

GENERAL ELECTRIC

NUCLEAR SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY OPERATION
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September 5, 1985

cc: Raymond F. Fraley (ACRS)
William Dircks (NRC)

Mr. Harold Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: GESSAR II SEVERE ACCIDENT REVIEW

Dear Mr. Denton:

I have received a copy of your memo of August 6, 1985 on the ACRS review of the GESSAR II project.

General Electric endorses the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation letter to the ACRS. We have participated in some 13 meetings as a part of the ACRS review, and we have been advised that there will be at least three more. We recognize that the ACRS review could not have been completed much earlier because of the several SER's which have been issued over the last four to five months. However, we have reviewed the substantive issues at least once for the ACRS, and it now appears that we're being asked to discuss these issues again. Moreover, some of the discussion items include things such as relay chatter, equipment fragilities, and external events which are likely to remain open issues for some time. Therefore, such issues not only cannot be resolved on GESSAR over the next several months, but more likely will not be resolved for several more years.

We believe that General Electric has met the spirit and intent of the Staff's requirements for the severe accident review and have put substantial effort at high GE cost into the PRA, Seismic Analysis, FMEA's, and other analyses required of the review. We believe that we have demonstrated that the BWR 6 MK III design has a very low core melt frequency and similarly low offsite risk in the event of a severe accident.

In summary, we believe that the ACRS review should be completed with the September or October meeting and we will do everything possible to assist the Staff and the ACRS to complete the review.

Please call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Glenn G. Sherwood, Manager
Nuclear Safety & Licensing Operation

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