



Westinghouse Electric Company LLC
Nuclear Fuel
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Your ref:
Our ref: LTR-RAC-12-57

Date: July 6, 2012

SUBJECT: WESTINGHOUSE LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST

Westinghouse Electric Columbia LLC (Westinghouse) Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility requests an amendment to Nuclear Materials License SNM-1107. Westinghouse requests that this be issued in the form of a new Safety Condition to authorize Westinghouse to process uncertified Uranium Hexafluoride (UF₆) Type 30-B cylinders. Background information and supporting documentation has previously been provided to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in our April 5, 2012 correspondence (LTR-RAC-12-32) and during a Pre-Application Meeting with NRC Staff on April 11, 2012.

In support of this application the subject cylinders were inspected with no issues identified that would preclude the safe processing of these UF₆ cylinders in the existing Columbia Plant equipment. The Inspection reports are provided (Attachments A-E) for NRC Review. These reports address the Material Properties and Structural Integrity of the UF₆ cylinders. The UF₆ Cylinder Analytical Reports were previously provided¹ and demonstrate the contents are acceptable for processing.

The normal operational procedure for the Line 5 Autoclave system used for routine processing of UF₆ cylinders is provided (Attachment F) for NRC Review. Once this amendment is issued, a Special Operating Instruction will be issued to the production department authorizing processing of these cylinders only in the Line 5 Autoclave in accordance with this procedure. A copy of the procedure used to verify the functionality of Autoclave Proof of Vessel Integrity is provided (Attachment G) for NRC Review. A description of the ADU line 5 autoclave process is provided (Attachment H) for NRC Review.

Further, Westinghouse has generated a revised Integrated Safety Analysis (ISA) Summary (Attachment I) which provides a description of the equipment and process which will be used to process the UF₆ cylinders. Design details of the Autoclave System and supportive drawings were previously² submitted to the NRC. The revised ISA Summary includes additional Items Relied On For Safety (IROFS) Westinghouse has established to ensure that the performance requirements of 10 CFR70.61 are satisfied. This ISA Summary includes revised analysis to address Nuclear Criticality, Chemical and Fire safety of this proposed activity.

**Document transmitted contains Security Related Information – Withhold under 10CFR2.390
When separated from enclosure this document is uncontrolled.**

¹ LTR-RAC-12-23, UF₆ Cylinder Analytical Reports

² LTR-RAC-12-23, Autoclave Information and Drawings

The Columbia Plant Site Emergency Plan (SEP) and procedures already address the response to any highly unlikely accident scenario which results in a UF₆ release and no changes to the SEP are necessary. The mitigation strategy³ Westinghouse would utilize in the event of such an incident was previously provided to the NRC.

The attached documents contain proprietary information, and as such an Application for Withholding is submitted by Westinghouse, pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph (b)(1) of Section 2.390 of the Commission's regulations.

The proprietary material for which withholding is being requested is identified in the proprietary version of the subject documents transmitted herein. In conformance with 10 CFR Section 2.390, an Affidavit accompanies this Application for Withholding, setting forth the basis on which the identified proprietary information may be withheld from public disclosure.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the subject information which is proprietary to Westinghouse be withheld from public disclosure in accordance with 10 CFR Section 2.390 of the Commission's regulations.

If you have any questions concerning this correspondence, please contact Gerard F. Couture, Licensing Manager at (803) 647-2045.

Sincerely,



David J Precht, Plant Manager
Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility
Westinghouse Electric Company LLC
Docket No. 70-1151, License No. SNM-1107

³ LTR-RAC-12-23, PSE-12-DEU-011

Attachments: A Inspection Report 30B Cylinder Serial NR 20 830-015 (49 pages)
B Inspection Report 30B Cylinder Serial NRC 20 920-063 (41 pages)
C Inspection Report 30B Cylinder Serial NR 20 920-043 (32 pages)
D Inspection Report 30B Cylinder WEC 10097 (10 pages)
E Inspection Report 30B Cylinder A103 (25 pages)
F COP-816021 UF₆ Autoclave for Line5 (4 pages)
G MCP-203377 Verification of Instrumented Safety Functions (10 pages)
H ADU Line 5 Autoclave Process Description (5 pages)
I Integrated Safety Analysis Summary ISA-03 (300 pages) (SUNSI)

CC U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II
Attn: Ms. Mary Thomas, Senior Inspector
245 Peachtree Center AVE, NE Suite 1200
Atlanta, GA 30303-1257

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards
Fuel Manufacturing Branch
Washington, DC 20555-0001
Attn: Christopher Ryder, Licensing Project Manager
Mail Stop EBB 2 C40M

AFFIDAVIT

- (1) I am the Plant Manager, Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility within Nuclear Fuel, Westinghouse Electric Company LLC "Westinghouse", and as such, I have been specifically delegated the function of reviewing the proprietary information sought to be withheld from public disclosure in connection with Westinghouse submittals to NRC, and am authorized to apply for its withholding on behalf of Westinghouse.
- (2) I am making this Affidavit in conformance with the provisions of 10 CFR Section 2.390 of the Commission's regulations and in conjunction with the Westinghouse "Application for Withholding" accompanying this Affidavit.
- (3) I have personal knowledge of the criteria and procedures utilized by Westinghouse in designating information as a trade secret, privileged or as confidential commercial or financial information.
- (4) Pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (b)(4) of Section 2.390 of the Commission's regulations, the following is furnished for consideration by the Commission in determining whether the information sought to be withheld from public disclosure should be withheld.
 - (i) The information sought to be withheld from public disclosure is owned and has been held in confidence by Westinghouse.
 - (ii) The information is of a type customarily held in confidence by Westinghouse and not customarily disclosed to the public. Westinghouse has a rational basis for determining the types of information customarily held in confidence by it and, in that connection, utilizes a system to determine when and whether to hold certain types of information in confidence. The application of that system and the substance of that system constitute Westinghouse policy and provide the rational basis required.

