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NRC ISSUES FINAL DESIGN APPROVAL
FOR ABB-CE SYSTEM 80+ STANDARD NUCLEAR PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has issued a final design approval to ASEA Brown Boveri-Combustion Engineering for its System 80+ standard plant design.

The System 80+ now will be subject to Commission certification as a standardized reactor design through a rulemaking process which will provide an opportunity for public comment and an informal public hearing.

Once certified by the Commission, a utility could use the standardized design in an application for a construction permit or operating license without further consideration of the design unless there is significant new information which affects the staff's conclusions reached in the final design approval.

Use of a standardized reactor design would permit a utility to apply for a combined construction permit-operating license in place of the historical two-step process involving separate proceedings at the construction permit and operating license stages.

The System 80+ design is for a nuclear power facility which would be capable of producing about 1300 megawatts of electricity.

Issuance of the final design approval completes the NRC staff's technical review and reflects the advice of the Commission's independent Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards. The staff's detailed findings are contained in a Final Safety Evaluation Report.

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