

March 31, 2003
WOG-03-198

Project No. 692

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Attn: Chief, Information Management Branch
Division of Program Management

Subject: Combustion Engineering Owners Group
Transmittal of Reports WCAP-16011-P, Rev 00 (Proprietary) and WCAP-16011-
NP, Rev 00 (Non-Proprietary), entitled "Startup Test Activity Reduction Program,"
dated March 2003

Transmitted herewith are four (4) proprietary and two (2) non-proprietary copies of the subject topical report. The Combustion Engineering Owners Group is submitting WCAP-16011-P, Rev.00 under the NRC licensing topical report program for review and acceptance for referencing in licensing actions.

WCAP-16011 provides the technical justification to support licensees in making changes to post refueling startup physics test programs that are performed following a core reload. As discussed during a meeting with the staff on November 28, 2001, the startup test activity reduction program provides an alternative means of assuring the core can be operated as designed while reducing the time associated with testing. The objective is that, once approved, member utilities may reference this topical report as an acceptable approach for eliminating certain post-refueling startup physics tests.

Consistent with the practice for topical reports associated with changes to NUREG-1432, a TSTF traveler will be developed that contains the Technical Specification and Bases changes associated with WCAP-16011. This traveler will be submitted to the NRC via the NEI Tech Spec Task Force.

WCAP-16011 eliminates the hot zero power CEA worth and isothermal temperature coefficient measurements for a typical PWR. Tests and applicability requirements relating to core design, fabrication, refueling, startup testing, and CEA lifetime are added. This report shows that the changes do not decrease the overall effectiveness in preventing operation with core configurations not explicitly accounted for in the safety analysis, thus it is assured that implementing the STAR program will maintain the current levels of plant safety.

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The CEOG requests that the NRC complete their review of WCAP-16011 and issue a Safety Evaluation by September 30, 2003. This date is needed to support the planned implementation of the program by the lead utility during their October 2003 refueling outage. Consistent with the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Office Instruction LIC-500, "Processing Request for Reviews of Topical Reports," the CEOG requests that the NRC document the acceptance of this report for review, provide an estimate of the review hours, establish a date for any Request(s) for Additional Information, and advise of the planned date for issuance of the Safety Evaluation for WCAP-16011.

The information transmitted herewith bears a Westinghouse copyright notice. The NRC is permitted to make the number of copies of the information contained in these reports which are necessary for its internal use in connection with generic and plant-specific reviews and approvals as well as the issuance, denial, amendment, transfer, renewal, modification, suspension, revocation, or violation of a license, permit, order, or regulation subject to the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790 regarding restrictions on public disclosure to the extent such information has been identified as proprietary by Westinghouse, copyright protection notwithstanding. With respect to the non-proprietary version of this report, the NRC is permitted to make the number of copies beyond those necessary for its internal use which are necessary in order to have one copy available for public viewing in the appropriate docket files in the public document rooms as may be required by NRC regulations if the number of copies submitted is insufficient for this purpose. Copies made by the NRC must include the copyright notice in all instances and the proprietary notice if the original was identified as proprietary.

Report WCAP-16011-P, Rev 0 contains information proprietary to Westinghouse Electric Company and is, therefore, being transmitted with an affidavit signed by Westinghouse, the owner of the information. The affidavit sets forth the basis on which the information should be withheld from public disclosure by the Commission and addresses with specificity the considerations listed in 10 CFR Section 2.790(b)(4) of the Commission's regulations. Accordingly, it is requested that the information identified as proprietary in this report be withheld from public disclosure.

