the requirements of Section 210 of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 as amended.

The Committee believes the Staff's Task Action Plans for Category A generic activities and the program for selecting and resolving Unresolved Safety Issues (USIs) have now progressed to the point where it would be advantageous to abolish our separate list of generic items and work with the Staff's list. The feasibility of this plan was discussed with the Staff at a Subcommittee meeting on March 11, 1981; agreement was reached that such a change would be advantageous.

The procedures the Staff has developed for handling USIs adequately allows for ACRS input to the selection of new issues, for following progress, and for reviewing the resolution of generic items. We understand that the Staff plans to enlarge the scope of their program to prioritize their list of remaining generic items (other than USIs) and lay out programs to resolve these items as resources become available. Our own list is adequately covered by the Staff's list and our priorities closely parallel theirs.

We will no longer maintain a separate list of generic items or reference items from such a list in our reports on applications for Construction Permits or Operating Licenses. We will, from time to time, recommend additional items for the list of generic issues maintained by the Staff, and expect to review the resolutions of such issues as they are achieved

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or proposed. We will continue to advise the Commission regarding the identification and resolution of USIs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Carson Mark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "J." and last name "Mark" being more distinct than the middle name "Carson".

J. Carson Mark
Chairman

References:

1. NUREG-0606, "Unresolved Safety Issues Summary, Aqua Book," Vol. 3, No. 1, dated February 13, 1981.
2. NUREG-0649, "Task Action Plans for Unresolved Safety Issues Related to Nuclear Power Plants," dated February 1980.
3. Letter to J. Hendrie, Chairman, USNRC, from M. W. Carbon, Chairman, ACRS, Subject: Status of Generic Items Relating to Light-Water Reactors: Report No. 7, dated March 21, 1979.
4. NUREG-0371, "Task Action Plans for Generic Activities, Category A," dated November 1978.
5. NUREG-0471, "Generic Task Problem Descriptions, Category B, C, and D Tasks," dated June 1978.
6. NUREG-0410, "NRC Program for the Resolution of Generic Issues Related to Nuclear Power Plants," dated January 1, 1978.