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Subject: Periodic Update to the Integrated Plan and Schedule – ESBWR Design Certification Application

In References 1 and 2, GE – Hitachi Nuclear Energy (GEH) provided our schedule for addressing the remaining ESBWR design certification activities that were known at that time. Those activities were identified in four primary areas: Responses to NRC Requests for Additional Information; New or Revised Licensing Topical Reports (LTRs); Probabilistic Risk Assessment; and Revisions to the ESBWR Design Control Document.

GEH previously committed to provide periodic updates to the regulatory submittal schedule as the design certification process progresses, in conjunction with the design certification path established within the Design Centered Working Group. GEH hereby provides an updated integrated plan and schedule of activities that support the NRC Staff's issuance of the Safety Evaluation Report for ESBWR design certification. This schedule includes submittals that respond to NRC requests, and it continues to assure close coordination between the content of the pending COL applications and the ESBWR Design Control Document (DCD).

GEH has recently submitted DCD Revision 4 per the established schedule. As previously communicated, the scope of this DCD revision focused primarily on the following tasks:

- Consistency enhancements and updates of Tier 1, including Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC) / Design Acceptance Criteria (DAC)
- Consistency reviews and additions/deletions of COL Action Items (e.g., resolution of RAI issues that address COL Action Items, elimination of certain COL items since design work has been completed, elimination of certain COL items since they are covered by ITAAC, etc.)

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- Correction of known errors identified in DCD Revision 3

GEH is continuing to address and resolve the remaining open items associated with the NRC's development of the SER supporting certification of the ESBWR design. Open item closure is being accomplished primarily through the submittal of responses to outstanding RAIs, through frequent interaction with the NRC Staff, and through meetings with the ACRS Subcommittee.

Enclosure 1 to this letter provides an update to GEH's plans and schedule for the submittal of LTRs and other technical data. It is noted that numerous submittals have occurred since our last regular update (Reference 1) per the established schedule, and these items have been removed accordingly from the submittal plan. The information provided in Enclosure 1 continues to facilitate NRC Staff 's timely review and resolution of outstanding items to support issuance of the Safety Evaluation Report for ESBWR design certification. Additionally, on-going discussions/meetings continue to be scheduled with the NRC Staff to promote the prompt identification and resolution of open issues.

In addition to the submittals reflected in Enclosure 1, GEH plans to submit DCD Revision 5 on or before March 31, 2008. As previously communicated, this DCD revision will contain incorporation of completed RAI responses, updated descriptions of design information and modifications previously communicated to the NRC Staff as a part of the ongoing open issue closure process, description of information provided in LTRs, and other updates to the DCD that are necessary for the NRC Staff to develop its conclusions in support of a Safety Evaluation Report for ESBWR design certification. DCD Revision 5 is not expected to have a significant impact on the content of the COL applications.

GEH remains committed to regular interactions with the NRC Staff toward prompt identification, resolution, and closure of NRC open issues associated with the ESBWR design certification.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

James C. Kinsey

James C. Kinsey
Vice President, ESBWR Licensing

References:

1) MFN 07-265, Letter from General Electric to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Revised Integrated Plan and Schedule – EBWR Design Certification Application, June 1, 2007
2) MFN 07-200, Letter from General Electric to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Integrated Plan and Schedule – ESBWR Design Certification Application, April 19, 2007

Enclosure 1: Updated Submittal Schedule

cc:

A.E. Cubbage	USNRC (w/enclosure)
G.B. Stramback	GEH/San Jose (w/enclosure)
R.E. Brown	GEH/Wilmington (w/enclosure)

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ENCLOSURE 1

UPDATED SUBMITTAL SCHEDULE

Updated Submittal Schedule

Title	Number	Revision	Affected DCD Tier 2 Chapter	Abstract of LTR or Other GE Supporting Report	Scheduled NRC Submittal Date
ESBWR Security Enhancements Report	NEDE-33389	0	N/A	Report describes design changes that are being made to the ESBWR to enhance the security of the plant. These design changes were identified as a result of detailed Table Top exercises.	11/08/2007
ESBWR Interim Compensatory Measures Assessment Report	NEDE-33390	0	N/A	Report shows that the ESBWR satisfies post 9/11 security requirements imposed on the operating plants (B.5.b).	11/08/2007
Criticality Analysis for ESBWR Fuel Racks	NEDC-33373P	0	9	Spent Fuel Rack criticality control assessment.	11/08/2007
Dynamic, Load-Drop and Thermal-Hydraulic Analysis for ESBWR Fuel Racks	NEDC-33374P	0	9	Addresses seismic /structural/mechanical qualification.	11/08/2007
TRACG Model Description	NEDE-32176P	3	21	Errata to Revision 3 required to document responses to RAIs 21.6-70, 73, 74.	11/09/2007
ESBWR Safeguards Assessment Report	NEDE-33391	0	13	Report describes the security measures credited in defending the ESBWR against an external threat.	11/10/2007
Steam Dryer - Acoustic Load Definition	NEDE-33312P	0	3.9	Provides Steam Dryer acoustic load definition approach for application to Steam Dryer analysis.	11/15/2007
Steam Dryer - Structural Evaluation	NEDE-33313P	0	3.9	Provides structural evaluation approach.	11/15/2007
ESBWR Marathon Control Rod Nuclear Design Report	NEDE-33243P	1	4	Incorporate comments from NRC audit conducted in July-August 2007.	11/16/2007
ESBWR Marathon Control Rod Mechanical Design Report	NEDE-33244P	1	4	Incorporate comments from NRC audit conducted in July-August 2007.	11/16/2007
TRACG Application for ESBWR, Stability	NEDC-33083P-A, Supplement 1	1	4	Provide SER proprietary version.	11/16/2007
ESBWR Reactor Internals FIV	NEDE-33259	1	3	Reactor internals flow induced vibration report.	11/30/2007
TRACG Application for ESBWR, Anticipated Transients Without Scram	NEDC-33083P, Supplement 2	1	15	Revision to include a Feedwater Runback model.	12/15/2007