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The staff has provided its reasons for suspending approval of the WEC topical report for new and future use, until the staff's concerns are resolved, in NRC's letter to WEC dated September 26, 2007. The specific weaknesses are summarized as follows:

1. The assumption that laboratory calibration results are transferable to an in-plant configuration without additional in-plant calibration, without a complete uncertainty evaluation, and without traceability to a national standard. Alternatively, if in-plant calibration is used to eliminate this assumption, the weaknesses of in-plant calibration without a complete uncertainty evaluation and without traceability to a national standard may remain.
2. The treatment of the impact of acoustic noise on CROSSFLOW and the ability to detect and remove the effects, including determination of residual uncertainty.
3. The lack of periodic in-plant calibration using an instrument traceable to a national standard and lack of assurance that CROSSFLOW operation remains within the claimed uncertainty.
4. The lack of specific restrictions over a range of flows and plant configurations that define where the CROSSFLOW calibration can be considered valid.
5. Inadequate description of the installation and use of CROSSFLOW consistent with the actual calibration and commissioning practices.

Regarding licensees of plants that rely on the topical report for a MUR power uprate or power recovery, the NRC is not requesting a written response from these licensees due primarily to the small effect on the consequences of postulated licensing basis accident and transient analyses, and low safety significance of the issue. **However, it is expected that licensees will review this new information for applicability to their facilities and consider actions, as appropriate, to assure that their plants operate in accordance with their licensing bases.** Licensees that currently rely on the topical report are expected to ensure that CROSSFLOW continues to function consistent with all requirements and the plant's licensing bases (e.g., 10 CFR 50.46, Appendix K to 10 CFR Part 50, and the plant's licensed maximum rated thermal power). Additionally, the NRC staff expects licensees to address and, if necessary, correct identified deficiencies at their plants and comply with applicable reporting requirements."

To view the entire **REGULATORY ISSUE SUMMARY 2007-24 "NRC STAFF POSITION ON USE OF THE WESTINGHOUSE CROSSFLOW ULTRASONIC FLOW METER FOR POWER UPRATE OR POWER RECOVERY"** please click on:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/gen-comm/reg-issues/2007/ri200724-ML063450261.pdf>

*Which sites are affected?
Impacts?*

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