

August 13, 2003

Mr. Kenneth Putnam, Chairman
BWR Owners Group
Nuclear Management Company
Duane Arnold Energy Center
3277 DAEC Rd.
Palo, IA 52324

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF NEDO-33091, "IMPROVED BPWS CONTROL ROD
INSERTION PROCESS" (TAC NO. MB9642)

Dear Mr. Putnam:

By letter dated June 6, 2003, the BWR Owners Group (BWROG) submitted for NRC staff review Topical Report (TR) NEDO-33091, "Improved BPWS Control Rod Insertion Process." It also requested, consistent with the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation Instruction LIC-500, "Processing Requests for Reviews 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 completion of the safety evaluation (SE) 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 December 30, 2003, and complete its review by December 30, 2004, and estimates that the review will require approximately 500 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 the review on this schedule, close and frequent communications between our technical staffs will be required.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Alan B. Wang, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 691

cc: See next page

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