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January 23, 2009
Contract No. NRC-02-06-021
Account No. 20.12824.05.005

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Ms. Breeda M. Reilly
NMSS/FCSS/FFLD/E
Two White Flint North
11545 Rockville Pike
Mail Stop E2 C40
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Submission of Intermediate Milestone 20.12824.05.005.910: Acceptance Review Summary of AREVA License Application Related to Seismic, Tornado, and High Wind Hazards and Structural Design

Dear Ms. Reilly:

This letter serves as the deliverable for the Intermediate Milestone 20.12824.05.005.910. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission requested technical assistance from the Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses (CNWRA®) to support an acceptance review related to seismic, tornado, and high-wind hazards and structural design for the AREVA NC (AREVA) license application for the Eagle Rock Facility. The objective of the technical assistance is to help determine whether AREVA has provided sufficient information in its safety analysis report (SAR), integrated safety analysis (ISA) summary, and environmental report (ER) to permit a detailed technical review in the areas mentioned above. The CNWRA staff used NUREG-1520 to guide its acceptance review.

The CNWRA review finds the information AREVA provided in its SAR, ISA summary, and ER combined is sufficient for beginning a detailed technical review. However, several technical insufficiencies were identified during the acceptance review, for example, in areas related to high wind, local precipitation, and extreme environmental snow load hazards. AREVA provided only the estimates of these hazards at an annual probability of 1.0×10^{-5} in the ISA summary, and there was no explanation of how these during detailed technical review estimates were determined. An adequate technical basis for the estimates will be necessary to assess adequacy of related design bases, if any, and associated accident sequences analysis.



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These technical deficiencies may be addressed as part of the staff's requests for additional information during the detailed technical review of the license application. In the ISA summary, AREVA indicated that an aircraft hazard analysis was performed for the proposed Eagle Rock Facility. This analysis will also be needed during the detailed technical review to evaluate AREVA's assessment of aircraft hazard for the proposed facility.

Please contact me at (301) 881-0290 or Dr. Simon Hsiung at (210) 522-5209 if you have questions about this acceptance review.

Sincerely,



fx John A. Stamatakos, Director
Washington Technical Support Office

JAS/ar

cc: M. Kotzalas
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