

January 26, 2011

Dr. Said Abdel-Khalik, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: LONG-TERM CORE COOLING FOR THE WESTINGHOUSE AP1000
PRESSURIZED-WATER REACTOR

Dear Dr. Abdel-Khalik:

Thank you for your letter of December 20, 2010, in which the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS or the Committee) reported on its review of the Westinghouse AP1000 design certification amendment concerning the adequacy of long-term core cooling, to fulfill the requirements of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50, Section 52.53, "Referral to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS)," and the staff requirements memorandum (SRM) dated May 8, 2008.

In its letter, ACRS concluded that the regulatory requirements for long-term core cooling for design-basis accidents have been adequately met, and the issue is closed for the AP1000 design. The letter noted that ACRS based its conclusion on the cleanliness requirements and limits on submerged aluminum specified in the amendment. The staff agrees with the Committee that any future relaxation of these cleanliness specifications would necessitate substantial additional data and analysis.

The staff appreciates the Committee's efforts and suggestions. We thank ACRS for its time and its valuable input, and we look forward to working with the Committee in the future.

Sincerely,

/RA by Martin J. Virgilio for/

R. W. Borchardt
Executive Director
for Operations

cc: Chairman Jaczko
Commissioner Svinicki
Commissioner Apostolakis
Commissioner Magwood
Commissioner Ostendorff
SECY

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