

August 29, 2003

Mr. Gordon Bischoff, Manager
Owners Group Program Management Office
Westinghouse Electric Company
P.O. Box 355
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0355

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF WCAP-15996, "TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION MANUAL FOR
THE CENTS CODE" (TAC NO. MB6982)

Dear Mr. Bischoff:

By letter dated December 13, 2002, the Combustion Engineering Owners Group submitted for NRC staff review Topical Report (TR) WCAP-15996, "Technical Description Manual for the CENTS Code." 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 and for 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 complete enough to begin a review. The staff expects to complete its review by September 15, 2003, and estimates that the review will require approximately 400 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/

Drew Holland, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 694

cc: See next page

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Westinghouse Owners Group

Project No. 694

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