June 18, 2003

Mr. H. A. Sepp, Manager Regulatory and Licensing Engineering Westinghouse Electric Company P.O. Box 355 Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0355

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF WCAP-16009-P, "REALISTIC LARGE BREAK LOCA

EVALUATION METHODOLOGY USING AUTOMATED STATISTICAL

TREATMENT OF UNCERTAINTY" (TAC NO. MB9483)

Dear Mr. Sepp:

By letter dated June 2, 2003, Westinghouse submitted for NRC staff review Topical Report (TR) WCAP-16009-P, "Realistic Large Break LOCA Evaluation Methodology Using Automated Statistical Treatment of Uncertainty." It also requested, consistent with the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation Instruction LIC-500, "Processing Requests for Review of Topical Reports," that the NRC provide an estimate of the review hours, as well as target dates for any requests for additional information (RAIs) and for the completion of the safety evaluation for the TR.

The NRC staff has performed an acceptance review of the TR. We have found that the material presented is sufficient to begin our comprehensive review. The staff expects to issue RAIs by November 15, 2003, and complete its review by July 30, 2004, and estimates that the review will require approximately 350 staff hours.

Section 170.21 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* requires that TRs are subject to fees based on the full cost of the review. You did not request a fee waiver; therefore, staff hours will be billed accordingly. To enable us to complete this review on schedule, close and frequent communications between our technical staffs will be required.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Brian Benney, Project Manager, Section 2 Project Directorate IV Division of Licensing Project Management Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 700

cc: See next page

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Mr. Gordon Bischoff, Project Manager Westinghouse Owners Group Westinghouse Electric Company Mail Stop ECE 5-16 P.O. Box 355 Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0355