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Exelon Generation

Project No.: 713

February 15, 2002

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Change of pre-application technical information commitments

In a letter to the NRC dated November 15, 2001, Exelon Generation Company (EGC), LLC described the expected availability of technical information regarding the Pebble Bed Modular Reactor (PBMR). Our November 15, 2001 letter was in response to an NRC letter dated September 26, 2001 requesting information regarding the availability of the PBMR technical information. We noted that the schedule contained in our November 15, 2001 letter was our current assessment of when the information would be available and would be subject to change. We also noted that we would notify the NRC of significant changes during the course of the pre-application interactions. This letter identifies known changes to the availability of the information requested by the September 26, 2001 NRC letter, and provides our current assessment of when the information is expected to be available.

The availability of information responding to the following issues has changed. For convenience, the issues are identified by their respective designation contained in the September 26, 2001 NRC letter. An update regarding expected availability of this information is then provided, based on our current assessment of PBMR project progress.

A) PBMR Design Basis, Issue 4 – What are the automated control features of the PBMR, including staffing plans and control room design features?

Change:

Near term and longer term information regarding the description of PBMR safety-related instrumentation and control (I&C) equipment, including design requirements and criteria, a fully developed control room layout and staffing plans, including a description of human-machine interface and the role of the operator during normal and off-normal

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events and preliminary information for a multi-module plant will not be available as previously indicated. Subsequent to our November 15, 2001 letter, the PBMR project has been investigating key design changes in this area. Therefore, we have determined it would be more appropriate to discuss these issues following any design changes. The information is now expected to be available by July 2003.

C) PBMR Materials Issue 2: Inservice inspection (ISI) plan, including frequency and components to be inspected.

Change:
The preliminary reactor pressure vessel (RPV) / primary pressure boundary ISI plan, including design inputs, inspection methods and inspection frequencies, for both the RPV and the connecting piping was expected to be available by September 2002. The information is now expected to be available by July 2003.

C) PBMR Materials Issue 3: What concrete and design codes are to be used for the reactor cavity?

Change:
A preliminary report addressing the information requested was expected to be available by the end of June 2002. Subsequent to our November 15, 2001 letter, the PBMR project has been investigating key design changes in this area. Therefore, we have determined it would be more appropriate to discuss these issues following any design changes. The information is now anticipated to be available by August 2003.

We will notify you if further schedule adjustments become necessary which may have significant impact on pre-application activities. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact R. M. Krich or me.

Sincerely,

Kevin F. Borton
Manager, Licensing

cc: Farouk Eltawila, Office of Nuclear Reactor Research
James Lyons, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Amy Cubbage, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
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