



HITACHI

GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy

Proprietary Notice

This letter forwards proprietary information in accordance with 10CFR2.390. The balance of this letter may be considered non-proprietary upon the removal of Enclosure 1.

Richard E. Kingston
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Docket No. 52-010

MFN 08-827
October 24, 2008

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Subject: NEDC-33408P, Supplement 1 - ESBWR Steam Dryer Plant Based Load Evaluation Methodology - Additional Benchmarking

By Reference 1, GE Hitachi (GEH) submitted NEDC-33408P for NRC review and approval. During a meeting with the NRC in April 2008, GEH agreed to supplement that LTR with additional benchmarking data for NRC review and approval. The committed supplement is enclosed.

Please note that Enclosure 1 contains proprietary information of the type that GEH maintains in confidence and withholds from public disclosure. The information has been handled and classified as proprietary to GEH as indicated in the affidavit provided in Enclosure 3. GE hereby requests that the information in Enclosure 1 be withheld from public disclosure in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 2.390 and 9.17. Enclosure 2 is a non-proprietary version of Enclosure 1.

If you have any questions, please contact Mike Lalor at (408) 925-2443 or me.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Kingston
Vice President, ESBWR Licensing
Regulatory Affairs
GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy

DOB8
NPO

Reference:

1. GEH Letter, J. Kinsey (GEH) to NRC, "Transmittal of Licensing Topical Report NEDC-33408P - Plant Based Load Evaluation Methodology February 2008," MFN 08-081, dated February 28, 2008

Enclosures

1. NEDC-33408P, Supplement 1 - Proprietary
2. NEDO-33408, Supplement 1 - Non-proprietary
3. Affidavit

cc: AE Cabbage, USNRC
DH Hinds, GEH/Wilmington
RE Brown, GEH/Wilmington
MJ Dick, GEH/Wilmington
MA Lalor, GEH/San Jose
eDRF 0000-0087-0242

ENCLOSURE 3

MFN 08-827

Affidavit

GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas LLC

AFFIDAVIT

I, **Tim E. Abney**, state as follows:

- (1) I am Vice President, Services Licensing, Regulatory Affairs, GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas LLC ("GEH"), and have been delegated the function of reviewing the information described in paragraph (2) which is sought to be withheld, and have been authorized to apply for its withholding.
- (2) The information sought to be withheld is contained in Enclosure 1 of GEH's letter, MFN 08-827, R. Kingston (GEH) to NRC, dated October 24, 2008, entitled "NEDC-33408P, Supplement 1 - ESBWR Steam Dryer Plant Based Load Evaluation Methodology - Additional Benchmarking." GEH proprietary information in Enclosure 1, which is entitled "NEDC-33408P, Supplement 1," is identified by a dotted underline inside double square brackets: [[This sentence is an example.^{3}]]. In each case, the superscript notation ^{3} refers to Paragraph (3) of this affidavit, which provides the basis for the proprietary determination.
- (3) In making this application for withholding of proprietary information of which it is the owner or licensee, GEH relies upon the exemption from disclosure set forth in the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 USC Sec. 552(b)(4), and the Trade Secrets Act, 18 USC Sec. 1905, and NRC regulations 10 CFR 9.17(a)(4), and 2.390(a)(4) for "trade secrets" (Exemption 4). The material for which exemption from disclosure is here sought also qualify under the narrower definition of "trade secret", within the meanings assigned to those terms for purposes of FOIA Exemption 4 in, respectively, Critical Mass Energy Project v. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 975F2d871 (DC Cir. 1992), and Public Citizen Health Research Group v. FDA, 704F2d1280 (DC Cir. 1983).
- (4) Some examples of categories of information which fit into the definition of proprietary information are:
 - a. Information that discloses a process, method, or apparatus, including supporting data and analyses, where prevention of its use by GEH's competitors without license from GEH constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies;
 - b. Information which, if used by a competitor, would reduce his expenditure of resources or improve his competitive position in the design, manufacture, shipment, installation, assurance of quality, or licensing of a similar product;
 - c. Information which reveals aspects of past, present, or future GEH customer-funded development plans and programs, resulting in potential products to GEH;
 - d. Information which discloses patentable subject matter for which it may be desirable to obtain patent protection.

