



January 31, 2012

Docket No. 030-03754
License No. 06-00217-60

Mr. Marc Ferdas, Chief
Decommissioning Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region I
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

Subject: **ABB/CE Windsor Site Decommissioning**

References: A.) Telephone Conference of November 30, 2011
B.) Letter, J. F. Conant (ABB) to J. Nicholson (NRC), dated June 14, 2011

Dear Mr. Ferdas:

A telephone conference (Reference A) was held among you, Mr. John Nicolson of your staff, Mr. Heath Downey (ABB/CE Site Radiation Safety Officer), and me to discuss ABB/CE Windsor Site ("Site") decommissioning and license termination. ABB provided a general update on the decommissioning activities for 2011, including remediation and restoration of the ½-mile Site Brook, cleanup of the AOC10 Equipment Storage Yard, remediation of the Burning Grounds, and waste handling and shipping processes. ABB can now inform you that the remediation process was substantially completed in November 2011, and the last major shipment of waste occurred on December 5, 2011. It was my privilege to inform the Windsor Town Council that same evening of this important milestone during ABB's annual Site cleanup presentation.

We also discussed the seven Final Status Survey reports that ABB is submitting to the NRC between July 2011 and May 2012. All reports to date (four) have been submitted on or before the dates committed by ABB in June 2011 (Reference B), and we have every expectation to meet all remaining deadlines. At the time of our discussion, I expressed concern with the pace of NRC review, since there had been little apparent progress by November on the first report submitted in July. You responded that the NRC would be realigning work assignments to assure adequate time for review with minimal interruptions. You also commented that disruptions are always possible within the NRC due to emergencies and other unforeseen events of significant magnitude. Your efforts to prevent other work from negatively impacting review and approval of the ABB FSS reports and license termination process are greatly appreciated.

In addition to Site remediation and reporting, we discussed independent verification of Site remediation and planning for visits next Spring by the NRC and Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education ("ORISE") to complete NRC verification that ABB has met the radiological criteria for unrestricted use in 10 CFR 20.1402. Mr. Nicholson reported that the NRC was planning now for inspection visits to the Site. Mr. Nicholson also reported that ABB remediation documents, and corresponding documents produced by the NRC, are being transmitted to the US Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE"). However, there was no new information available concerning what USACE actions would be taken in response to the information being provided.

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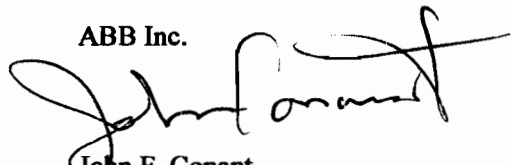
I noted that ABB possesses NRC License No. SNM-1067 with an expiration date of January 31, 2012, but no longer intends to utilize this license as part of decommissioning. I therefore confirmed that ABB would be applying for license termination of the SNM-1067 license (Byproduct License No. 06-00217-06 will remain active) by December 31, 2011, thus meeting the date for timely license renewal. This submittal took place on December 21, 2011. I also noted that ABB would be submitting revised Decommissioning Funding documents to the NRC to reduce the funding level commensurate with the Decommissioning Funding Plan accepted by the NRC on November 3, 2011.

As you know, the NRC approved release of approximately 365 contiguous acres for unrestricted use from the ABB license for its 612-acre site on January 22, 2009. ABB has made good use of this approval by demolishing all buildings within the 365 acres in preparation for redevelopment and reuse. Given that ABB has virtually completed all radiological field remediation work for remaining Site areas and shipped the waste to a licensed disposal site, redevelopment and reuse of the Site is recognized by the Town of Windsor and State of Connecticut as an extremely important project for the region. As a result of this, the schedule for license termination has become even more important than we discussed in our November conference call. At that time, I had provided a "Draft ABB License Termination Schedule 112911", which projected a termination date of May 27, 2013. ABB recognizes that the NRC cannot commit to such a schedule, but did request that the NRC provide feedback on the proposed schedule and work with ABB to achieve a timeline that the NRC could endorse as reasonable. You responded that NRC would revisit ABB's schedule request in January. I would like to ask that the NRC and ABB schedule a conference call as soon as possible to further discuss the timeline for schedules for FSS Report reviews, NRC/ORISE Site visits, input from the USACE, and the projected license termination date. Since the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection ("CTDEEP") and USACE appear in ABB's timeline for license termination, ABB would have no objection to including their participation in the scheduling effort whenever you would deem appropriate.

ABB very much appreciates the efforts of the NRC, and looks forward to a timely license termination in 2013. If there are any questions or comments regarding the topics memorialized in this letter, please contact me at (860) 418-0370, or by email at john.conant@us.abb.com.

Sincerely,

ABB Inc.



John F. Conant

Director, Nuclear Engineering and Compliance

xc: John Nicholson (NRC)
Charles Petrillo (Town of Windsor)
Edward Wilds (CTDEEP)