



December 22, 2010  
NRC:10:115

Document Control Desk  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

**Alternative Request Associated with Closure Plan for U.S. EPR Instrumentation and Control Communications Independence Issues**

Ref. 1: Letter, Sandra M. Sloan (AREVA NP Inc.) to Document Control Desk (NRC), "Closure Plan for U.S. EPR Instrumentation and Control Communications Independence Issues, Revision 4" NRC:10:109, November 23, 2010.

The integrated instrumentation and control (I&C) closure plan submitted by AREVA NP Inc. (AREVA NP) in Reference 1 indicated that AREVA NP would submit by December 22, 2010, a request for an alternative to IEEE Std 603-1998 Clause 5.6.1 to satisfy 10 CFR 50.55a(h) requirements pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i) regarding the Protection System (PS) functions which utilize measurements from the self-powered neutron detectors (SPNDs). Subsequently, the topic of the PS SPND-based functions was discussed at an audit conducted by NRC staff on December 14, 2010. AREVA NP is evaluating feedback received from the NRC staff during that audit regarding the scope of information to be included in the alternative request and will provide a revised date for submittal of the alternative request by January 18, 2011.

If you have any questions related to this information, please contact me by telephone at (434) 832-2369 or by e-mail at [sandra.sloan@areva.com](mailto:sandra.sloan@areva.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra M. Sloan".

Sandra M. Sloan, Manager  
New Plants Regulatory Affairs  
AREVA NP Inc.

cc: G. Tesfaye  
Docket 52-020

**AREVA NP INC.**  
An AREVA and Siemens company

3315 Old Forest Road, P.O. Box 10935, Lynchburg, VA 24506-0935  
Tel.: (434) 832-3000 Fax: (434) 832-3840

FORM: 22709VA-1 (4/12/06)

D077