

NR

**From:** Amy Cabbage  
**To:** Bergman, Thomas EDO  
**Date:** 8/1/02 6:19PM  
**Subject:** PBMR

Quick summary per your request.

David Nicholls, the CEO of PBMR South Africa, indicated that they plan to start a preapplication "in earnest" in 2005, and submit a design certification application in 2006. Between now and 2005, they would like to interact on a limited basis to try to reach resolution on certain key technical areas and to discuss NRC expectations for testing. Currently, licensing the demonstration unit in South Africa is PBMR's priority and they do not have staff available to interact with the NRC at the level that Exelon was (i.e. monthly meetings).

He also discussed several major design differences that have evolved, including an 8 module configuration instead of 10, dry-gas seals to replace the magnetic bearings, an increase in power to 165 MWe per module, 10 years storage of spent fuel in the plant (with additional storage capability in onsite concrete silos), and a fixed central reflector column.

Demonstration unit schedule: construction from 11/2005 to October 2007, fuel load 8/2008

**CC:** Gamberoni, Marsha; Lyons, James

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