February 18, 2015

John W. Stetkar, Chairman Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

SUBJECT: COMSECY-14-0037, "INTEGRATION OF MITIGATING STRATEGIES FOR

BEYOND-DESIGN-BASIS EXTERNAL EVENTS AND THE REEVALUATION OF

FLOODING HAZARDS"

Dear Mr. Stetkar:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am writing to thank you for your letter dated December 10, 2014 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML14342A899). You provided the views of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) on the NRC staff memorandum COMSECY-14-0037, "Integration of Mitigating Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events and the Reevaluation of Flooding Hazards" (ADAMS Accession No. ML14238A616). The ACRS meetings and letter included meaningful discussions of alternatives for prudent short-term actions and possible longer-term assessments. Your letter will provide valuable insights to the Commission as it deliberates on this matter. After the Commission issues a decision on the memorandum, NRC staff will review the recommendations and insights in your letter as it develops plans and take actions on the Commission decision.

I appreciate your comments and look forward to continued, periodic, interactions with the ACRS as the NRC staff continues to evaluate, develop, and implement appropriate regulatory actions to address the lessons learned from the Fukushima Dai-ichi accident.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mark A. Satorius Executive Director for Operations

cc: Chairman Burns Commissioner Svinicki Commissioner Ostendorff Commissioner Baran SECY

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