

November 25, 2015

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

**SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
REPORT ON THE REVISED REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS**

Dear Mr. Stetkar:

During the 628th meeting of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) held on October 7-10, 2015, ACRS reviewed the ongoing actions to enhance the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP). The Subcommittee on Plant Operations and Fire Protection also reviewed this topic during a meeting on September 24, 2015. On October 16, 2015, ACRS provided the following recommendation and conclusions in a letter (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession Number ML15289A144):

1. The ROP enhancement actions proposed by the staff are timely and beneficial, and should be implemented.
2. The proposed enhancements to the Baseline Inspection Program, which include changes to the Component Design Basis Inspection process and the Problem Identification and Resolution process, should increase the effectiveness of the licensees' overall engineering programs.
3. We have no objection to the change in the definition of a degraded cornerstone whereby the equivalence relationship between White-to-Yellow findings is changed from two to three.
4. The action to make the Significance Determination Process timelier is beneficial.

J. Stetkar

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We thank the ACRS for its timely and thorough review and look forward to continued interactions with the Committee in the future.

Sincerely,

/RA Michael R. Johnson Acting for/

Victor M. McCree
Executive Director
for Operations

cc: Chairman Burns
Commissioner Svinicki
Commissioner Ostendorf
Commissioner Baran
SECY

J. Stetkar

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