

March 28, 2011

Mr. Neil Wilmschurst
Vice President & Chief Nuclear Officer
Electric Power Research Institute
1300 West WT Harris Blvd
Charlotte, NC 28262

SUBJECT: DRAFT SAFETY EVALUATION FOR THE ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE'S TOPICAL REPORT (TR) MATERIALS RELIABILITY PROGRAM (MRP) REPORT 1016596 (MRP-227), REVISION 0, "PRESSURIZED WATER REACTOR (PWR) INTERNALS INSPECTION AND EVALUATION GUIDELINES" (TAC NO. ME0680)

Dear Mr. Wilmschurst:

By letter dated January 12, 2009 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML090160204), the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) submitted for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff review and approval, TR Materials Reliability Program (MRP) Report 1016596 (MRP-227), Revision 0, "Pressurized Water Reactor (PWR) Internals Inspection and Evaluation Guidelines." Enclosed for review and comment is a copy of the NRC staff's draft safety evaluation (SE) report (ADAMS Accession No. ML110820773) for the TR.

Pursuant to Section 2.390 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), we have determined that the enclosed draft SE does not contain proprietary information. However, we will delay placing the draft SE in the public document room for a period of 10 working days from the date of this letter to provide you with the opportunity to comment on the proprietary aspects. If you believe that any information in the enclosure is proprietary, please identify such information line-by-line and define the basis pursuant to the criteria of 10 CFR 2.390. After 10 working days, the draft SE will be made publicly available, as appropriate, and an additional 30 calendar days are provided for public comment on any factual errors or clarity concerns contained in the draft SE.

During the review process for the draft SE, one NRC staff member expressed concerns with the draft version, and subsequent to the final draft, submitted a non-concurrence with his comments (ADAMS Accession No. ML110770169). In support of the NRC's non-concurrence process, a management endorsement of the non-concurrence (ADAMS Accession No. ML110810787), and a technical response (ADAMS Accession No. ML110800436) are also included. These comments will also be considered during the development of the final SE.

The final SE will be issued after making any necessary changes and will be made publicly available. The NRC staff's disposition of comments on the draft SE will be discussed in the final SE.

To facilitate the NRC staff's review of comments, please provide a marked-up copy of the draft SE showing proposed changes and provide a summary table of the proposed changes.

N. Wilmshurst

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If you have any questions, please contact Sheldon Stuchell at 301-415-1847 or Sheldon.Stuchell@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John R. Jolicoeur, Chief
Licensing Processes Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 669

Enclosures:

1. Draft SE
2. Non-concurrence
3. Management endorsement of non-concurrence
4. Technical response to non-concurrence

cc w/encl: See next page

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DISTRIBUTION:

PUBLIC (Cover Letter, Non-concurrence, Non-concurrence Endorsement, Non-concurrence Technical Response Only)

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ADAMS ACCESSION NO ML110670699

TAC ME0680

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