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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

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Subject:

RIN 3150-AH81, Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) "Approaches to Risk-Informed and Performance-Based Requirements for Nuclear Power Reactors" Federal Register Vol. 71, No. 86 / Thursday, May 4, 2006; Westinghouse Comments on Draft Rule Change

Westinghouse appreciates the opportunity to provide comments regarding the potential for the NRC to modify its approach to develop risk-informed and performance-based requirements applicable to nuclear power reactors. As noted in the Federal Register of May 4, 2006, the NRC is considering an approach that, in addition to the ongoing effort to revise some specific regulations to make them risk-informed and performance-based, would establish a comprehensive set of risk-informed and performance-based requirements applicable for all nuclear power reactor technologies as an alternative to current requirements.

Westinghouse suggests that the rule should apply to major components as well as complete plant designs so that new materials, new designs and changes to licensing approaches would be covered as well. The reason for this comment is that as new technologies are developed that impact materials and designs, the current licensing framework may become obsolete or at least require a reevaluation.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (412) 374-4643.

Very truly yours,

J. A. Gresham, Manager

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