

May 8, 2007

Ronnie L. Gardner, Manager
Site Operations and Regulatory Affairs
AREVA NP
3315 Old Forrest Road
P.O. Box 10935
Lynchburg, VA 24506-0935

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE FOR REVIEW OF ANP-10281P, "U.S. EPR DIGITAL
PROTECTION SYSTEM TOPICAL REPORT," (TAC MD4977)

Dear Mr. Gardner:

By letter dated March 27, 2007 (ML070880784), AREVA NP (AREVA) submitted for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff review Topical Report (TR) ANP-10281P, "U.S. EPR Digital Protection System Topical Report," (ML070880831). The NRC staff has performed an acceptance review of the subject TR and has found that the material presented is sufficient to begin our comprehensive review. The staff expects to issue any requests for additional information (RAIs) by November 30, 2007, and issue its draft safety evaluation report by March 27, 2008. The staff also estimates that the review will require approximately 730 staff hours, including project management efforts. The review schedule milestones and estimated review costs were discussed in a telephone conference between Ronda Daflucas of your staff and the NRC staff on April 23, 2007. During the teleconference the staff agreed to AREVA's additional request to provide early feedback by July 31, 2007. The schedule and cost estimates are based on a timely resolution of RAIs that will be submitted to you on or before November 30, 2007. Should there be a need for more RAIs beyond November 30, 2007, the estimates will be adjusted accordingly.

Per AREVA's request, a post-submittal meeting will be scheduled at a mutually agreed upon time, most likely by July 31, 2007, for early feedback or prior to issuing the first set of RAIs.

Section 170.21 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* requires that TRs are subject to fees based on the full cost of the review. You did not request a fee exemption, therefore, staff hours will be billed accordingly.

Sincerely

/RA/

Getachew Tesfaye, Project Manager
EPR Projects Branch 1
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

PROJ0733
cc: See next page

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cc: See next page

ADAMS Accession No.: ML071200142

OFFICE	LA: DNRL/NWE1	PM: DNRL/NAR1	BC:DE/ICE2	BC: DNRL/NAR1
NAME	KGGoldstein	GTesfaye	IJung	JColaccino
DATE	05/ 03 /07	05/ 03 /07	05/ 04 /07	05/ 08 /07

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Letter to Ronnie L. Gardner from Getachew Tesfaye dated May 8, 2007

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GTesfaye

LBurkhart

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IJung

NCarte

cc:

Mr. Glenn H. Archinoff
AECL Technologies
481 North Frederick Avenue
Suite 405
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Ms. Michele Boyd
Legislative Director
Energy Program
Public Citizens Critical Mass Energy
and Environmental Program
215 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Mr. Marvin Fertel
Senior Vice President
and Chief Nuclear Officer
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708

Mr. Ray Ganthner
AREVA, Framatome ANP, Inc.
3315 Old Forest Road
P.O. Box 10935
Lynchburg, VA 24506-0935

Dr. Charles L. King
Licensing Manager, IRIS Project
Westinghouse Electric Company
Science and Technology Department
20 International Drive
Windsor, CT 06095

Ms. Sherry McFaden
Framatome NP, Inc.
3315 Old Forest Road, OF-16
Lynchburg, VA 24501

Mr. John O'Neill
Pillsbury, Winthrop, Shaw, Pittman
2300 N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037

Mr. Steve Seitz
AREVA
100 Dean Road
East Lyme, CT 06333

Mr. Robert E. Sweeney
IBEX ESI
4641 Montgomery Avenue
Suite 350
Bethesda, MD 20814

Winston & Strawn
1400 L. Street, NW - 12th Floor
Washington, DC 20005-3502

Mr. Gary Wright
Director
Division of Nuclear Facility Safety
Illinois Emergency Management Agency
1035 Outer Park Drive
Springfield, IL 62704

Email

APH@NEI.org (Adrian Heymer)
awc@nei.org (Anne W. Cottingham)
barbara.lee-murphy@constellation.com (Barbara Lee-Murphy)
bob.brown@ge.com (Robert E. Brown)
BrinkmCB@westinghouse.com (Charles Brinkman)
carey.fleming@constellation.com (Carey Fleming)
chris.maslak@ge.com (Chris Maslak)
cwaltman@roe.com (C. Waltman)
david.hinds@ge.com (David Hinds)
david.lewis@pillsburylaw.com (David Lewis)
dlochbaum@UCSUSA.org (David Lochbaum)
erg-xl@cox.net (Eddie R. Grant)
frankq@hursttech.com (Frank Quinn)
gcesare@enercon.com (Guy Cesare)
greshaja@westinghouse.com (James Gresham)
james.beard@gene.ge.com (James Beard)
jgutierrez@morganlewis.com (Jay M. Gutierrez)
jim.riccio@wdc.greenpeace.org (James Riccio)
JJNesrsta@cpsenergy.com (James J. Nesrsta)
john.o'neil@pillsburylaw.com (John O'Neil)
Joseph.savage@ge.com (Joseph Savage)
Joseph_Hegner@dom.com (Joseph Hegner)
junichi_uchiyama@mhi.co.jp (Junichi Uchiyama)
KSutton@morganlewis.com (Kathryn M. Sutton)
lynchs@gao.gov (Sarah Lynch - Meeting Notices Only)
maria.webb@pillsburylaw.com (Maria Webb)
mark.beaumont@wsms.com (Mark Beaumont)
matias.travieso-diaz@pillsburylaw.com (Matias Travieso-Diaz)
media@nei.org (Scott Peterson)
mwetterhahn@winston.com (M. Wetterhahn)
mwl@nei.org (Melanie Lyons)
patriciaL.campbell@ge.com (Patricia L. Campbell)
paul.gaukler@pillsburylaw.com (Paul Gaukler)
Petrovb@westinghouse.com (Bojan Petrovic)
PGunter@NIRS.org (Paul Gunter)
pshastings@duke-energy.com (Peter Hastings)
RJB@NEI.org (Russell Bell)
RKTemple@cpsenergy.com (R.K. Temple)
roberta.swain@ge.com (Roberta Swain)
rod.krich@constellation.com (Mr. Rod Krich)
ronald.hagen@eia.doe.gov (Ronald Hagen)
sandra.sloan@areva.com (Sandra Sloan)
sfrantz@morganlewis.com (Stephen P. Frantz)
steven.hucik@ge.com (Steven Hucik)
tkkibler@scana.com (Tria Kibler)
tom.miller@hq.doe.gov (Tom Miller)
tom.miller@nuclear.energy.gov (Thomas P. Miller)
trsmith@winston.com (Tyson Smith)

vijukrp@westinghouse.com (Ronald P. Vijuk)
waraksre@westinghouse.com (Rosemarie E. Waraks)
wayne.marquino@ge.com (Wayne Marquino)
whorin@winston.com (W. Horin)