

ACRS # R-1150



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

August 13, 1985

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

Dear Mr. Dircks:

SUBJECT: ACRS COMMENTS ON THE SYSTEMATIC ANALYSIS OF OPERATING PLANTS
FOR SEVERE ACCIDENTS

During a meeting on August 1-2, 1985, of the ACRS Subcommittee on Class 9 Accidents, a description of a method being developed for systematic analysis of the risk from operating plants was presented. The method, being developed by IDCOR and eventually, when approved by NRR, to be used by licensees in conformance with the Severe Accident Policy Statement, does not include consideration of external accident initiators.

In view of the fact that a number of current PRAs have concluded that external initiators make a significant contribution to risk, we recommend that whatever method is applied for the systematic analysis of operating plants should treat these initiators insofar as is feasible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David A. Ward".

David A. Ward
Chairman

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