

September 7, 2010

Mr. Jerald G. Head  
Senior Vice President, Regulatory Affairs  
GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy  
3901 Castle Hayne Road MC A-18  
Wilmington, NC 28401

SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY SAFETY EVALUATION FOR CHAPTER 6 “ENGINEERED SAFETY FEATURES” REGARDING THE ECONOMIC SIMPLIFIED BOILING WATER REACTOR DESIGN CERTIFICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Head:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff is preparing Final Safety Evaluations (FSEs) for each chapter of the Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor (ESBWR) design certification application submitted by GE- Hitachi Nuclear Energy (GEH) on August 24, 2005.

The Preliminary SE was recently provided to support the upcoming meeting of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) ESBWR Design-Centered Subcommittee, scheduled to be held on September 23-24, 2010. The Advanced Final SE will be submitted with all sections addressed by September 20, 2010, to support the October 5, 2010, ACRS Subcommittee meeting. The ACRS Full Committee meeting will be held on October 7, 2010.

The enclosed Preliminary SE is being provided to GEH for review of proprietary information and factual accuracy. Note that a public version of the Preliminary SE needs to be placed in the public document room prior to the ACRS Subcommittee meeting so the staff will need to either retract any proprietary information or determine if alternative non-proprietary language may be used. To support this schedule, please reply within a period of 10 working days from the date of this letter with your comments on the proprietary aspects of the Preliminary SE.

If you believe that any information in the enclosure is proprietary, please identify such information line by line and define the basis pursuant to the criteria of 10 CFR 2.390.

Sincerely,

*/RA Amy Cabbage for:/*

Mark Tonacci, Branch Chief  
BWR Projects Branch  
Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 52-010

Enclosure:  
Preliminary SE – Chapter 6

cc: See next page

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Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of New Reactors

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cc: See next page  
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(Revised 08/11/2010)

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