

June 30, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO: John T. Larkins
Executive Director, ACRS/ACNW

FROM: John C. Hoyle, Secretary /s/

SUBJECT: STAFF REQUIREMENTS - COMNJD-97-003 - REEVALUATION OF THE ROLE OF THE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS (ACRS)

The Commission believes that it is important and appropriate for the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards to reexamine and reassess, on a continuing basis, its contribution to the NRC mission, and that, in this context, an examination of how the Committee operates is warranted. Accordingly, the Commission requests that the Committee reevaluate its subcommittee structure to determine the appropriate number of primary subcommittees that are needed to carry out ACRS responsibilities. In undertaking this task, the Committee should be aware that although the Commission believes that the ACRS must maintain the flexibility to create and abolish subcommittees as the need arises, the ACRS also needs to conduct systematic and periodic reviews of its subcommittee structure with the goal of reducing the number of subcommittees to as low a level as is consistent with current programmatic Committee needs.

The ACRS should also reevaluate how it interacts with other NRC advisory committees so that issues can be readily identified and communication enhanced between committees.

(ACRS)

(SECY Suspense: 9/30/97)

cc: Chairman Jackson
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
OGC
CIO
CFO
OCA
OIG