



Westinghouse Electric Company
Nuclear Fuel
Columbia Fuel Site
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USA

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Fuel Manufacturing Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards
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Your ref: July 3, 2007
Our ref: LTR-RAC-07-53

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II
Mr. Richard Gibson, Project Manager
Sam Nunn, Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW., Suite 23T85
Atlanta, GA 30303

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO FABRICATE A NEW DRY CONVERSION PROCESS

The purpose of this letter is to notify the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) of Westinghouse Electric Company, LLC (WEC) plans to install a new Dry Conversion Process at the Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility (CFFF). While this project is beginning the conceptual design stage, WEC desires to provide an early notice for resource planning purposes. In addition, WEC believes that frequent dialogue with your Staff helps to ensure efficiency in the regulatory process.

WEC has an existing dry conversion process within the main manufacturing building at the CFFF that was operated from approximately 1985 to 1995. This facility was mothballed in place for business reasons. Rather than restoring the current processing equipment, WEC plans to construct a new building within its Controlled Access Area (CAA) to meet current industry codes and standards. This new process will comply with the 10CFR70.64 Baseline Design Criteria requirements.

Because of WEC's previous experience with this conversion activity, WEC does not anticipate that the change will create new types of accident sequences or use new processes, technologies or control systems for which the licensee has no previous experience under the 10CFR70.72(c) regulations. However, appropriate updates to the WEC Integrated Safety Analysis (ISA) and Summary shall be performed. In addition, updates to the CFFF Fundamental Nuclear Materials and Control Plan, the Physical Security Plan and the Site Emergency Plan are expected.

The preliminary schedule for this new process design, construction and start-up follows. Any changes to the schedule shall be communicated promptly to your Staff. Also, as the project progresses, additional schedule milestones shall be provided.

	<u>START</u>	<u>END</u>
Stage 1 – Conceptual Design	Aug '07	Jan '08
Stage 2 – Design Proposal/Plant Specification	Jan '08	Jun '08
Stage 3 – Detailed Design	Jul '08	Jul '09

Stage 4 – Equipment Procurement and Construction

Jan '09

May '11

Stage 5 – Commissioning/Startup

May '11

Aug '11

Based on this preliminary schedule, WEC anticipates submittal of the Dry Conversion Process Baseline Design Criteria to the NRC no later than January, 2008.

WEC looks forward to working with you to provide the necessary regulatory information and oversight to support this project. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (803) 647-3338.

Sincerely,

Nancy Blair Parr

Nancy Blair Parr
Manager, Special Projects
Westinghouse Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility

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