

February 14, 2011

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

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE REVIEW FOR THE GE HITACHI NUCLEAR ENERGY
DESIGN CERTIFICATION RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR THE
U.S. ADVANCED BOILING WATER REACTOR

Dear Mr. Head:

In a letter dated December 7, 2010, you submitted a Design Certification (DC) Renewal Application for the U.S. Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR) pursuant to the requirements of Subpart B, "Standard Design Certifications," of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 52, "Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants." The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) acknowledged receipt of the GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy (GEH) application in a letter dated January 19, 2011. The NRC staff has completed its acceptance review and has determined that your application is acceptable for docketing. The docket number established for the GEH ABWR DC renewal is 52-045. Please use this docket number on all future correspondence regarding the renewal. In the letter dated December 7, 2010, transmitting your renewal application, you requested that the NRC retain the original ABWR certified design as a separate appendix in 10 CFR Part 52 and issue a separate appendix for other applicants seeking to amend the certified design. The NRC staff will address your request in a separate correspondence.

As stated in the NRC's letter dated January 19, 2011, the staff intends to publish a schedule for review of the GEH DC Renewal Application for the U.S. ABWR. This schedule will be consistent with the resources and priorities of the NRC's Office of New Reactors. The staff plans to meet with you in the near future to discuss the staff's draft review guidelines for ABWR DC renewal applications. Subsequent to that meeting, the staff will discuss development of the technical review schedule with you.

J. Head

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The enclosed notice of acceptance for docketing has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register. Should you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please contact Adrian Muñiz at (301) 415-4093, or via e-mail at Adrian.Muniz@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA Frank Akstulewicz for:/

David B. Matthews, Director
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 52-045

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: See next page

J. Head

-2-

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(Revised 01/25/2011)

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