This request for review and approval of WCAP-16011 has been compared with the criteria listed in 10 CFR 170.21 for exemption from review fees. The CE Owners Group accepts that this report does not qualify under the exemption criteria listed, thus NRC invoices associated with the review of WCAP-16011 should be addressed to:

Mr. Gordon Bischoff
Manager, Owners Group Program Management Office
Westinghouse Electric Company
2000 Day Hill Road
Windsor, CT 0095-0500

All correspondence related to this matter should be addressed to:

Mr. Gary Pavis
Chairman, Combustion Engineering Owners Group
Constellation Energy Group
Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Inc.
P.O. Box 1635
Lusby, MD 20657-4702

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-495-4724 or Mr. Gordon Bischoff, Manager, Owners Groups Program Management Office at 860-731-6200 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
CE Owners Group



Gary S. Pavis, Chairman

cc: G. S. Shukla (NRC; 1L, 3-P, 1-NP copies)

WOG/CEOG Management Committee (1L, 1R)
Owners Group Program Management Office (1L)
Outage Management Subcommittee (1L, 1R)
Licensing Subcommittee (1L)

Attachments: as stated

I, Norton L. Shapiro, depose and say that I am the Advisory Engineer of CE Engineering Technology, Westinghouse Electric Company LLC (WEC), duly authorized to make this affidavit, and have reviewed or caused to have reviewed the information which is identified as proprietary and described below. I have personal knowledge of the criteria and procedures utilized by WEC in designating information as a trade secret, privileged, or as confidential commercial or financial information.

This affidavit is submitted in conformance with the provisions of 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations for withholding proprietary information. The information for which proprietary treatment is sought, and which document has been appropriately designated as proprietary, is:

- *WCAP-16011-P, "Startup Test Activity Reduction Program," dated March 2003.*

Pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(b)(4) of the Commission's regulations, the following is furnished for consideration by the Commission in determining whether the information included in the document listed above should be withheld from public disclosure.

1. The information sought to be withheld from public disclosure is owned and has been held in confidence by WEC. It consists of an evaluation and qualification of a program that will reduce startup test activities at a CEORG plant following a core refueling outage.
2. The information consists of analyses or other similar data concerning a process, method or component, the application of which results in substantial competitive advantage to WEC.
3. The information is of a type customarily held in confidence by WEC and not customarily disclosed to the public.
4. The information is being transmitted to the Commission in confidence under the provisions of 10 CFR 2.790 with the understanding that it is to be received in confidence by the Commission.
5. The information, to the best of my knowledge and belief, is not available in public sources, and any disclosure to third parties has been made pursuant to regulatory provisions or proprietary agreements that provide for maintenance of the information in confidence.
6. Public disclosure of the information is likely to cause substantial harm to the competitive position of WEC because:
 - a. A similar product or service is provided by major competitors of Westinghouse.
 - b. WEC has invested substantial funds and engineering resources in the development of this information. A competitor would have to undergo similar expense in generating equivalent information.
 - c. The information consists of evaluations, analysis and justification for eliminating certain startup physics tests performed at CEORG plants following a refueling outage, the application of which provides Westinghouse a competitive economic advantage. The availability of such information to competitors would enable them to design their product or service to better compete with WEC, take marketing or other actions to improve their product's position or impair the position of WEC's product, and avoid developing similar technical analysis in support of their processes, methods or apparatus.
 - d. Significant research, development, engineering, analytical, manufacturing, licensing, quality assurance and other costs and expenses must be included in pricing WEC's

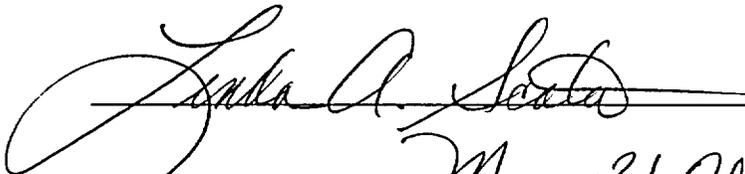
products and services. The ability of WEC's competitors to utilize such information without similar expenditure of resources may enable them to sell at prices reflecting significantly lower costs.

- e. Use of the information by competitors in the international marketplace would increase their ability to market comparable products or services by reducing the costs associated with their technology development. In addition, disclosure would have an adverse economic impact on WEC's potential for obtaining or maintaining foreign licenses.



Norton L. Shapiro
Advisory Engineer
Westinghouse Electric Company LLC

Sworn to before me this 31th day of March 2003.



Notary Public

My commission expires:

May 31, 2003