

April 22, 2004

Mr. Vince J. Langman
ACR Licensing Manager
AECL Technologies Inc.
481 North Frederick Avenue, Suite 405
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE
FOR ADVANCED CANDU REACTOR (ACR-700)

Dear Mr. Langman:

By letters dated March 3 and March 11, 2004, AECL Technologies Inc. submitted two affidavits dated March 15 and March 22, 2004, executed by Mr. John Polcyn requesting that the following materials be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 2.390:

Two compact discs containing copies of the following proprietary presentation materials used at the meeting on ACR-700 pressure boundary and pressure tubes on March 4-5, 2004:

1. Load combinations and stress limits for the pressure boundary design
2. Pressure boundary materials
3. Proprietary presentation on irradiated materials

The affidavits stated that the submitted information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure for the following reasons:

1. This information is confidential and has been held in confidence by AECL, which is the parent company of AECL Technologies Inc. The information is contained in AECL reports or other documents that are normally held in confidence in accordance with AECL's procedures for the protection of information. The reports or other documents are part of AECL's comprehensive safety and technology base for the CANDU design, and their commercial value extends beyond the original development costs, which in themselves are considerable.
2. This information is being transmitted to the NRC in confidence.
3. This information is generally not available in public sources and could not be gathered readily from other publicly available information.
4. Public disclosure of this information would create substantial harm to the competitive position of AECL by disclosing sensitive commercial information about the design and/or operation of CANDU reactors and/or the ACR to other parties whose commercial interests may be adverse to those of AECL. Also, the information contained in these reports has been developed at significant costs to AECL (the parent company of AECL Technologies).

In accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.390 (formerly 2.790), we have reviewed your application and material you designated as proprietary. On the basis of our review and your statements, we have decided that the information you marked as proprietary will be withheld from public disclosure. However, withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned (including NRC employees or contractors who have a need to know) to inspect the information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the documents. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You also should understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

Finally, as you may be aware, the text of 10 CFR 2.790 was amended by the NRC in June 2003. In addition, the section number was changed from 2.790 to 2.390 in February of this year.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, I may be reached at 301-415-4125.

Sincerely,

/RA/

James Kim, Project Manager
New Reactors Section
New, Research and Test Reactors Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 722

cc: See next page

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James Kim, Project Manager
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Distribution
HARD COPY
RNRP R/F
J. Kim
B. Sosa
L. Dudes

E-MAIL
PUBLIC

J. Moore, OGC	E. Sullivan	M. Mitchell	G. Makar
D. Hassell, OGC	J. Fair	P. Patnaik	D. Terao
J. Shea, EDO	C. Greene	K. Karwoski	S. Sekerak

*See previous concurrence

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML041050446

OFFICE	RNRP/PM	DE/EMCB*	DE:EMEB*	SC:RNRP
NAME	JKim	ESullivan	JFair	LDudes
DATE	4/14/04	4/15/04	4/16/04	4/21/04

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

ACR-700

cc:

Mr. Charles Brinkman
Westinghouse Electric Co.
Washington Operations
12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Suite 330
Rockville, MD 20852

Mr. Thomas P. Miller
U.S. Department of Energy
NE-20, Rm. A286
Headquarters - Germantown
19901 Germantown Road
Germantown, MD 20874-1290

Mr. David Lochbaum
Nuclear Safety Engineer
Union of Concerned Scientists
1707 H Street, NW, Suite 600
Washington, DC 20006-3919

Mr. Paul Gunter
Nuclear Information & Resource Service
1424 16th Street, NW, Suite 404
Washington, DC 20036

Mr. James Riccio
Greenpeace
702 H Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20001

Mr. Ron Simard
Nuclear Energy Institute
Suite 400
1776 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-3708

Ms. Patricia Campbell
Winston & Strawn
1400 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Mr. Paul Leventhal
Nuclear Control Institute
1000 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 410
Washington, DC 20036

Mr. Jack W. Roe
SCIENTECH, INC.
910 Clopper Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Mr. David Ritter
Research Associate on Nuclear Energy
Public Citizens Critical Mass Energy
and Environmental Program
215 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Mr. James F. Mallay, Director
Regulatory Affairs
FRAMATOME, ANP
3315 Old Forest Road
Lynchburg, VA. 24501

Mr. Tom Clements
6703 Gude Avenue
Takoma Park, MD 20912

Mr. Vince Langman
Licensing Manager
Atomic Energy of Canada Limited
2251 Speakman Drive
Mississauga, Ontario
Canada L5K 1B2

Mr. Victor G. Snell
Director of Safety and Licensing
Atomic Energy of Canada Limited
2251 Speakman Drive
Mississauga, Ontario
Canada L5K 1B2

Mr. Glenn R. George
PA Consulting Group
130 Potter Street
Haddonfield, NJ 08033

J. Alan Beard
GE Nuclear Energy
13113 Chestnut Oak Drive
Darnestown, MD 20878-3554

Mr. Ian M. Grant
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater Street, Station B
P.O. Box 1046
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5S9

Mr. Gary Wright, Manager
Office of Nuclear Facility Safety
Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety
1035 Outer Park Drive
Springfield, IL 62704

Dr. Gail H. Marcus
U.S. Department of Energy
Room 5A-143
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

Mr. Ronald P. Vijuk
Manager of Passive Plant Engineering
AP1000 Project
Westinghouse Electric Company
P. O. Box 355
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0355

Dr. Greg Rzentkowski
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
P.O. Box 1046, Station 'B'
280 Slater Street,
Ottawa, ON, K1P 5S9
Canada

Mr. Ed Wallace, General Manager
Projects
PBMR Pty LTD
PO Box 9396
Centurion 0046
Republic of South Africa

Mr. John Polcyn, President
AECL Technologies Inc.
481 North Frederick Avenue
Suite 405
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Mr. Russell Bell
Nuclear Energy Institute
Suite 400
1776 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-3708