

August 4, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: Joram Hopenfeld
Engineering Research Applications Branch
Division of Engineering Technology
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

FROM: William D. Travers */RA/*
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: DIFFERING PROFESSIONAL OPINION (DPO) ON
STEAM GENERATOR TUBE INTEGRITY ISSUES

Your letter dated July 28, 2000, expresses two concerns with selection of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) as the ad hoc panel for your DPO. The concerns refer to the timeliness of the ACRS review and previous involvement of the ACRS in issues related to the DPO.

I considered timeliness and objectivity before requesting that the ACRS function as the equivalent of an ad hoc DPO panel. On timeliness, the ACRS will develop a schedule that integrates its review of the DPO with those of its other priorities. This will provide for review by the ACRS of the DPO consistent with its other duties. In selecting the ACRS as the ad hoc panel, I considered its previous involvement in and knowledge of the technical issues that concern the DPO. On balance, I believe the ACRS will provide an informed and objective evaluation of the technical issues.

cc: J. Larkins, ACRS

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cc: J. Larkins, ACRS

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