

May 23, 2011

Mr. Jerald G. Head, Senior Vice President
GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy
Regulatory Affairs
P.O. Box 780
3901 Castle Hayne Road
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Wilmington, NC 28402

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

Dear Mr. Head:

Thank you for your April 20, 2011, letter responding to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Regulatory Issue Summary 2011-02, Licensing Submittal Information and Design Development Activities for Small Modular Reactor Designs," dated February 2, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML103260128) concerning the submittal of new or updated information on the scheduling of application submissions related to advanced reactor designs.

The NRC staff plans to continue to interact with the Department of Energy and small modular reactor (SMR) designers 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, we are primarily focused on our preparations related to the Next Generation Nuclear Plant program and integral pressurized water reactors. For fiscal years 2011 through 2012, the staff will, because of resource constraints, continue to limit interactions with the designers of other advanced reactor designs to occasional meetings or other non-resource intensive activities. Should you submit a design review application during this time, the staff will conduct an acceptance review of the application when it is received. The design review will commence once resources are available. While resource constraints may limit our interactions, we encourage your continued participation in generic activities related to SMRs and please keep us informed of your plans related to the development of PRISM-related design or licensing applications.

J. Head

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Thomas Kevern at (301) 415-0224.

Sincerely,

/RA Stewart Magruder for /

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

Project No.: 674

cc: DC GEH – PRISM Mailing List

J. Head

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DATE	05/12/11	05/13/11	05/23/11

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