

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

March 13, 1979

Mr. Lee V. Gossick Executive Director for Operations U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555

SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS

Dear Mr. Gossick:

During its 227th meeting, March 8-10, 1979, the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards was briefed by the NRC Staff concerning possible courses of action being considered in relation to the regulation of highway routing of radioactive materials.

The Committee wishes to observe that there are very large quantities of nonradioactive, hazardous materials shipped by highway, and that many of these materials are equally or more hazardous than spent nuclear fuel under conditions of accident or postulated sabotage. The Committee believes that regulations concerning the transportation of radioactive material by highway should be evaluated and adopted with full cognizance of the risks for nonradioactive material, and recommends that the NRC Staff assure that information concerning risks from both radioactive and nonradioactive shipments be made available to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Department of Transportation.

Maple Carlin

Max W. Carbon Chairman

cc: Joseph M. Hendrie, OCM R. Bernero, SD S. Chilk, SECY