

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

July 25, 1960

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

Subject: NASA PLUM BROOK FACILITY

Dear Mr. McCone:

At its twenty-fourth meeting the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards considered the design of this facility and, as stated in our letter of March 14, 1960, concluded that the design was acceptable for operation without in-pile experiments. At its twenty-seventh meeting, in Washington, D. C., on July 20-22, 1960, the Committee reconsidered the design of the facility in the light of recent test reactor experience and considered the proposed preliminary and normal operating procedure. The plans for in-pile experiments will be submitted later. The Committee had the benefit of the reports referenced below, a Subcommittee meeting with the NASA and AEC staff, and oral presentations by NASA and AEC staff.

The Committee is of the opinion that the modification of the supply piping and the storage tank venting of the primary coolant system, as proposed in Amendment No. 1, are desirable improvements.

While this is a testing reactor, located near Sandusky, Ohio, the Committee is of the opinion that the ability to make a delayed and controlled release of gaseous fission products, the provision of ample reserves of coolant water and the proposed step-wise approach to full power operations, will provide reasonable assurance that this reactor can be operated without undue hazard to the health and safety of the public.

Sincerely yours,

/s/  
Leslie Silverman  
Chairman

To: Honorable John A. McCone     -2-  
Subject: NASA

July 25, 1960

References:

- (1) Amendment to Application for Construction Permit CPTR-3 for NASA Plum Brook Reactor, undated, (received July 21, 1960).
- (2) Final Hazards Summary, NASA Plum Brook Reactor Facility, Supplement I, dated April 1960.
- (3) Final Hazards Summary, NASA Plum Brook Reactor Facility, Supplement II, dated June 1960.

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