

May 26, 2011

Mr. Jeffrey A. Halfinger, Vice President
Technology Development
Babcock & Wilcox Nuclear Energy
109 Ramsey Place
Lynchburg, VA 24501

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S
REGULATORY ISSUE SUMMARY 2011-02, "LICENSING SUBMITTAL
INFORMATION AND DESIGN DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES FOR SMALL
MODULAR REACTOR DESIGNS"

Dear Mr. Halfinger:

Thank you for your March 25, 2011, letter responding to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Regulatory Issue Summary 2011-02, "Licensing Submittal Information and Design Development Activities for Small Modular Reactor Designs," dated February 2, 2011 (Agencywide Document Access and Management System Accession Numbers ML110880443 and ML103260128, respectively). The staff will use this information during its scheduling of resources to support the pre-application and application review activities for the mPower™ commercial Advanced Light-Water Reactor.

The NRC staff plans to continue to interact with small modular reactor (SMR) designers, and other interested stakeholders, over the next several years to identify and develop resolutions to policy, licensing, and key technical issues. Although the staff discusses a number of potential policy issues concerning many different types of SMR technologies in SECY-10-0034, "Potential Policy, Licensing, and Key Technical Issues for Small Modular Nuclear Reactor Designs," dated March 28, 2010, it is currently directing its focus on issues of importance to integral pressurized water reactors, such as the mPower design. Resources have been allocated to develop the infrastructure within the NRC that will support the NRC staff's review of your application in a timeframe consistent with your proposed design certification submittal and to support pre-application technical activities, such as meetings and technical report reviews, with the staff.

J. Halfinger

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Ms. Joelle Starefos at (301) 415-6091, email Joelle.Starefos@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Michael E. Mayfield, Director
Advanced Reactor Program
Office of New Reactors

Project No.: PROJ0776

cc: DC B&W mPower Mailing List

J. Halfinger

-2-

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