



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

January 19, 2022

Dr. Joy L. Rempe, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: BIENNIAL REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF NRC SAFETY RESEARCH
PROGRAM

Dear Dr. Rempe:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff, I am responding to your letter to Chairman Hanson dated December 13, 2021 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML21327A072), providing the "Biennial Review and Evaluation of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Safety Research Program." The Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) review and evaluation provides a valued, independent perspective of the agency's research activities.

I am supportive of all the recommendations and insights provided in the report, as they help me guide the direction of the agency's research program. This includes your recommendation to transition the program review frequency to every three years.

My Office looks forward to continued interactions with the ACRS and future reviews of our research activities. Thank you for the thorough and helpful review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Raymond V. Furstenau".

Signed by Furstenau, Raymond
on 01/19/22

Raymond V. Furstenau, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

cc: Chairman Hanson
Commissioner Baran
Commissioner Wright
SECY

BIENNIAL REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF NRC SAFETY RESEARCH PROGRAM DATE January 19, 2022

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