

July 10, 2000

Mr. Karl Jacobs, Chairman
Westinghouse Owners Group
123 Main Street
14th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION RELATED TO THE TOPICAL REPORT
WCAP-14748/9, "JUSTIFICATION FOR INCREASING POSTULATED BREAK
OPENING TIMES IN WESTINGHOUSE PRESSURIZED WATER REACTORS"
(TAC NO. M98031)

Dear Mr. Jacobs:

By letter dated January 31, 1997 (OG-97-006), the Westinghouse Owners Group (WOG), submitted Topical Report WCAP-14748, "Justification for Increasing Postulated Break Opening Times in Westinghouse Pressurized Water Reactors," for staff review. The NRC sent a request for additional information (RAI) in a letter dated February 3, 1998, which was responded to by WOG letter dated March 2, 1998 (OG-98-032). At a meeting on April 23, 1998, with the NRC to discuss the WOG's Baffle Barrel Bolting (BBB) program, the response to the RAI was discussed and during a teleconference on May 13, 1998, it was determined that the WOG needed to clarify the scope and extent to which an approval of the WCAP would be applied. The WOG responded to this request in a letter dated June 11, 1998 (OG-98-070). The NRC issued their safety evaluation on October 1, 1998. In this evaluation, the NRC approved a design basis break-opening time (BOT) greater than one millisecond as acceptable for Westinghouse primary coolant piping in the large break loss-of-coolant accident (LOCA) application to the BBB program. The staff limited the approval to the WOG application to the BBB program.

In a letter dated December 10, 1998 (OG-98-120), the WOG outlined the various applications to which a generic approval for an increased BOT could be applied and asked the NRC to have WCAP-14748/9 approved for generic uses. In the course of the staff review of WCAP-14748/9, the staff noted that the report includes several sections that contain the results of calculations using the MULTIFLEX computer program. However, the WOG has not requested that the staff review the application of the MULTIFLEX program with the increased break opening time discussed in the report. During telephone discussions with WOG representatives, the staff was told that the request for generic approval of the topical report is solely limited to approval of the

increased break opening time, and does not include approval for the use of MULTIFLEX with the increased break opening time. The staff requests that the WOG confirm that this understanding of the request is correct. If you have any questions on this matter, please contact me at (301) 415-1313.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Steven D. Bloom, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 694

cc: Mr. H. A. Sepp, Manager
Regulatory and Licensing Engineering
Westinghouse Electric Corporation
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