

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

April 11, 1966

Honorable Glenn T. Seaborg
Chairman
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Subject: PROPOSED REGULATION ON TRANSPORT OF RADIOACTIVE
MATERIAL

Dear Dr. Seaborg:

The ACRS has been aware for some time of the activity in progress on development of regulations for shipment of spent reactor fuel and other radioactive materials.

The Committee met with Dr. C. K. Beck, Dr. J. A. McBride and other members of the Regulatory Staff to discuss the proposed regulation for transport of radioactive material. As a result of this discussion, the ACRS has transmitted several comments to Mr. H. L. Price concerning shipment of radioactive material. A copy of the Committee's letter on this subject is attached for your information.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ David Okrent

David Okrent
Chairman

Attachment:

Letter from Dr. David Okrent, Chairman, ACRS, to Mr. H. L. Price, Director of Regulation, dated April 11, 1966.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
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April 11, 1966

Mr. Harold L. Price
Director of Regulation
U. S. Atomic nergy Commission
Washington, D. C.

Subject: PROPOSED REGULATION ON TRANSPORT OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL

Dear Mr. Price:

The ACRS has been aware of the work over the past few years on new regulations for packaging and shipping radioactive and fissionable materials. A Subcommittee has reviewed the proposed 10 CFR Part 71 with members of your Staff; other members of the Committee have reviewed the proposal on an individual basis.

On April 4, 1966, the Committee met with Dr. C. K. Beck and Dr. J. A. McBride, and other members of the Regulatory Staff. It was agreed that Part 71 must continue under scrutiny after issuance, particularly with respect to spent fuel elements. Some other Committee comments are as follows:

It is recognized that certain procedures, not now practiced, but not specifically prohibited by proposed Part 71, could be undesirable or hazardous. For example, there are no specific restrictions relating to shipment of liquid radioactive materials or to the use of coolants that are themselves dangerous, or that could lead to hazards as a result of radiolytic decomposition. Also a review of the requirements might be necessary if the usual decay period before shipment of spent fuel were greatly shortened.

It was also recognized that the size of the package has an important bearing on the mode of shipment and handling. Air transportation may require special attention. Also, small packages containing high activity might require special fire standards.

The Committee attaches great importance to the program for educating local authorities in handling accidents. In a severe fire involving radioactive shipments, the health and safety of the public may well depend on prompt and appropriate action by local authorities. Such