

May 24, 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 April 13 and May 5, 2004, AECL Technologies Inc. (AECL) submitted two affidavits dated April 15 and May 11, 2004, executed by Mr. Ken Hedges and Mr. John Polcyn, respectively, 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:

In response to NRC's Requests for Additional Information (RAIs) on CATHENA: RAIs 189, 199(a), 203(b), and 203(c), a compact disk containing copies of the following proprietary reports:

1. RC-2340, "Validation of CATHENA MOD-3.5c for Phase Separation-Overview Report", October 2000.
2. RC-2466, "Validation of CATHENA MOD-3.5c for Quench/Rewet Characteristics-CWIT Channel/Feeder Refill Test", May 2001.
3. RC-1584-8, "Validation of CATHENA MOD-3.5b/Rev 0 for ECC Effectiveness Analysis-RD-12 Large Break Blowdown Experiment B8223", November 1996.
4. RC-1584-10, "Validation of CATHENA MOD-3.5b/Rev 0 for ECC Effectiveness Analysis-RD-14M Large Break Blowdown Tests with Pump Rundown", October 1996.
5. RC-2464, "Validation of CATHENA MOD-3.5c for Quench/Rewet Overview Report", May 2001.
6. RC-1584-3, "Validation of CATHENA MOD-3.5b/Rev 0 for ECC Effectiveness Countercurrent Flow/Flooding in Vertical Pipes", October 1996.
7. RC-1584-4, "Validation of CATHENA MOD-3.5b/Rev 0 for ECC Effectiveness Countercurrent Flow/Flooding in 90 Degree Elbows", October 1996.

In addition, AECL provided revised responses of RAIs 203(b), and 203(c) with a compact disk containing a proprietary report, RC-2475, "Validation of CATHENA MOD-3.5b/Rev 0 for Countercurrent Flow-Overview Report", December 2001.

The affidavit 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).

We have reviewed your application and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.390 and, on the basis of your statements, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information and should be withheld from public disclosure. Therefore, the material listed above and identified as proprietary, will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.390(a)(4) and 9.17(a)(4).

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.

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

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

James Kim, ACR 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, ACR 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

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML041410195

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NAME	JKim	WJensen	LDudes-jms for:
DATE	5/20/04	5/20/04	5/21/04



V. Langman

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Distribution of Request For Withholding Information From Public Disclosure dated May 24, 2004

Hard Copy

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