March 24, 2011

Mrs. Sandra M. Sloan
Manager of Regulatory Affairs
New Plants Deployment
AREVA NP Inc.
3315 Old Forest Road
Lynchburg, VA 24506-0935

SUBJECT: U.S. EPR DESIGN CERTIFICATION APPLICATION - SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT WITH OPEN ITEMS FOR PORTIONS OF CHAPTER 6, "ENGINEERED SAFETY FEATURES"

Dear Mrs. Sloan:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is preparing a safety evaluation (SE) with open items (OIs) for each chapter of the U.S. EPR standard design certification (DC) submitted by AREVA NP Inc. (AREVA) on December 11, 2007.

The staff's SE with OIs for portions of Chapter 6, "Engineered Safety Features," is being provided to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) Subcommittee to support upcoming meetings of the ACRS Subcommittee. The enclosed safety evaluation does not contain Section 6.2.2, "Containment Heat Removal." By letter dated January 6, 2011, the staff notified AREVA that this portion of the review would be completed in Phase 4 of the U.S. EPR design certification application review. In addition, responses to NRC questions for Section 6.2.1.2, "Subcompartment Analysis," have been deferred by AREVA multiple times, such that the staff will provide either a separate safety evaluation for Section 6.2.1.2 or include it in the Phase 4 safety evaluation for Chapter 6.

The enclosed SE with OIs is being provided only to AREVA for review of proprietary information pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390 "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding." The staff concludes that the enclosed SE does not contain any information for which exemption from public disclosure has been sought or approved or any factual errors. However, the NRC will withhold the enclosed SE from public disclosure for ten working days from the date of this letter to allow you the opportunity to verify the staff's conclusion that the SE contains no such exempt information or any factual errors. If within that ten day period, you do not request that all or portions of the SE be withheld from public disclosure, the enclosure will be made available for public inspection through the NRC Public Document Room and the Publicly Available Records component of the NRC Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) and placed on the NRC public web page for this application.

Document transmitted herewith contains sensitive unclassified information. When separated from the enclosure, this document is "DECONTROLLED."

If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, I can be reached at 301-415-3361 or via e-mail address at getachew.tesfaye@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Getachew Tesfaye, Lead Project Manager
EPR Projects Branch
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 52-020

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: w/o encl. see next page

If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, I can be reached at 301-415-3361 or via e-mail address at getachew.tesfaye@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Getachew Tesfaye, Lead Project Manager
EPR Projects Branch
Division of New Reactor Licensing
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Enclosure:
As stated

cc: w/o encl. see next page

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DC AREVA - EPR Mailing List (Revised 06/23/2010)

cc:

Ms. Michele Boyd
Legislative Director
Energy Program
Public Citizens Critical Mass Energy
and Environmental Program
215 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Dr. Charles L. King
Licensing Manager, IRIS Project
Westinghouse Electric Company
Science and Technology Department
20 International Drive
Windsor, CT 06095

Ms. Sherry McFaden
Framatome NP, Inc.
3315 Old Forest Road, OF-16
Lynchburg, VA 24501

Mr. Steve Seitz
AREVA
100 Dean Road
East Lyme, CT 06333

Mr. Tom Sliva
7207 IBM Drive
Charlotte, NC 28262

Mr. Robert E. Sweeney
IBEX ESI
4641 Montgomery Avenue
Suite 350
Bethesda, MD 20814

Mr. Gary Wright, Director
Division of Nuclear Facility Safety
Illinois Emergency Management Agency
1035 Outer Park Drive
Springfield, IL 62704

DC AREVA - EPR Mailing List

Email

alau@washdc.whitecase.com (Albie Lau)
APH@NEI.org (Adrian Heymer)
awc@nei.org (Anne W. Cottingham)
bgattoni@roe.com (William (Bill) Gattoni))
BrinkmCB@westinghouse.com (Charles Brinkman)
carey.fleming@cengllc.com (Carey Fleming)
chris.maslak@ge.com (Chris Maslak)
christian.clement@unistarnuclear.com (Chrisitan Clement)
cwaltman@roe.com (C. Waltman)
david.hinds@ge.com (David Hinds)
david.lewis@pillsburylaw.com (David Lewis)
erg-xl@cox.net (Eddie R. Grant)
gcesare@enercon.com (Guy Cesare)
greg.gibson@unistarnuclear.com (Greg Gibson)
james.beard@gene.ge.com (James Beard)
james.p.mcquighan@constellation.com (Jim McQuighan)
jason.parker@pillsburylaw.com (Jason Parker)
jerald.head@ge.com (Jerald G. Head)
jgutierrez@morganlewis.com (Jay M. Gutierrez)
jim.riccio@wdc.greenpeace.org (James Riccio)
Joseph_Hegner@dom.com (Joseph Hegner)
junichi_uchiyama@mnes-us.com (Junichi Uchiyama)
KSutton@morganlewis.com (Kathryn M. Sutton)
kwaugh@impact-net.org (Kenneth O. Waugh)
lchandler@morganlewis.com (Lawrence J. Chandler)
Len.Gucwa.ext@areva.com (Len Gucwa)
Marc.Brooks@dhs.gov (Marc Brooks)
maria.webb@pillsburylaw.com (Maria Webb)
mark.beaumont@wsms.com (Mark Beaumont)
Martin.Bryan.ext@AREVA.com (Martin Bryan)
matias.travieso-diaz@pillsburylaw.com (Matias Travieso-Diaz)
mbowling@numarkassoc.com (Marty Bowling)
media@nei.org (Scott Peterson)
mike_moran@fpl.com (Mike Moran)
MSF@nei.org (Marvin Fertel)
mwetterhahn@winston.com (M. Wetterhahn)
nirsnet@nirs.org (Michael Mariotte)
Nuclaw@mindspring.com (Robert Temple)
patriciaL.campbell@ge.com (Patricia L. Campbell)
Paul@beyondnuclear.org (Paul Gunter)
pshastings@duke-energy.com (Peter Hastings)
RJB@NEI.org (Russell Bell)
Ronda.pederson@areva.com (Ronda Pederson)
rrsgarro@pplweb.com (Rocco Sgarro)

DC AREVA - EPR Mailing List

russell.wells@areva.com (Russell Wells)
sabinski@suddenlink.net (Steve A. Bennett)
sandra.sloan@areva.com (Sandra Sloan)
sfrantz@morganlewis.com (Stephen P. Frantz)
stephan.moen@ge.com (Stephan Moen)
Steve.Graham@hse.gsi.gov.uk (Steve Graham)
steven.hucik@ge.com (Steven Hucik)
strambgb@westinghouse.com (George Stramback)
tkkibler@scana.com (Tria Kibler)
tlharpster@pplweb.com (Terry Harpster)
tom.miller@hq.doe.gov (Tom Miller)
trsmith@winston.com (Tyson Smith)
Vanessa.quinn@dhs.gov (Vanessa Quinn)
vijukrp@westinghouse.com (Ronald P. Vijuk)
Wanda.K.Marshall@dom.com (Wanda K. Marshall)
wayne.marquino@ge.com (Wayne Marquino)
whorin@winston.com (W. Horin)