March 16, 2011

Mr. James A. Gresham, Manager
Regulatory Compliance and Plant Licensing
Westinghouse Electric Company
1000 Westinghouse Drive
Cranberry Township, PA 16066

SUBJECT: FINAL SAFETY EVALUATION FOR WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC COMPANY TOPICAL REPORT WCAP-16498-P/WCAP-16498-NP, "17X17 NEXT GENERATION FUEL (17X17 NGF) REFERENCE CORE REPORT" (TAC NO. MD8540)

Dear Mr. Gresham:

By letter dated April 3, 2008 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML081010602), Westinghouse Electric Company (Westinghouse) submitted Topical Report (TR) WCAP-16498-P/WCAP-16498-NP, "17x17 Next Generation Fuel (17x17 NGF) Reference Core Report," to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff. By letter dated December 7, 2010, an NRC draft safety evaluation (SE) regarding our approval of TR WCAP-16498-P/WCAP-16498-NP was provided for your review and comments. By letter dated January 20, 2011, Westinghouse commented on the draft SE. The NRC staff's disposition of Westinghouse's comments on the draft SE are discussed in the attachment to the final SE enclosed with this letter.

The NRC staff has found that TR WCAP-16498-P/WCAP-16498-NP is acceptable for referencing in licensing applications for reactors that incorporate 17x17 NGF fuel assembly design to the extent specified, and under the limitations delineated in the enclosed final SE. The final SE defines the basis for our acceptance of the TR.

Our acceptance applies only to material provided in the subject TR. We do not intend to repeat our review of the acceptable material described in the TR. When the TR appears as a reference in license applications, our review will ensure that the material presented applies to the specific plant involved. License amendment requests that deviate from this TR will be subject to a
plant-specific review in accordance with applicable review standards.

In accordance with the guidance provided on the NRC website, we request that Westinghouse publish accepted proprietary and non-proprietary versions of this TR within three months of receipt of this letter. The accepted versions shall incorporate this letter and the enclosed final SE after the title page. Also, they must contain historical review information, including NRC requests for additional information (RAIs) and your responses. The accepted versions shall include an "-A" (designating accepted) following the TR identification symbol.

NOTICE: Enclosure 2 transmitted herewith contains proprietary information. When separated from Enclosure 2, this document is decontrolled.

As an alternative to including the RAIs and RAI responses behind the title page, if changes to the TR were provided to the NRC staff to support the resolution of RAI responses, and the NRC staff reviewed and approved those changes as described in the RAI responses, there are two ways that the accepted version can capture the RAIs:

1. The RAIs and RAI responses can be included as an Appendix to the accepted version.
2. The RAIs and RAI responses can be captured in the form of a table (inserted after the final SE) which summarizes the changes as shown in the approved version of the TR. The table should reference the specific RAIs and RAI responses which resulted in any changes, as shown in the accepted version of the TR.

If future changes to the NRC's regulatory requirements affect the acceptability of this TR, Westinghouse and/or licensees referencing it will be expected to revise the TR appropriately, or justify its continued applicability for subsequent referencing.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Thomas B. Blount, Deputy Director
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 700

Enclosures:
1. Final SE (non-proprietary version)
2. Final SE (proprietary version)
3. Resolution of comments

cc w/encls 1 and 3 only:

Mr. Kris Cummings, Manager
Nuclear Fuel Engineering Licensing
Westinghouse Electric Company
P.O. Box 355
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0355
cumminkw@westinghouse.com

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PACKAGE ADAMS ACCESSION NO. ML110610254
***No major changes to SE input.** **NRR-043**

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