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June 11, 1985

Mr. William J. Dircks
Executive Director for Operations
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Dircks:

SUBJECT: ACRS ACTION ON PROPOSED REGULATORY GUIDE, TASK NO. IC 127-5

During its 302nd meeting, June 6-8, 1985, the ACRS concurred in the regulatory position of the proposed Regulatory Guide (Task No. IC 127-5), "Criteria for Programmable Digital Computer Systems Software in Safety-Related Systems of Nuclear Power Plants."

The statement in the last paragraph of the Discussion, to wit:

"It should also be noted that the Staff encourages the application of advanced technology, such as programmable digital computers, in the operation of nuclear power plants, where such advanced technology serves to enhance safety,"

seems to be related more to the use of digital computers than to the software itself. Although we have no objection to the inclusion of this statement in this Regulatory Guide, we think it would be more appropriate to include it in future Regulatory Guides relating more directly to the use of digital computers.

Sincerely,

David A. Ward
Chairman

Reference:

Proposed Regulatory Guide (Task No. IC 127-5), "Criteria for Programmable Digital Computer Systems Software in Safety-Related Systems of Nuclear Power Plants," dated April 8, 1985

cc: S. Chilk, SECY
J. Roe, EDO
R. Minogue, RES
C. Bartlett, RES
A. Hintze, RES

