

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

October 11, 1962

Honorable Glenn T. Seaborg
Chairman
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D.C.

Subject: REPORT ON BABCOCK AND WILCOX TEST REACTOR

Dear Dr. Seaborg:

At its forty-fourth meeting, October 4-6, 1962, the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards considered the application of the Babcock and Wilcox Company to construct a six-megawatt, flux trap, pool-type reactor at their Lynchburg, Virginia site. The applicant contemplates eventual additions to the reactor and a maximum power level of 12 megawatts.

By letter of May 12, 1962, the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards commented favorably on the Lynchburg site. Subsequently, Babcock and Wilcox have provided additional information covering the safety aspects of the reactor and the single test loop.

Although detailed designs are incomplete, no serious problems in the general design or proposed type of operation of the reactor have been identified. Babcock and Wilcox plan to install the reactor within a steel containment shell designed to assure that off-site exposures resulting from any credible accident will be well below established emergency limits.

The Committee concludes that the proposed reactor may be constructed with reasonable assurance that it can be operated at the Lynchburg site without undue risk to the health and safety of the public.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

F. A. Gifford, Jr.
Chairman

References attached

References:

1. BAW-183, "Preliminary Hazards Summary Report," dated July 1962.
2. Application Supplement No. 1, Babcock & Wilcox letter, dated August 14, 1962, with attachments.
3. Application Supplement No. 2, Babcock & Wilcox letter, dated September 4, 1962, with attachments.