



March 29, 2011  
NRC:11:034

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

**Schedule for 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.
- Ref. 2: Letter, Sandra M. Sloan (AREVA NP Inc.) to Document Control Desk (NRC), "Alternative Request Associated with Closure Plan for U.S. EPR Instrumentation and Control Communications Independence Issues," NRC:10:115, December 22, 2010.
- Ref. 3: Letter, Sandra M. Sloan (AREVA NP Inc.) to Document Control Desk (NRC), "Alternative Request Associated with Closure Plan for U.S. EPR Instrumentation and Control Communications Independence Issues," NRC:11:003, January 18, 2011.
- Ref. 4: Letter, Sandra M. Sloan (AREVA NP Inc.) to Document Control Desk (NRC), "Alternative Request Associated with Closure Plan for U.S. EPR Instrumentation and Control Communications Independence Issues," NRC:11:014, February 14, 2011.

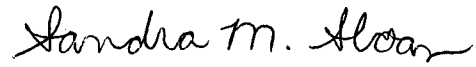
The integrated instrumentation and control (I&C) closure plan submitted by AREVA NP Inc. (AREVA NP) in Reference 1 indicated that AREVA NP would submit by December 22, 2010, a request for an alternative to IEEE Std 603-1998 Clause 5.6.1 to satisfy 10 CFR 50.55a(h) requirements pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i) 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 informed the NRC in Reference 2 and Reference 3 that it was evaluating feedback received from the NRC staff during that audit regarding the scope of information to be included in the alternative request and would provide a revised date for submittal of the alternative request by February 15, 2011. In Reference 4, AREVA NP informed the NRC that the alternative request would be submitted by March 29, 2011. Additional information regarding the alternative request was discussed in a February 15, 2011, public meeting between AREVA NP and NRC.

AREVA NP has drafted the alternative request. Based on feedback received from the NRC staff on this topic during recent weekly teleconferences, AREVA NP is further modifying the request. The modified alternative request will be discussed with the staff at the April 11, 2011, Chapter 7 public meeting and will be submitted by April 14, 2011.

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NRC

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.

Enclosures

cc: G. Tesfaye  
Docket 52-020