

May 20, 2005

Mr. Alexander Marion
Senior Director, Engineering
Nuclear Generation Division
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20006-3708

Dear Mr. Marion:

I am responding to your March 17, 2005, letter requesting a fee waiver under 10 CFR 170.11 for review of the Electrical Power Research Institute (EPRI) Topical Report (TR) - 1008108, "Licensing Criteria for Fuel Burnup Extension Beyond 62 GWd/tU - Industry Guide." For the reasons below, I am granting a fee waiver for the NRC technical staff's review of this TR in accordance with the applicable provisions of 10 CFR 170.11.

The staff has determined that the review of EPRI's TR - 1008108 will be used for the purpose of supporting NRC's generic regulatory improvements. It is anticipated that the TR will form the basis of NRC's review scope on future submittals seeking high burnup fuel. Further, the review of this report may result in modification of NUREG-0800, Section 4.2, "Fuel System Design." Therefore, review of TR - 1008108 supports NRC's generic regulatory improvements and is consistent with the fee exemption requirements stated in 10 CFR 170.11(a)(1)(iii).

If you have any technical questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Thomas Alexion of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation at 301-415-1326. For fee-waiver related questions, please contact Ms. Renu Suri of my staff at 301-415-0161.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Peter J. Rabideau
Acting Chief Financial Officer

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