POWERING PROGRESS THROUGH
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

EPRI

July 7, 2000

Document Control Clerk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
OWN 11555 Rockville Pike
Washington DC, 20555

Subject: "BWR Vessel and Internals Project, Post-NMCA Materials and Fuel Surveillance Program at Duane Arnold Energy Center, First Surveillance Report for 1996-1997 (BWRVIP-54)," EPRI Report TR-111111, July 1998.

Gentlemen:

This is a request under 10CFR2.790(a)(4) that the NRC withhold from public disclosure the information identified in the enclosed affidavit consisting of EPRI owned Proprietary Information identified above (the "Report"). A copy of the Report and the affidavit in support of this request are enclosed.

EPRI desires to disclose the Report in confidence to the NRC as a means of exchanging information in support of generic regulatory improvements relating to the inspection of BWR internal components. Further EPRI welcomes any discussion with the NRC regarding the Report that the NRC desires to conduct.

The Report is for the NRC's internal use and may be used only for the purposes for which it is disclosed by EPRI. The Report should not be otherwise used or disclosed to any person outside the NRC without prior written permission from EPRI.

If you have any questions about the legal aspects of this request for withholding, please do not hesitate to contact me at (650) 855- 2039. Questions on the contents of the Report should be directed to Tom Mulford of EPRI at (650) 855-2766.

Sincerely,

Theodore U. Marston, Ph.D.
Vice President & Chief Nuclear Officer

Enclosures

c: Licensing

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS
3412 Hillview Avenue | Palo Alto CA 94304-1395 USA | 650.855.2000 | Customer Service 800.313.3774 | www.epri.com

EPRI

AFFIDAVIT

RE: "BWR Vessel and Internals Project, Evaluation of Crack Growth in BWR Shroud Vertical Welds (BWR VIP-80)." EPRI Report 000000000001000038, May 2000.

I, THEODORE U. MARSTON, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

I am a Vice President at the Electric Power Research Institute ("EPRI") and I have been specifically delegated responsibility for the report listed above that is sought under this affidavit to be withheld (the "Report") and authorized to apply for their withholding on behalf of EPRI. This affidavit is submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission ("NRC") pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790 (a)(4) based on the fact that the Report consists of trade secrets of EPRI and that the NRC will receive the Report from EPRI under privilege and in confidence.

The basis for withholding such Report from the public is set forth below:

(i) The Report has been held in confidence by EPRI, its owner. All those accepting copies of the Report must agree to preserve the confidentiality of the Report.

(ii) The Report is a type customarily held in confidence by EPRI and there is a rational basis therefor. The Report is a type, which EPRI considers as a trade secret(s) and is held in confidence by EPRI because to disclose it would prevent EPRI from licensing the Report at fees, which would allow EPRI to recover its investment. If consultants and/or other businesses providing services in the electric/nuclear power industry were able to publicly obtain the Report, they would be able to use it commercially for profit and avoid spending the large amount of money that EPRI was required to spend in preparation of the Report. The rational basis that EPRI has for classifying this/these Report(s) as a trade secrets is justified by the Uniform Trade Secrets Act, which California adopted in 1984 and which has been adopted by over twenty states. The Uniform Trade Secrets Act defines a "trade secret" as follows:

> "Trade secret" means information, including a formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique, or process, that:
>
> (1) Derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to the public or to other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use; and
>
> (2) Is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy.

(iii) The Report will be transmitted to the NRC in confidence.

(iv) The Report is not available in public sources. EPRI developed the Report only after making a determination that the Report was not available from public sources. It required a large

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expenditure of dollars for EPRI to develop the Report. In addition, EPRI was required to use a large amount of time of EPRI employees. The money spent, plus the value of EPRI's staff time in preparing the Report, show that the Report is highly valuable to EPRI. Finally, the Report was developed only after a long period of effort of at least several months.

(v) A public disclosure of the Report would be highly likely to cause substantial harm to EPRI's competitive position and the ability of EPRI to license the Report both domestically and internationally. The Report can only be acquired and/or duplicated by others using an equivalent investment of time and effort.

I have read the foregoing and the matters stated therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I make this affidavit under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America and under the laws of the State of California.

Executed at 3412 Hillview Avenue, Palo Alto, being the premises and place of business of the Electric Power Research Institute:

July 7, 2000

Theodore U. Marston

Subscribed and sworn before me this day: July 7, 2000

Sumi Yamashita, Notary Public

SUMI YAMASHITA
COMM. # 1255539
NOTARY PUBLIC-CALIFORNIA
SANTA CLARA COUNTY
COMM. EXP. MARCH 31, 2004