

Over and above the question of in-house capability for a system safety approach within the OHSGT, the Board deems it advisable that OHSGT incorporate another integral part of the safety programs of NASA and USAEC -- that of independent safety assessment. Independent review committees are provided in each agency for added assurance against costly oversight and wrong assumptions by providing technical perspective from sources not intellectually committed to the concept or project. Independent safety review committees monitor results from a different viewpoint than either the Federal agency or contractor.

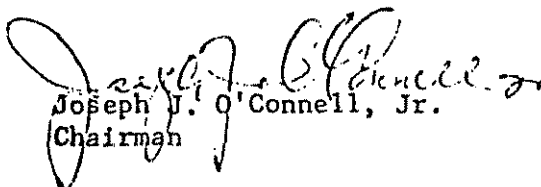
The Safety Board is aware that the OHSGT employs a formal consultation committee, including outside members, with reference to the TACV project. The Board believes that safety is of such importance and of such specialized technical content that a committee directed specifically to safety is necessary.

The Safety Board, therefore, recommends that the FRA:

- R-69-1 1. Establish system safety within the Office of High Speed Ground Transportation and develop in-house capabilities to administer and supervise system safety programs in high-speed projects.
- R-69-2 2. Develop a system safety engineering plan, including contractor requirements, at an early stage in each new project.
- R-69-3 3. Take whatever steps are necessary to assure that system safety engineering will be applied now to the later phases of the TACV project.
- R-69-4 4. Establish an independent safety review committee, external in composition to the FRA, to monitor all safety aspects of projects undertaken by the OHSGT, with special attention to identification and evaluation of hazards and the transfer of safety standards and technology from other fields.

The Board would be pleased to explore this subject in more detail if you desire.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph J. O'Connell, Jr.  
Chairman