

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

December 26, 1962

Honorable Glenn T. Seaborg  
Chairman  
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Seaborg:

On the previous occasions referenced below, the Committee has written to the Atomic Energy Commission about the problem of reviewing the health and safety aspects of the aerospace nuclear program. The Committee is particularly concerned with the implications of this program in regard to exposure of the general public to radiation hazards from such nuclear powered devices.

Aside from limited consideration of the SNAP-50 program in connection with the Lithium Cooled Reactor Experiment on which the Committee has reported, and a brief review of the SNAP program before our Reactor Safety Research Subcommittee at Idaho in August of this year, the Committee has not considered health and safety aspects of the aerospace nuclear program.

Because the aerospace program is expanding rapidly the Committee believes that a comprehensive review of the safety aspects appears to be essential. In order to avoid consideration of portions of this program at a date when any suggested change may cause substantial loss in time or money, the Committee requests that it be advised by the Commission whether or not this responsibility will be assigned to the Committee.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ F. A. Gifford, Jr.

F. A. Gifford, Jr.  
Chairman

References:

1. Letter from Dr. Gifford to Dr. Seaborg, dated May 12, 1962.
2. Letter from Dr. Silverman to Gen. Luedecke dated October 14, 1960.