

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Friday, September 26, 1997)

NRC NAMES DR. ROBERT E. UHRIG
TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has appointed Dr. Robert E. Uhrig to its independent Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS).

The ACRS was established in 1957 by the Congress to advise the former Atomic Energy Commission, and subsequently the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, with regard to the safety aspects of proposed and existing nuclear facilities and the adequacy of related safety standards. The ACRS also performs such other special assignments as the Commission may request, such as the review of NRC research programs.

Dr. Uhrig received his B.S. degree (with honors) in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Illinois in 1948, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Theoretical and Applied Mechanics from Iowa State University in 1950 and 1954, respectively. In addition, he is a 1976 graduate of the Advanced Management Program of the Harvard Business School.

He currently holds a joint (50-50) appointment as Distinguished Professor of Engineering in the Nuclear Engineering Department at the University of Tennessee and as Distinguished Scientist in the Instrumentation and Control Division at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory under the UT/ORNL Science Alliance Program. His work at both institutions concerns the application of artificial intelligence to nuclear power plant systems.

Dr. Uhrig worked for the Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) from 1973-86 and was Vice President for Advanced Systems and Technology of FPL prior to his retirement in 1986. From 1960-74, he was on the faculty at the University of Florida, serving as Dean of the College of Engineering from 1968-73. He was an Associate Professor at Iowa State University and Research Engineer for AEC's Ames Laboratory from 1956-60, served as an instructor at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point while on active duty with the U.S. Air Force from 1954-56, and held various teaching and research positions at Iowa State University while pursuing graduate work from 1948-54.

He previously served as a member of NRC's Nuclear Safety Research Review Committee from 1989-95.

He received the 1992 Glenn Murphy Award for Outstanding Contributions to Nuclear Engineering Education from the American Society for Engineering Education. Dr. Uhrig is a Fellow of three professional societies - the American Nuclear Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

A list of other ACRS members follows:

CHAIRMAN: Dr. Robert L. Seale, Professor Emeritus of Nuclear and Energy Engineering, Department of Nuclear and Energy Engineering, College of Engineering and Mines, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ;

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Dr. Dana A. Powers, Manager, Nuclear Facilities Safety Department, Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM;

Dr. George Apostolakis, Professor, Nuclear Engineering Department, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA;

Mr. John B. Barton, retired Vice-President, GPU Nuclear Corporation, Parsippany, NJ;

Dr. Mario H. Fontana, Adjunct Professor, Nuclear Engineering Department, University of Tennessee, and retired from Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN;

Dr. Thomas S. Kress, retired Head of Applied Systems Technology Section, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN;

Dr. Don W. Miller, Professor and Chair, Nuclear Engineering, Department of Mechanical Engineering, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH;

Dr. William J. Shack, Associate Director, Energy Technology Division, Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, IL.

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