



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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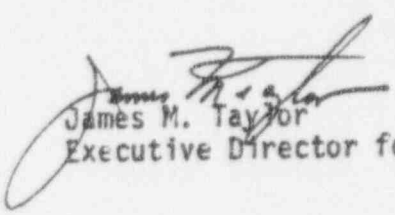
MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman Carr
Commissioner Roberts
Commissioner Rogers
Commissioner Curtiss
Commissioner Remick

FROM: James M. Taylor, Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: COMMISSION ACTION ON THE KEY LICENSING AND STANDARDIZATION
ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE DOE ADVANCED REACTOR CONCEPTS
(SECY-88-202 and SECY-88-203)

In a memorandum dated August 18, 1988, Mr. Stello requested that the Commission withhold action on the subject SECY papers until the Department of Energy (DOE) responded to an apparent inconsistency in DOE's approach to containment on two similar MHTGR designs (one for commercial electric power production presented to us for review and the other proposed as a production reactor). In a subsequent memorandum from Mr. Chilk to Mr. Stello dated November 14, 1988, the staff was instructed to revise the subject SECY papers as appropriate and resubmit them for Commission consideration after we received DOE's rationale for their differing positions on the MHTGR containment.

We received DOE's response in the enclosed letter from Mr. Young to Mr. Beckjord, dated November 28, 1989. We will review DOE's response and revise SECY-88-203 as appropriate. We will also provide a copy of DOE's response to the ACRS and ask them to review the revised paper before we send it to the Commission. After we have received the Commission's guidance, then we will finalize our SERs for the MHTGR and PRISM in accordance with Commission guidance. We will not revise SECY-88-202 because that document proposed criteria that were included in 10 CFR 52.


James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations

cc: SECY w/encl.
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GPA "
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