

September 25, 2007

Mr. Akio Shioiri, Senior Manager
Plant Project Engineering Department
Nuclear Energy Systems & Services Division
Power System Company
Toshiba Corporation
1-1, Shibaura 1-Chome
Minato-Ku Tokyo 105-8001
Japan

SUBJECT: REQUESTED KICKOFF MEETING ON PROPOSED PRE-APPLICATION
REVIEW FOR DESIGN APPROVAL OF THE TOSHIBA SUPER-SAFE, SMALL
AND SIMPLE (4S) REACTOR

Dear Mr. Shioiri:

Thank you for your letter, dated August 24, 2007 [available in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), under Accession No. ML072540677.] In that letter, you proposed that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) initiate pre-application activities to support a future design approval review of the Toshiba Super-Safe, Small and Simple (4S) nuclear reactor design. The information provided in your letter establishes the starting point for interaction on this matter.

We propose holding the requested public meeting at the NRC's headquarters in Rockville, Maryland, on Tuesday, October 23, 2007, to initiate a dialogue regarding the scope, schedule, and resource requirements for a potential pre-application review and subsequent design approval review. For your consideration, a pre-application review generally has the following objectives:

- Familiarize the NRC staff with the design and technology.
- Provide feedback to the applicant on the key design, technology, and licensing issues.
- Provide feedback to the applicant on its technology development program plans.
- Provide input to the cognizant entities within the NRC regarding the needs for development of the review infrastructure.

The scope and effectiveness of the proposed pre-application review will be significantly affected by the objectives that you and the NRC establish for the review and any technical or policy issues that may be involved.

Once we have a better understanding of the resources required to perform the pre-application and subsequent design approval reviews, the NRC staff will evaluate those needs in the context of the agency's annual budget formulation process. At the appropriate time, the NRC staff will formally document its plans and notify Toshiba regarding the details of those plans. Please be

aware that, after the initial meeting in October 2007, any NRC efforts related to pre-application review of the 4S design will be fee-billable under NRC Project Number 0760. However, you should also note that we currently have very limited resources to support the pre-application review of the 4S reactor design.

Please inform us as soon as possible if you can support the proposed meeting date, and whether any of the material to be presented by Toshiba contains proprietary information. Note that proprietary information should be submitted under sworn statement in accordance with Title 10, Section 2.390, of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR 2.390), and should be reviewed and approved by the NRC staff.

To expedite the NRC's planning, Toshiba should focus its presentation on the following topics:

- Discuss the evolution and current status of the 4S design.
- Describe the relevant analysis and testing that has been performed to support licensing.
- Summarize the anticipated schedule for availability of technical reports for NRC review.

To the extent practicable, meeting outcomes should include preliminary identification of key issues associated with the pre-application review, and an improved understanding of how the 4S design can be licensed within the NRC's existing regulatory framework.

Further information related to the meeting will be provided as part of our public meeting notice. Please direct any comments and questions to John R. Jolicoeur of my staff, at 301-415-0612 or JRJ1@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Brian W. Sheron, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

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