Under that system, information is held in confidence if it falls in one or more of several types, the release of which might result in the loss of an existing or potential competitive advantage, as follows:

- (a) The information reveals the distinguishing aspects of a process (or component, structure, tool, method, etc.) where prevention of its use by any of Westinghouse's competitors without license from Westinghouse constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies.
- (b) It consists of supporting data, including test data, relative to a process (or component, structure, tool, method, etc.), the application of which data secures a competitive economic advantage, e.g., by optimization or improved marketability.
- (c) Its use by a competitor would reduce his expenditure of resources or improve his competitive position in the design, manufacture, shipment, installation, assurance of quality, or licensing a similar product.
- (d) It reveals cost or price information, production capacities, budget levels, or Commercial strategies of Westinghouse, its customers or suppliers

- (e) It reveals aspects of past, present, or future Westinghouse or customer funded development plans and programs of potential commercial value to Westinghouse.
- (f) It contains patentable ideas, for which patent protection may be desirable.

There are sound policy reasons behind the Westinghouse system which include the following:

- (a) The use of such information by Westinghouse gives Westinghouse a competitive advantage over its competitors. It is, therefore, withheld from disclosure to protect the Westinghouse competitive position.
 - (b) It is information which may provide Westinghouse's competitors with information on the methods and procedures which Westinghouse uses to fulfill regulatory and licensing obligations. The extent to which such information is available to competitors may diminish the need of Westinghouse competitors to develop such methods and procedures without comparable investment of time and resources.
 - (c) Use by our competitors would put Westinghouse at a competitive disadvantage by reducing our competitor's expenditures of resources by allowing them to build upon or utilize methods and procedures developed by Westinghouse at great expense.
- (iii) The information is being transmitted to the Commission in confidence and, under the provisions of 10 CFR Section 2.390; it is to be received in confidence by the Commission.
- (iv) The information sought to be protected is not available in public sources or available information has not been previously employed in the same original manner or method to the best of our knowledge and belief.
- (v) The proprietary information sought to be withheld in this submittal is that which is contained in the documents attached for submittal to the Commission, being transmitted by this correspondence and Application for Withholding Proprietary Information from Public Disclosure. The proprietary information as submitted by Westinghouse is that associated with its conversion process and related licensing activities. Public disclosure of this proprietary information is likely to cause substantial harm to the competitive position of Westinghouse because it would enhance the ability of competitors to address similar regulatory and licensing issues without commensurate expenses.

The development of the conversion process and related licensing activities described in part by the information is the result of an intensive Westinghouse effort and the expenditure of a considerable sum of money.

In order for competitors of Westinghouse to duplicate this information, similar technical and procedural programs would have to be developed and a significant manpower effort, having the requisite talent and experience, would have to be expended.

Date: July 6, 2012

The averments of fact set forth in this Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief:



David J. Precht, Plant Manager,
Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility
Westinghouse Electric Company LLC

Transmitted herewith are proprietary versions of documents furnished to the NRC in connection with the requested plant specific license amendment for NRC review and approval. Non-proprietary versions of the documents are not provided as they essentially would consist of blank pages. In order to conform to the requirements of 10 CFR 2.390 of the Commission's regulations concerning the protection of proprietary information so submitted to the NRC, the information which is proprietary in the proprietary versions is contained within brackets. The justification for claiming the information so designated as proprietary is indicated in both versions by means of lower case letters (a) through (f) located as a superscript immediately following the brackets enclosing each item of information being identified as proprietary or in the margin opposite such information. These lower case letters refer to the types of information Westinghouse customarily holds in confidence identified in Sections (4)(ii)(a) through (4)(ii)(f) of the affidavit accompanying this transmittal pursuant to 10 CFR 2.390(b)(1).

COPYRIGHT NOTICE

If any documents transmitted herewith each bear a Westinghouse copyright notice, the NRC is permitted to make the number of copies of the information contained in these reports which are necessary for its internal use in connection with generic and plant specific reviews and approvals as well as the issuance, denial, amendment, transfer, renewal, modification, suspension, revocation, or violation of a license, permit, order, or regulation subject to the requirements of 10 CFR 2.390 regarding restrictions on public disclosure to the extent such information has been identified as proprietary by Westinghouse, copyright protection notwithstanding. With respect to the non-proprietary versions of such documents, the NRC is permitted to make the number of copies beyond those necessary for its internal use which are necessary in order to have one copy available for public viewing in the appropriate docket files in the public document room in Washington, DC and in local public document rooms as may be required by NRC regulations if the number of copies submitted is insufficient for this purpose. Copies made by the NRC must include the copyright notice in all instances and the proprietary notice if the original was identified as proprietary.