



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 21, 2020

Dr. Steven Hanna
Hanna Consultants
7 Crescent Ave.
Kennebunkport, ME 04046

SUBJECT: LETTER OF APPRECIATION

Dear Dr. Hanna,

I would like to express my appreciation for the valuable technical review that you provided on the documentation of the NRC's new atmospheric transport and dispersion (ATD) modeling capabilities of the MELCOR Accident Consequence Code System (MACCS) code.

The MACCS code is used to assess the potential consequences of severe nuclear facility accidents involving release of radioactive material into the atmosphere, and it is an important tool that the NRC uses to carry out its mission to protect people and the environment. We believe that the recent updates to allow MACCS to use ATD results from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration HYSPLIT ATD code represent a significant improvement in the capabilities of the MACCS code.

Your thorough and timely review and the valuable comments that you and the other technical reviewers provided during the technical review meetings have resulted in significant improvements to the testing and documentation of the new code capabilities. Going forward, your technical insights regarding both the existing and updated MACCS ATD capabilities will assist us as we begin to use the new capabilities.

Please feel free to reach out to Tamara Bloomer or Keith Compton of my staff should you have any questions about this effort or about any other of our activities in the area of severe accident consequence analysis. I thank you again for your valuable assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Case", written over a horizontal line.

Signed by Case, Michael
on 08/21/20

Michael Case, Director
Division of Systems Analysis
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission