

January 3, 2005

Our File: 108US-01321-021-001
108US-ACNU05-0001L
Your File: Project No. 722

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
Document Control Desk,
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Mr. James E. Dyer
Director

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Re: Submission Date for ACR-700 Design Certification Application to the NRC

This letter is to inform you that AECL Technologies will submit a Design Control Document (DCD) by December 15, 2005 in application to the NRC under 10CFR 52.45 and 52.47 for Design Certification of the ACR-700. The December 15, 2005 submission date will allow AECL Technologies the opportunity to make further technical submissions to address the items raised by the NRC staff in the recently issued PASAR for the ACR-700 (Letter W.D. Beckner to J. Polcyn, "Pre-Application Safety Assessment Report (PASAR) for the Advanced CANDU Reactor (ACR-700)", October 27, 2004). These submissions will be used to develop agreement with the NRC on the items raised in the PASAR, and ensure the most appropriate technical material to address these items is incorporated into our Design Certification application.

AECL Technologies intends to have an aggressive program of interaction with the NRC staff between now and submittal of our Design Certification application. We will continue to submit technical information and meet with the staff on the pre-application key focus topics discussed in the PASAR as we complete our Design Certification application for the ACR-700. We will provide our schedule for these submissions by January 31, 2005, in order to help you plan your resource allocations for the period from now until December 15, 2005 and for the Design Certification process.

Given the extensive amount of technical information AECL Technologies has provided to the NRC staff over the past two years, and the technically detailed nature of your pre-application reviews, AECL Technologies would like the NRC to review, approve and issue a Final Design Approval in 31-36 months, followed by an additional 12 months for rulemaking in order to achieve Design Certification of the ACR-700 in 43-48 months. AECL Technologies would like the opportunity to meet with you and NRC staff to discuss actions that can be taken to integrate and optimize the reviews of our ACR-700 Design Certification application and Dominion Energy's North Anna COL application. We feel there is much to be gained by optimizing the use of resources that are most familiar with the ACR-700 design as the NRC staff begins review of Dominion Energy's North Anna COL application.

D070



Mr. James E. Dyer
Page 2
January 3, 2005

AECL Technologies looks forward to working with you, the Commission and staff on these very important reviews. We do not underestimate the level of effort it will take by all involved parties. Please contact me if you have any questions. I may be reached at (301) 228-6637.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Archinoff', written over a horizontal dashed line.

Glenn H. Archinoff
Manager ACR Licensing

cc.

N.J. Diaz (NRC)
E. McGaffigan (NRC)
J.S. Merrifield (NRC)
W.D. Beckner (NRC)
L. Dudes (NRC)
B. Sosa (NRC)

D.A. Christian (Dominion Energy)
E. S. Grecheck (Dominion Energy)

J. Polcyn (AECL Technologies)
R. Van Adel (AECL)
K. Petrunik (AECL)
D. Torgerson (AECL)
K. Hedges (AECL)
S. Yu (AECL)
V. Snell (AECL)