

March 3, 2011

The Honorable Ed Whitfield
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy and Power
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for your information is the *Federal Register* notice for a proposed rule amending the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) regulations to certify the standard plant design for the Economic Simplified Boiling-Water Reactor (ESBWR), which the NRC received for its review from GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy.

The rulemaking certifying the ESBWR design is necessary to partially fulfill the objectives of the NRC's regulations, which are to provide licensing stability and the early resolution of licensing issues and to enhance the safety and reliability of nuclear power plants through standardization. This rulemaking would allow a combined license applicant intending to construct and operate a nuclear power plant using the ESBWR design to simply reference this design certification rule instead of submitting information on the safety of the referenced design. In addition, this rulemaking would preclude the need for the NRC to make repetitive findings on the safety of the ESBWR design for each combined license referencing this design.

The NRC sent this proposed rule to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice

cc: Representative Bobby L. Rush

March 3, 2011

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman, Committee on Energy
and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for your information is the *Federal Register* notice for a proposed rule amending the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) regulations to certify the standard plant design for the Economic Simplified Boiling-Water Reactor (ESBWR), which the NRC received for its review from GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy.

The rulemaking certifying the ESBWR design is necessary to partially fulfill the objectives of the NRC's regulations, which are to provide licensing stability and the early resolution of licensing issues and to enhance the safety and reliability of nuclear power plants through standardization. This rulemaking would allow a combined license applicant intending to construct and operate a nuclear power plant using the ESBWR design to simply reference this design certification rule instead of submitting information on the safety of the referenced design. In addition, this rulemaking would preclude the need for the NRC to make repetitive findings on the safety of the ESBWR design for each combined license referencing this design.

The NRC sent this proposed rule to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice

cc: Representative Henry A. Waxman

March 3, 2011

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Chairman, Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Chairman:

Enclosed for your information is the *Federal Register* notice for a proposed rule amending the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) regulations to certify the standard plant design for the Economic Simplified Boiling-Water Reactor (ESBWR), which the NRC received for its review from GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy.

The rulemaking certifying the ESBWR design is necessary to partially fulfill the objectives of the NRC's regulations, which are to provide licensing stability and the early resolution of licensing issues and to enhance the safety and reliability of nuclear power plants through standardization. This rulemaking would allow a combined license applicant intending to construct and operate a nuclear power plant using the ESBWR design to simply reference this design certification rule instead of submitting information on the safety of the referenced design. In addition, this rulemaking would preclude the need for the NRC to make repetitive findings on the safety of the ESBWR design for each combined license referencing this design.

The NRC sent this proposed rule to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice

cc: Senator James M. Inhofe

March 3, 2011

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Chairman, Subcommittee on Clean Air and
Nuclear Safety
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for your information is the *Federal Register* notice for a proposed rule amending the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) regulations to certify the standard plant design for the Economic Simplified Boiling-Water Reactor (ESBWR), which the NRC received for its review from GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy.

The rulemaking certifying the ESBWR design is necessary to partially fulfill the objectives of the NRC's regulations, which are to provide licensing stability and the early resolution of licensing issues and to enhance the safety and reliability of nuclear power plants through standardization. This rulemaking would allow a combined license applicant intending to construct and operate a nuclear power plant using the ESBWR design to simply reference this design certification rule instead of submitting information on the safety of the referenced design. In addition, this rulemaking would preclude the need for the NRC to make repetitive findings on the safety of the ESBWR design for each combined license referencing this design.

The NRC sent this proposed rule to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice

cc: Senator John Barrasso

March 3, 2011

The Honorable John Shimkus
Chairman, Subcommittee on Environment
and the Economy
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for your information is the *Federal Register* notice for a proposed rule amending the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) regulations to certify the standard plant design for the Economic Simplified Boiling-Water Reactor (ESBWR), which the NRC received for its review from GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy.

The rulemaking certifying the ESBWR design is necessary to partially fulfill the objectives of the NRC's regulations, which are to provide licensing stability and the early resolution of licensing issues and to enhance the safety and reliability of nuclear power plants through standardization. This rulemaking would allow a combined license applicant intending to construct and operate a nuclear power plant using the ESBWR design to simply reference this design certification rule instead of submitting information on the safety of the referenced design. In addition, this rulemaking would preclude the need for the NRC to make repetitive findings on the safety of the ESBWR design for each combined license referencing this design.

The NRC sent this proposed rule to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:
Federal Register notice

cc: Representative Gene Green

March 3, 2011

The Honorable Ed Whitfield
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy and Power
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for your information is the *Federal Register* notice for a proposed rule amending the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) regulations to certify the standard plant design for the Economic Simplified Boiling-Water Reactor (ESBWR), which the NRC received for its review from GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy.

The rulemaking certifying the ESBWR design is necessary to partially fulfill the objectives of the NRC's regulations, which are to provide licensing stability and the early resolution of licensing issues and to enhance the safety and reliability of nuclear power plants through standardization. This rulemaking would allow a combined license applicant intending to construct and operate a nuclear power plant using the ESBWR design to simply reference this design certification rule instead of submitting information on the safety of the referenced design. In addition, this rulemaking would preclude the need for the NRC to make repetitive findings on the safety of the ESBWR design for each combined license referencing this design.

The NRC sent this proposed rule to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Rebecca L. Schmidt, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice

cc: Representative Bobby L. Rush

IDENTICAL LETTERS SENT TO:

The Honorable Fred Upton with cc: to Representative Henry A. Waxman
The Honorable Barbara Boxer with cc: to Senator James M. Inhofe
The Honorable Thomas R. Carper with cc: to Senator John Barrasso
The Honorable John Shimkus with cc: to Representative A. Green

Distribution: DNRL/NRGA r/f RDB/DAS/ADM r/f OCA r/f

ADAMS Accession No: **ML102450749 (Letters)** *via e-mail **OCA-001**

OFFICE	DNRL/NRGA:PM	Tech Editor	DNRL/NRGA:BC	DNRL:D	RDB/ADM:BC	OCA:D
NAME	GTartal	KAzariah-Kribbs*	WBurton	DMatthews	CBladey	RSchmidt
DATE	03/09/11	03/01/11	03/09/11	03/09/11	03/15/11	03/03/11

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY