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US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: **Response to NRC Regulatory Issue Summary 2011-02, Rev 1**

In response to NRC RIS 2011-02, Revision 1, GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy (GEH) would like to provide additional information. GEH views liquid-metal cooled fast-reactor technology as the inevitable future of nuclear power due to its ability to reduce the duration of used fuel storage, extract more energy from the fuel, and reduce proliferation concerns. GEH believes that U.S. fast reactor technology provides key technology advantages over foreign competitors and is working to develop commercial opportunities for our PRISM design, domestically and abroad. Accordingly, GEH would like to ensure the US retains technological leadership in advanced reactor design.

GEH will continue to work with the Department of Energy ("DOE"), the Nuclear Regulatory Commission ("NRC"), and other allies in the U.S. government to progress U.S. reactor technology within budget constraints. Specifically, since licensing is one of the more difficult and crucial steps in the development of advanced reactor technology, more can and should be done to apply DOE research and development to further improve NRC's ability to license advanced reactor technology. GEH's prior pre-application work with NRC for our liquid-metal cooled fast-reactor, PRISM, can be used as a launch-pad to apply DOE research and development to improve our near-term preparedness for advanced reactor licensing. This could be as extensive as a design certification review or as modest as licensing topical reports for licensing basis information such as sodium reactor codes and methods.

Presently, GEH cannot provide a specific timeline for the activities above other than to say that we are prepared to commence almost immediately upon securing the necessary support. As one approach, we plan to provide suggestions via our response to DOE's Request for Information, DE-SOL-0003674, Advanced Reactor Concepts, issued February 22, 2012.

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Please contact me or Patricia Campbell (202-637-4239) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jerald G. Head

cc:
	Patricia L. Campbell	(GEH)
	Stephen Atherton	(GEH)
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	Timothy J. McGinty	(NRC)
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