

May 18, 2010

Jerald G. Head
Senior Vice President
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SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S
REGULATORY ISSUE SUMMARY 2010-03, "LICENSING SUBMITTAL
INFORMATION FOR SMALL MODULAR REACTOR DESIGNS"

Dear Mr. Head:

Thank you for your March 15, 2010 letter responding to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Regulatory Issue Summary 2010-03, "Licensing Submittal Information for Small Modular Reactor Designs," dated February 25, 2010 (ADAMS Accession No. ML100260855) concerning the Power Reactor Inherently Safe Module/Power Reactor Innovative Small Module (PRISM) design. The staff will use this information during its scheduling of resources to support its pre-application and application review activities.

The NRC staff plans to continue to interact with the Department of Energy and small modular reactor (SMR) designers over the next several years to identify and develop resolutions to policy, licensing, and key technical issues. Although the staff discusses a number of potential policy issues concerning many different types of SMR technologies in SECY-10-0034, "Potential Policy, Licensing, and Key Technical Issues for Small Modular Nuclear Reactor Designs," dated March 28, 2010, we are primarily focused on our preparations related to the Next Generation Nuclear Plant program and integral pressurized water reactors. For fiscal years 2010 through 2011, the staff will, because of resource constraints, continue to limit interactions with the designers of other advanced reactor designs to occasional meetings or other non-resource-intensive activities. Should you submit a design review application during this time, the staff will conduct an acceptance review of the application when it is received. The design review will commence once resources are available. While resource constraints may limit our interactions, we encourage your continued participation in generic activities related to SMRs and please keep us informed of your plans related to the development of PRISM-related design or licensing applications.

J. Head

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Thomas Kevern at (301) 415-0224.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Michael E. Mayfield, Director
Advanced Reactor Program
Office of New Reactors

Project No.: 674

J. Head

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Thomas Kevern at (301) 415-0224.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Michael E. Mayfield, Director
Advanced Reactor Program
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NRO-002

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