The information sought to be withheld is considered to be proprietary for the reasons set forth in paragraphs (4)a. and (4)b. above.

- (5) To address 10 CFR 2.390(b)(4), the information sought to be withheld is being submitted to NRC in confidence. The information is of a sort customarily held in confidence by GEH, and is in fact so held. The information sought to be withheld has, to the best of my knowledge and belief, consistently been held in confidence by GEH, no public disclosure has been made, and it is not available in public sources. All disclosures to third parties, including any required transmittals to NRC, have been made, or must be made, pursuant to regulatory provisions or proprietary agreements which provide for maintenance of the information in confidence. Its initial designation as proprietary information, and the subsequent steps taken to prevent its unauthorized disclosure, are as set forth in paragraphs (6) and (7) following.
- (6) Initial approval of proprietary treatment of a document is made by the manager of the originating component, the person most likely to be acquainted with the value and sensitivity of the information in relation to industry knowledge, or subject to the terms under which it was licensed to GEH. Access to such documents within GEH is limited on a "need to know" basis.
- (7) The procedure for approval of external release of such a document typically requires review by the staff manager, project manager, principal scientist, or other equivalent authority for technical content, competitive effect, and determination of the accuracy of the proprietary designation. Disclosures outside GEH are limited to regulatory bodies, customers, and potential customers, and their agents, suppliers, and licensees, and others with a legitimate need for the information, and then only in accordance with appropriate regulatory provisions or proprietary agreements.
- (8) The information identified in paragraph (2), above, is classified as proprietary because it contains detailed GEH ESBWR design information for defining the fluctuating loads that are to be used in the design and analysis of the ESBWR steam dryers. GEH utilized prior design information and experience from its operating BWRs with significant resource allocation in developing the methodology over several years at a significant investment.

The development of the evaluation process along with the interpretation and application of the analytical results is derived from the extensive experience database that constitutes a major GEH asset.

- (9) Public disclosure of the information sought to be withheld is likely to cause substantial harm to GEH's competitive position and foreclose or reduce the availability of profit-making opportunities. The information is part of GEH's comprehensive safety and technology base, and its commercial value extends beyond the original development cost. The value of the technology base goes beyond the extensive physical database and analytical methodology and includes development of the expertise to determine and apply the appropriate evaluation process. In addition, the technology base includes the value derived from providing analyses done with NRC-approved methods.

The research, development, engineering, analytical and NRC review costs comprise a substantial investment of time and money by GEH.

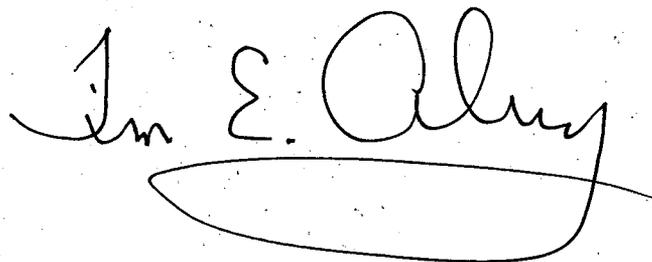
The precise value of the expertise to devise an evaluation process and apply the correct analytical methodology is difficult to quantify, but it clearly is substantial.

GEH's competitive advantage will be lost if its competitors are able to use the results of the GEH experience to normalize or verify their own process or if they are able to claim an equivalent understanding by demonstrating that they can arrive at the same or similar conclusions.

The value of this information to GEH would be lost if the information were disclosed to the public. Making such information available to competitors without their having been required to undertake a similar expenditure of resources would unfairly provide competitors with a windfall, and deprive GEH of the opportunity to exercise its competitive advantage to seek an adequate return on its large investment in developing and obtaining these very valuable analytical tools.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing affidavit and the matters stated therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Executed on this 23rd day of October 2008.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim E. Abney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping underline that loops back under the name.

Tim E. Abney
Vice President, Services Licensing
GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas LLC