September 28, 2006

Andrew A. Lingenfelter, Manager GNF Engineering Global Nuclear Fuels - Americas, LLC P.O. Box 780, M/C F12 Wilmington, NC 28402

#### SUBJECT: FINAL SAFETY EVALUATION FOR GLOBAL NUCLEAR FUEL (GNF) AMENDMENT 29 TO TOPICAL REPORT NEDE-24011P-A/NEDO-24011-A, "GENERAL ELECTRIC STANDARD APPLICATION FOR RELOAD FUEL (GESTAR II)" (TAC NO. MD1497)

Dear Mr. Lingenfelter:

By letter dated April 25, 2006, GNF submitted Amendment 29 to the Topical Report (TR) NEDE-24011P-A/NEDO-24011-A, entitled "General Electric Standard Application for Reload Fuel (GESTAR II)," to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff for review.

The NRC staff has found that Amendment 29 to GESTAR II is acceptable for referencing in licensing applications for General Electric designed boiling water reactors to the extent specified and under the limitations delineated in the TR and in the enclosed final SE. The final SE defines the basis for acceptance of the TR.

Our acceptance applies only to material provided in the subject TR. We do not intend to repeat our review of the acceptable material described in the TR. When the TR appears as a reference in license applications, our review will ensure that the material presented applies to the specific plant involved. License amendment requests that deviate from this TR will be subject to a plant-specific review in accordance with applicable review standards.

In accordance with the guidance provided on the NRC website, we request that GNF publish accepted proprietary and non-proprietary versions of this TR within three months of receipt of this letter. The accepted versions shall incorporate this letter and the enclosed final SE after the title page. Also, they must contain historical review information, including NRC requests for additional information and your responses. The accepted versions shall include a "-A" (designating accepted) following the TR identification symbol.

A. Lingenfelter

If future changes to the NRC's regulatory requirements affect the acceptability of this TR, GNF and/or licensees referencing it will be expected to revise the TR appropriately, or justify its continued applicability for subsequent referencing.

Sincerely,

## /**RA**/

John W. Lubinski, Deputy Director Division of Policy and Rulemaking Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 712

Enclosure: Final SE

cc w/encl: See next page

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OFFICE	PSPB/PM	PSPB/LA	SNPB/BC	PSPB/BC	DPR/DD
NAME	MHoncharik	DBaxley	FAkstulewicz*	JHopkins for SRosenberg	JLubinski
DATE	9/6/06	9/5/06	6/29/06	9/8/06	9/28/06

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#### Global Nuclear Fuel

cc: Mr. Charles M. Vaughan, Manager Facility Licensing Global Nuclear Fuel - Americas P.O. Box 780 Wilmington, NC 28402

Mr. George B. Stramback Regulatory Services Project Manager GE Nuclear Energy 175 Curtner Avenue San Jose, CA 95125

Mr. James F. Klapproth, Manager Engineering & Technology GE Nuclear Energy 3901 Castle Hayne Road Wilmington, NC 28402

Mr. Glen A. Watford, Manager Technical Services GE Nuclear Energy 175 Curtner Avenue San Jose, CA 95125

## SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

## AMENDMENT 29 TO TOPICAL REPORT NEDE-24011-P-A/NEDO-24011-A

## "GENERAL ELECTRIC STANDARD APPLICATION FOR RELOAD FUEL (GESTAR II),"

# **GLOBAL NUCLEAR FUEL**

# PROJECT NO. 712

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated April 25, 2006, GNF submitted Amendment 29 to the Topical Report (TR) NEDE-24011P-A/NEDO-24011-A, entitled "General Electric Standard Application for Reload Fuel (GESTAR II)," to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff for review (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML0611800250). The changes in Amendment 29 are administrative in nature and include updated revision references and addition of new approved codes.

#### 2.0 EVALUATION

The NRC staff has evaluated each of the proposed changes below.

## Add Reference to Creep Collapse methods to Sections 2.2.2.2.3 and 2.4

This change revises Section 2.2.2.2.3 to reflect approval of NEDC-33139P-A, "Cladding Creep Collapse Licensing Topical Report" for fuel designs newer than GE14 and adds the TR as Reference 2-18 in Section 2.4 of GESTAR II. This TR has been previously reviewed and approved. The NRC staff agrees that adding this reference is an administrative change and, therefore, is acceptable.

## Add Reference to Supplement 2-A of NEDE-32906P-A to Section 4.4

This change modifies Reference 4-40 to include the approved Supplement 2-A to NEDE-32906P-A, "TRACG Application for Anticipated Operational Occurrences Transient Analyses," in Section 4.4 of GESTAR II. This TR has been previously reviewed and approved. The NRC staff agrees that adding this reference is an administrative change and, therefore, is acceptable.

# Add Reference to Improved Bank Position Withdraw Sequences (BPWS) to Sections S.2.2.3.1.1 and S.6

This change revises Section S.2.2.3.1.1 to reflect approval of NEDO-33091-A, "Improved BPWS Control Rod Insertion Process" as an option for plants that have implemented the BPWS in accordance with Reference S-11 of GESTAR II and adds the TR as Reference S-99 in Section S.6 of the GESTAR II. This TR has been previously reviewed and approved. The NRC staff agrees that adding this reference is an administrative change and, therefore, is acceptable.

## 3.0 <u>CONCLUSIONS</u>

Based on the above, the NRC staff finds that proposed changes are administrative and therefore, are acceptable and appropriate for inclusion in Amendment 29 to TR NEDE 24011-P-A, "GESTAR II."

Principal Contributor: S. Wu M. Honcharik

Date: September 28, 2006